THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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President U Thein Sein praises athletes for SEA Games performance

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June— President U Thein Sein hosted a dinner here Saturday to honour victorious athletes for their outstanding achievements at the 28th Southeast Asia Games in Singapore.

Myanmarcompeted in 31 events, winning 69 gold, silver and bronze medals from 15 events.

The president praised the U-23 football team, the women's football team and other athletes for their display of unyielding spirit in their respective competitions. He also congratulated the men's U-20 football team for its performance at the recent U-20 World Cup in New Zealand.

The president said plans are under way to establish a sports university in the near future, adding to the country's four schools of sports and physical science.

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***President U Thein Sein honours athletes for their outstanding performance at the 28th Southeast Asia Games in Singapore.*—MNA**

Textile and garment show touts Myanmar's investment potential

By *Ye Myint*

YANGON, 20 June—The fourth Myanmar International Textile and Garment Industry Exhibition will take place 26-29 June at Myanmar Event Park in Yangon.

Hong Kong-based Yorkers Trade & Marketing Services Co., Ltd will organize the international fair with the support of the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

The event will showcase products and technology from 98 exhibitors and 16 countries and promote information exchange between manufacturers, buyers, traders and distributors in the country's garment sector, the organizer said in its press release.

As one of the world's fastest growing markets, while situated between the world's most populous states—China and India—Myanmar has tremendous potential for investors, it said.

The country tripled its foreign direct investment between 2010 and 2014, and has lower workforce costs than neighbouring manufacturing powerhouse Thailand, indicating Myanmar is an attractive business spot for regional and global manufacturers, it said.

According to FDI statistics, the Myanmar Investment Commission this month granted five foreign companies permits to establish clothing manufacturing businesses in the country.

Regarding the exhibition, a press conference is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon on the 4th floor of the UMFCCI Building in Yangon, Daw Myo Kyi Phyu Tun, an information officer of the event, told The Global New Light of Myanmar.

GNLM

Fair-goers observe garment machinery at the third Myanmar Textile & Garment Industry Exhibition held in last year's November in Yangon.
PHOTO CREDIT TO MTG 2015

Storm over West Central Bay of Bengal unlikely to hit Myanmar: weather bureau

YANGON, 20 June —A low-pressure zone over the West Central Bay of Bengal has intensified into a storm, the Meteorology and Hydrology Department said Saturday.

The storm was about 400 miles southwest of Sittway in Rakhine State at 3 p.m. on Saturday, the MHD said.

The weather bureau said the storm was moving northwest and was expected to cross India's southern Orissa coast within 24 hours.

The MHD predicted the storm would not move over Myanmar.

The storm may cause squalls with rough seas off and along Myanmar coasts, with surface wind speeds reaching 40 miles per hour, the announcement said.

The weather bureau has warned fishing boats and vessels to be alert to rough seas due to the strengthening of the monsoon.—*GNLM*

Local residents welcome back outstanding teachers, students

KYANGIN, 20 June— Chief Minister of Ayeyawady Region U Thein Aung, Region Development Affairs Minister U Kyaw Win Naing and officials honoured outstanding teachers and students for their efforts in the 2015 matriculation examination at Ayeya U Hall in Kyangin, Ayeyawady Region, recently.

Local people from Myaukchawgon Village heartily welcomed back eight teachers from the Basic Education High School in the village and nine distinction-winning students.—*Ayeya U Thar*

Students take part in extempore speaking contest

MANDALAY, 20 June— Mandalay's University of Nursing organized an extempore speaking contest at its hall on 18 June.

Retired Lecturer U Aung Myint of the Myanmarsar Department of the university explained the disciplines for the contest after the Rector Professor Thida made an opening speech.

A total of 17 students participated in the contest.

The rector awarded prizes to winning students. First prize winner Ma Shwe Lei Win, a first-year student, won the opportunity to compete in the Inter-University/ College Extempore Talks Contest of Mandalay Region in commemoration of Myanmar Women's Day on 22 June.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Event aims to promote socio-economy of Taninthayi Region

DAWEI, 20 June — Cooperative Department in Taninthayi Region on Thursday organized an event to promote socio economic and regional development at the town hall here, with Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko, the speaker of region Hluttaw, entrepreneurs and social organization members in attendance.

Chief Minister U Myat Ko then delivered K6,71.31 million loans for 47 basic cooperative societies in Dawei District and K831.915 million loans for 143 basic cooperative societies in Myeik District.

U Than Aung, region minister for finance, presented K265.165 million to 43 basic cooperative societies in Kawthoung District and agricultural machinery for 56 primary cooperative societies in Kyunsu Township.

The department provided machinery supports worth K2306.354 million to over 700 members of societies.

Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)

Road section widened with walkways

TAUNGTHA, 20 June— Myingyan District's deputy commissioner U Myint Thin Aung and party inspected progress in widening the pavements along both sides of Yangon-Pyay-Mandalay Road between Taungtha and Kyaukpadaung townships, Mandalay Region, recently.

Upon completion, the 12-foot-wide main road will be flanked with walkways, widening the thoroughfare to 18 feet in total.

The deputy commissioner and Head of District Road Department U Khin Maung Htwe inspected progress of construction tasks.—*Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)*

Pobbathiri Tsp recognizes outstanding matric students

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June — A prize presentation ceremony for outstanding students who passed the recent matriculation examination with flying colours was taken place in Pobbathiri Township on Thursday, with a speech by U Than Htay, a member of Nay Pyi Taw Council.

At the ceremony, U Than Htay presented awards to those students who achieved four distinctions from six subjects. Ottara District Education Officer U Ba Tun then awarded three-distinction winning students.

The exam results were released on 6 June, with over 1,000 students sat the exam across Pobbathiri Township in March, 2014. Of them, 441 students including 41 distinction winners passed the exam.

Shwe Ye Yint

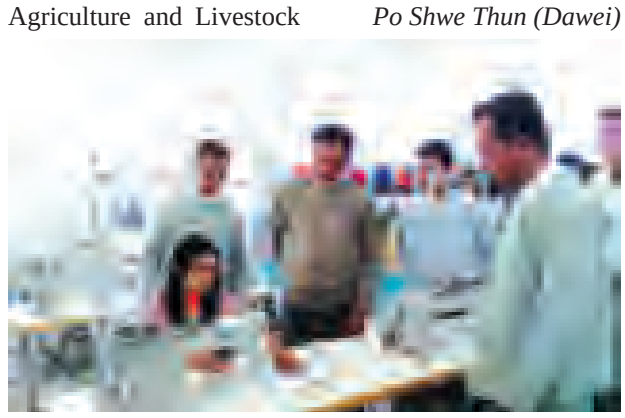
Vocational course creates job opportunities for local women

DAWEI, 20 June— Dawei District Department of Rural Development recently conducted a tailoring course with the aim of creating job opportunities for local women.

At the concluding ceremony at the city hall in Dawei, Region Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Dr Win Aung spoke on the occasion and presented prizes to outstanding trainees and gifts to instructors.

Altogether 25 trainees from Dawei, Yebyu, Launglon and Thayetchaung townships attended the two-month course.

Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)



Workshop outlines effective use of cash assistance

YINMABIN, 20 June — A workshop on cash assistance for schools by the Ministry of Education took place at the hall of Basic Education High School in Yinmabin, Sagaing Region, on 19 June.

District deputy commissioner U Zaw Myo Nyunt instructed school officials to spend cash assistance under the existing laws. Township Education Officer U Aung Khin spoke about ways of spending the cash assistance for the schools.

The ministry bases its cash assistance to the basic education schools and monastic education primary schools on numbers of students.

Ma Soe Soe (IPRD)

President U Thein Sein praises...

(from page 1)

Myanmar's hosting of the 27th SEA Games in 2013 marked a new era of sporting competition for the country, encouragingits athletes to reach an international standard, the president said.

The Myanmar U-20 football team was the first ever from the country to qualify for a FIFA World Cup.

President U Thein Sein praised the athletes for earning a reputation for fair play and good sportsmanship throughout the Games.

The U-23 football team secured silver medals, but won the adulation of the country.

"They are champions of our people," the president noted.

He presented certificates of honour and cash awards to outstanding sportspersons.

Gold medalists were awarded a total of K 165 million, silver medalists K 130.5 million and bronze medalists K 83.9 million.

In addition, 26 well-wishers donated K 314 million to the Myanmar Football Federation, and 13 well-wishers K 126 million to Myanmar athletes who took part in the 28th SEA Games.

MNA

***President U Thein Sein greets Rodojko Avramovic, Serbian coach of Myanmar national football team*—MNA**

Yangon Region Chief Minister inspects development works in Htantabin Tsp

***Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe looks around a new classroom in Htantabin Township.*—MNA**

YANGON, 20 June— Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe on Saturday attended a health seminar on diarrhea and dengue fever at the General Administration Department in Htantabin Township here.

The Chief Minister then inspected works tocontrol the population of mosquitoes to prevent transmission of dengue fever along Bogyoke Street in the township. The chief minister also attended the opening ceremony of a new school building in the township and unveiled a signboard before taking a tour of the new building.

Region ministers, Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Daniel Zohar Zonshine and officials formally opened the new building.

At the opening ceremony, donor U Eike Tun, chairman of Shwe Taung Development Company, gave a speech and handed over documents related to the new school building. He thendonated K5 million to the school fund.—*MNA*

IKBZ Insurance opens its branch in Meikhtila

YANGON, 20 June— IKBZ Insurance opened its new branch in Meikhtila Township, on 20 June.

The IKBZ Insurance Co Ltd. is one of 11 private firms awarded licenses to offer insurance services by Myanma Insurance, the sole state-owned insurance organization in the country.

Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Maung Maung Thein, chairman of the Myanmar Insurance Business Supervisory Board, and officials opened the new office.

At the opening ceremony, the chairman of the board said development of the insurance business could help reduce property losses.

Senior Managing Director U Nyo Myint of Kanbawza Co, Ltd. said IKBZ Insurance in Meikhtila is the13th branch in the country and the second in Mandalay.

IKBZ Insurance, which started operation in June 2013, is now providing insurance programmes including fire insurance, life insurance, automotive insurance, cash in safe insurance and sportsman's insurance. The company will launch health insurance on 1 July.—*MNA*

***Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Maung Maung Thein seen at IKBZ Insurance branch in Meikhtila.* —MNA**

Text-to-speech software helps visually impaired computer users

News : *Phyo Min Thein*
Photo: *Khaing Thanda Lwin*

YANGON, 20 June — The Myanmar National Association of the Blind has developed its own text-to-speech software to help visually impaired people with computer-based learning, the association said Saturday.

Text-to-speech software introduced to visually impaired computer users.

The software, named Myanmar Text to Speech (MTTS), reads text in Myanmar language when selected via a mouse.

There is a slogan among blind Internet users that "there are no blind people on internet," but this no longer the case, MNAB President U Aung Ko Myint said.

In 2013, Solve Circle Development Team started creating MTTS with funding from the Nippon Foundation. The program has now passed testing with Microsoft word, Note Pad, and web page in its first stage.

A blind person said English text-to-speech programs were previously the only option, "but now we can read text in Myanmar language."

Existing software to support visually impaired computer users supported a number of languages, but Myanmar was not among them.

The MNAB was founded in 1996 with the aim of giving blind people the same education and lifestyle opportunities as those with sight.—*MNA*

KIA bombs bridge in northern Shan State

NAY PYI TAW, 20 June— The KIA bombed a bridge in a township of northern Shan State on 17 June.

Officials said the explosion damaged the 110-foot Bailey bridge in Monkoe, making transport difficult.

The local public works department is trying to repair the bridge quickly. A temporary bypass is now under construction.

Myawady

Japan, China, South Korea consider autumn summit — Nikkei

TOKYO. 20 June — China, Japan and South Korea are considering holding their first trilateral summit in three years, offering a potential stage for the first one-on-one meeting between Tokyo and Seoul's leaders, the *Nikkei* business daily reported on Saturday.

The talks would resume cooperation among East Asia's three biggest economies that had been on hold since 2012 because of territorial disputes and what Seoul and Beijing see as Japan's reluctance to confront its wartime past.

South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung-se and his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida are expected to confirm this weekend the leaders' intentions to hold the summit, the *Nikkei* said. Yun is visiting Tokyo for the first time in four years on Sunday.

The summit could take place between September and November in South Korea, the *Nikkei* said, and offer a stage for a first bilateral meeting between Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and South Korean President Park Geun-hye since taking office in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Seoul-Tokyo relations have been long-strained by a feud over "comfort women" forced to work in Japan's wartime military brothels. The dispute has complicated efforts to boost security cooperation between the two, both staunch US allies, as the region copes with an unpredictable North Korea and an assertive China.

As Japan and South Korea near their 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties, the two are sending conflicting signals over whether they can resolve the comfort women dispute.

For their part, Sino-Japanese ties remain frayed but have seen a thaw since Abe met Chinese President Xi Jinping for the first time last November and again in April.

Relations have been long strained by China's bitter memories of World War Two, and a dispute over a chain of uninhabited islets in the East China Sea.

Japan has adopted a more muscular security stance since Abe took power in 2012, leading to concerns among regional neighbours that the country is returning to its militarist past.

But Japan's Kishida reaffirmed the country's pacifism in a speech in Tokyo on Saturday.

"We have walked the path of a peace-loving nation, with feelings of remorse, and resolved to keep the peace and never to wage a war again," he said.

Reuters

Nearly one million people face food insecurity risk in Nepal

UNITED NATIONS, 20 June — The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has called for urgent help for farmers in earthquake-hit Nepal, where one million people face the risk of prolonged food insecurity, said a UN spokesperson here on Friday. FAO has appealed for 20 million US dollars since it found that in Nepal's six hardest-hit districts, half of all farming households lost nearly all of their stored crops of rice, maize, wheat and millet, UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric told a daily briefing. Two separate earthquakes and a series of aftershocks struck Nepal in April and May, killing more than 8,000 people and devastating large parts of the country. The earthquakes also destroyed farming tools, kitchen gardens and supplies of fertilizer and caused significant damage to small- scale irrigation, according to an FAO-led Agricultural Livelihood Impact Appraisal. It also found that some 16 percent of cattle and 36 percent of poultry were lost in the earthquakes, adversely affecting rural household consumption and income.

According to FAO, two-thirds of Nepalis depend on farming for their livelihoods, making agriculture a priority. The most urgent needs for the current cropping season are seeds and fertilizers, followed by irrigation, tools and technical support. To date, FAO has received around 3 million dollars for emergency relief so far, only 13 percent of the 23 million dollars it has asked for.—*Xinhua*

Thailand says 175 exposed to MERS patient; South Korea reports no new case

BANGKOK, 20 June — A total of 175 people were exposed to Thailand's only case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and the patient's condition has improved, the health ministry said on Saturday.

In a statement, the ministry said it had been in touch with all 175 and had instructed them to stay away from public spaces and for medical personnel to monitor their health .

In South Korea, the health ministry said that no new cases of the disease had been recorded in the country for the first time in 16 days. Health authorities said on Friday the outbreak first reported on 20 May seemed to have levelled off.

South Korea's health ministry said later on Saturday that a 63-year-old male MERS patient with an existing heart ailment and diabetes had died, becoming the 25th fatality in an outbreak that had spread through hospitals and infected 166 people.

A woman wearing a mask walks past an information banner on Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) at the entrance of Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute in Nonthaburi province, on the outskirts of Bangkok, Thailand, on 19 June, 2015.—REUTERS

On Friday, Thai health minister RajataRajatanavin told reporters the chances of a MERS outbreak in Thailand like the one in South Korea were low as the authorities had isolated the patient quickly.

The virus was first detected in Thailand in a 75-year-old man from Oman who travelled to Bangkok for treatment of a heart condition.

On Thursday, the man was moved from Bumrungrad International Hospital (BH.BK) to an infectious diseases facility.

Three relatives of the man are also being kept in isolation rooms at the institute and had tested negative for the virus, SurachetSatiniramai, acting permanent secretary at the health ministry, said on Saturday.

"The condition of the MERS patient is better overall," he said. "The chest x-rays show improvement and he can eat soft food."

Thai authorities have said it had taken nearly four days to confirm the illness.

Doctors at Bumrungrad Hospital said on Friday that it quarantined 58 staff members but that there had been no panic, with no patients at the hospital asking for transfer to other facilities.

MERS was first identified in humans in Saudi Arabia in 2012 and the majority of cases have been in the Middle East.

Scientists are not sure of the origin of the virus, but several studies have linked it to camels.

Isolated cases have cropped up in Asia before South Korea's outbreak.

Reuters

Vietnam's health ministry denies rumour on MERS case

HANOI, 20 June — Vietnam's Ministry of Health on Friday denied a rumour of one patient infected with the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in Hanoi.

According to a press release, a rumour spreading in a social network stated that the MERS patient, a South Korean who entered Vietnam on 10 June, is being isolated for medical treatment in capital Hanoi by the ministry.

The rumour advised people living in the neighborhood to keep cautious and take up preventive measures.

Learning the case, the authorities instructed Hanoi Preventive Medicine Centre to send a working group to the suspected area to verify the information.

The probe result showed that there is no South Korean citizen who is suspected of infecting MERS living in the area.

Xinhua

Putin says necessary to hold meeting with Abe

St Petersburg, 20 June — Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday it is necessary to hold a meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to discuss a decades-old territorial dispute.

The Russian leader said in a meeting with the media in St Petersburg that he believes that it is possible to resolve the issue, though he did not elaborate.

It was Putin's first comment on the territorial row since the Japanese premier vowed earlier this week to take the leadership in addressing the dispute "as soon as possible."

Abe also said he will seek to move the issue forward during an envisaged visit to Japan by Putin this year that the two leaders have already agreed on.

The disputed islands — Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai islet group — were seized by the Soviet Union following Japan's surrender in World War II on 15 August, 1945. The territorial row remains a serious issue that has prevented the two countries from signing a peace treaty.

Putin also said that it is Japan's responsibility that the two countries' relations have remained chilled.

Japan's sanctions imposed on Russia over its actions in Ukraine have kept the two countries from promoting bilateral relations and signing a peace treaty, he said.

The president suggested a new proposal is needed from Japan, saying Russia can do little to improve strained relations on its own.

Japan and other Group of Seven countries agreed at a summit this month that the duration of sanctions should be clearly linked to Russia's complete implementation of a cease-fire agreement in February, referring to the recent upsurge of violence between Russian-backed separatists and Ukraine government forces in eastern Ukraine.

Economic ties with Japan will play a large part in promoting the development of natural resources, Putin said.

The Russian government will support an expansion of liquefied natural gas projects in waters off Sakhalin Island that major Japanese companies are involved in, he added.

Kyodo News

Families of South Carolina church massacre victims offer forgiveness

Charleston, 20 June — As the young white man charged with murdering nine people inside an historic black church in South Carolina stood silently and expressionless at a court hearing on Friday, relatives of the slain worshippers faced him one by one, offering tearful words of grief and forgiveness.

Dylann Roof, 21, who authorities say spent an hour in Bible study with parishioners at the nearly 200-year-old Emanuel African Methodist Church in Charleston before opening fire on them, appeared via video feed before a magistrate judge who ordered him held without bond.

Dressed in a black-and-white prison uniform and flanked by two guards in body armour, Roof exhibited no visible emotion during the proceedings, even as he was addressed by loved ones of the victims. He was formally charged with nine counts of murder and a weapons offence.

"May God have mercy on your soul," said Felicia Sanders, whose 26-year-old son, Tywanza Sanders, was the youngest person to die in Wednesday's rampage. "You have killed some of the most beautiful people that I know. Every fibre in my body hurts."

Dylann Storm Roof appears by closed-circuit television at his bond hearing in Charleston, South Carolina on 19 June, 2015 in a still image from video. —Reuters

Felicia Sanders was said by a family friend, according to an interview with CNN, to have survived the shooting rampage by lying on the floor and playing dead as she cradled another survivor, her 5-year-old granddaughter, while her son's blood soaked her clothes.

According to friends and family, Tywanza Sanders pleaded with the gunman as he paused to reload his weapon, saying, "You don't have to do this," to which the suspect replied: "No, you've raped our women and taken our country. I've got to do what I've got to do." Roof stared blankly, and glanced downward occasionally, as Sanders and four other family members of the gunshot victims spoke of how he had been welcomed into to the church by the nine people he has been charged with slaying.

The attack at the church nicknamed "Mother Emanuel" for its key role in African-American history followed a wave of protests across the United States in recent months over police killings and excessive force against unarmed black men, focusing attention on race relations and bias in the criminal justice system.

The bloodshed in Charleston, where residents packed an arena for a prayer vigil late Friday, marked the latest in a series of fatal US mass shootings. The violence has renewed a national debate between advocates of tighter controls on gun possession and supporters of unfettered access to firearms they assert is constitutionally protected under the Second Amendment.

"The elephant in the room is guns. South Carolina and the country have gone gun-crazy," said state Representative Wendell Gilliard, a Democrat who represents Charleston. "How many times do we need to come together? How many times do we need to unite?"

President Barack Obama, addressing the US Conference of Mayors in San Francisco, said the latest shooting exposed the "blight" of racism still present in America, and he railed against critics who have accused him of politicizing a tragedy to talk about tougher gun laws.

"You don't see murder on this kind of scale, with this kind of frequency, in any other advanced nation on Earth," he said.

Reuters

ECB boosts emergency funding as Greek banks bleed, Tsipras calm

Athens/Luxembourg, 20 June — The European Central Bank expanded emergency funding to keep Greece's stricken banks on their feet as a steady flow of withdrawals continued on Friday ahead of a summit next week that could decide whether the country can stay in the euro.

With pressure on Greece's fragile banking system growing daily, the ECB held a teleconference and raised the cap on so-called emergency liquidity assistance, which the banks rely on to keep operating, by 1.8 billion euros, Greek officials said.

That should be enough to keep the system running until euro zone leaders meet on Monday night in a last-ditch effort to reach an aid-for-reforms deal with Athens.

As the country edged closer to a possible default at the end of the month, leftist Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras assured Greeks that prophets of "crisis and terror" would be confounded, and his government would strike a deal with European Union and IMF creditors.

However, European Council President Donald Tusk said no one should assume that the emergency summit of euro zone leaders he will chair on Monday evening would find a "magic solution".

"The game of chicken needs to end, and so does the blame game. Because this is not a game and there is no time for any games," Tusk said.

Greek officials said Tsipras, who returns from a visit to Russia on Saturday, would spend the weekend preparing Greece's position at the summit but the pressure on his government is coming at least as much from the banks as from the lenders.

Withdrawals have picked up to reach about 4.2 billion euros (£3 billion) this week, with some 1.2 billion euros pulled out on Friday alone as dire headlines accelerated the run, bankers said.

Protesters hold an EU flag and a Greek flag (L) as people gather at the entrance of the Greek parliament, during a rally calling on the government to clinch a deal with its international creditors and secure Greece's future in the Eurozone, in Athens on 18 June, 2015. —Reuters

"Today was a more difficult day compared to yesterday," one banker said. "Monday will likely be tough as well."

Officials said the ECB would review the ELA emergency liquidity limit again on Monday night after the emergency summit in Brussels, with the prospect looming of capital controls being imposed on Greek banks if the situation continues to worsen.

Greece is on course to default on a 1.6 billion euro debt repayment it must make to the International Monetary Fund on 30 June unless the creditors resume funding.

Tsipras nevertheless exuded confidence and calm, going ahead with a planned meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of an economic conference in St Petersburg.

"There will be a solution based on respecting EU rules and democracy which would allow Greece to return to growth in the euro," Tsipras said in a statement issued by his office.

Russia played down any possibility of Russian financial aid for Greece. Asked if Putin and Tsipras had discussed the issue, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said: "No, no, no."

Germany, the biggest contributor to the European bailout loans, held out hope on the chance of a deal at Monday's summit. "It's not too late for this and of course we hope that such an agreement is possible," government spokesman Steffen Seibert said in Berlin.

But Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble, who has taken a hard line with Athens, was less optimistic. "I'm not sure I'll be able to announce anything sensational or new on Monday," he told reporters.

Reuters

Chinese paper stresses common interests with US ahead of dialogue

SHANGHAI, 20 June — China's leading state newspaper on Saturday hailed the common interests between China and the United States, striking a positive tone days ahead of a key annual bilateral meeting.

The commentary published in the *People's Daily*, the flagship newspaper of the Communist Party, praised the "new model of major country relations" between the world's two largest economies and stressed that differences could be overcome.

The article comes at a time of increased tension in US-China ties. In recent months, Beijing and Washington have clashed over China's island building in the South China Sea and cyber attacks that some have blamed on China.

The annual Strategic Economic Dialogue will be held 23-24 June in Washington, and is expected to cover issues ranging from climate change to human rights.

The US has called for a halt in China's island building in the South China Sea, which has accelerated since last year and alarmed some of China's neighbours. China claims most of the South China Sea, through which $5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes every year.

The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taipei and Brunei have overlapping claims. This week, China's Foreign Ministry said it would soon complete some of its land reclamation work in the area.

Earlier this month, US officials said that hackers had broken into the Office of Personnel Management, an attack widely believed to have originated in China. China has denied any involvement in hacking US databases.

US President Barack Obama (L) shakes hands with China's President Xi Jinping in front of US and Chinese national flags during a joint news conference at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on 12 Nov, 2014.—REUTERS

The People's Daily noted the "broad mutual interests" and the two countries' shared responsibility for world peace and development. It hailed the achievements of the bilateral relationship, including close cooperation on issues including North Korea's nuclear programme, Afghanistan and climate change.

The commentary was published under the pen name "Zhong Sheng", meaning "Voice of China". This section is often used to present the paper's view on foreign policy issues.

Reuters

Hun Sen elected president of Cambodia's ruling party

PHNOM PENH, 20 June — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen was on Saturday elected as president of the country's ruling Cambodian People's Party, replacing a colleague who passed away early this month.

A statement released by the CPP said at the 38th congress of the party's central committee on Saturday, Hun Sen was elected as president.

Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sar Kheng and Say Chhum, president of the Senate and former secretary general of the party, were elected as the party's vice presidents.

The election was held 12 days after Chea Sim, former president of the CPP and the Senate, passed away on 8 June because of illness and old age.

Prior to the election, Hun Sen was vice president of the party.

A total of 506 out of 508 members who were present at the congress voted for the three leaders. The CPP's central committee has 545 members.

Kyodo News

Putin says Russia weathering sanctions, lectures West

ST PETERSBURG, (Russia), 20 June — President Vladimir Putin boasted on Friday that Russia had found the "inner strength" to prevent sanctions causing a deep economic crisis, and told the West to stop using "the language of ultimatums."

Investment in Russia has slowed to a trickle, capital flight has risen and the economy has been sliding into recession since oil prices tumbled last year and the West imposed economic sanctions on Moscow over the Ukraine crisis.

But in a 29-minute speech to a business forum and a question-and-answer session that lasted more than an hour, Putin ignored calls by many investors to unveil new plans to end the downturn.

Instead, he warned the West not to meddle in Moscow's affairs and shifted blame for the conflict in Ukraine onto the West, primarily the United States.

"I would like to point out that at the end of last year we were warned — and you know this well — that there would be a deep crisis," Putin said in the speech in the former imperial capital of St Petersburg.

"It has not happened. We have stabilised the situation ... mainly because the Russian economy piled up a sufficient supply of inner strength," he told an audience including rows of foreign and Russian businessmen and much of the Russian government.

Russia's central bank reduced its main interest rate by a percentage point to 11.5 percent on Monday, inflation has slowed from 16.9 percent in April to 15.8 percent in May, and the rouble has risen to around 54 to the dollar after briefly hitting 80 in December.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin

Even though the bank expects the economy to contract by 3.2 percent in 2015, Putin said: "With us are businessmen, people and new leaders prepared to work for Russia and its development. For this reason we are absolutely certain of success."

State Department spokesman John Kirby disagreed with Putin's assessment, telling a regular news briefing in Washington, DC: "We know otherwise. We know that the costs have remained high on him and the economy, and that they will continue to do so."

Despite Putin's optimism, relations with the West are at their lowest ebb since the Cold War and former finance minister Alexei Kudrin said on Thursday Russia was still in the "eye of the storm". He recommended bringing forward the 2018 presidential election to give Putin a stronger mandate to reform the economy.

The chief executives of many Western companies which would usually have attended Russia's annual showpiece economic forum stayed away for the second successive year, though the heads of some major oil companies were present.

Reuters

Japan, Niger agree to promote economic ties, call for UN reform

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) shakes hands with Niger President Issoufou Mahamadou prior to their talks at the prime minister's office in Tokyo on 19 June, 2015. Issoufou's four-day trip to Japan is the first visit by a Niger leader in 29 years.
KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 20 June — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Niger President Issoufou Mahamadou, during talks on Friday, agreed to promote economic ties and anti-terrorism cooperation and called for reform of the UN Security Council.

Abe told Issoufou that Japan is considering providing 200 million yen, or about $1.62 million, in aid to Niger for economic development, and that the West African country needs to improve public safety and the investment climate so Japan can increase investment there, according to a joint statement issued after their meeting in Tokyo.

Japan is eager to strengthen economic ties with Niger, the third-largest supplier of uranium to Japan after Canada and Kazakhstan.

Issoufou promised improvement in investment climate and asked Japanese companies to invest in Niger, the statement said.

Speaking at a joint news conference with Abe after the meeting, Issoufou said, "Niger posted 7 percent economic growth in 2014. We would like to promote trade and investment with Japan."

The two leaders agreed to cooperate on producing "specific results" for reforming the UN Security Council, including expanding the number of both permanent and nonpermanent members of the 15-member council, this year, the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, the statement said.

"I share exactly the same position and vision with the prime minister that the United Nations needs Security Council reform," Issoufou, the first Niger head of state to visit Japan in 29 years, said, speaking in French through an interpreter.

Abe told the news conference that he highly appreciates Niger's efforts to stabilize the Sahel region, a semiarid region of western and north-central Africa, through the fight against the Boko Haram extremist group and the dispatch of Niger troops to a UN mission in neighbouring Mali.

The two leaders also affirmed cooperation toward success of an African development summit Japan and Africa will hold next year for the first time in Africa.

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development, which Japan cosponsors with the United Nations, the World Bank and the African Union Commission, has taken place every five years in Japan since 1993.—*Kyodo News*

EU urges Britain to meet deficit target in two years

LUXEMBOURG, 20 June — Britain was asked to meet the deficit target set by the European Union (EU) in two years, the EU's finance ministers said on Friday.

Due to its insufficient measures, Britain had missed a deadline set for reducing its deficit below 3 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2014-15, EU's reference value for government deficits, according to a monthly meeting of EU's finance ministers held here.

The nominal budget deficit of Britain marked a declining trend recent years. After peaking in 2009-10, the figure fell to 7.7 percent of GDP in 2011 12, then to 7.6 percent in 2012-13, 5.9 percent in 2013-14 and 5.2 percent in 2014-15.

Britain's general government gross debt has remained continuously above 60 percent of GDP, the EU's reference value for government debt.

The EU extended the deadline for two years, recommending deficit targets of 4.1 percent of GDP in 2015-16 and 2.7 percent of GDP in 2016-17.

These should be consistent with an improvement in the structural balance of 0.5 percent of GDP in 2015-16 and 1.1 percent in 2016-17, according to the statement released after EU finance ministers' monthly meeting in Luxembourg.

The deadline for Britain to meet its deficit targets has been extended several times. As Britain is not a member of the euro area, it cannot face sanctions under the excessive deficit procedure, added the EU.

Xinhua

Saudi warplanes destroy Yemen's airports after Geneva talks collapsed

SANAA, 20 June — Saudi-led air strikes struck military and civilian airports in Yemen's capital Sanaa on Saturday, destroying the runways, after five-day peace talks in Geneva collapsed, officials and residents said.

An airport official told *Xinhua* that the air strikes destroyed the runways of the civilian Sanaa international airport and its adjacent al-Dailamy air force base in northern Sanaa at midnight.

"It seems it would be difficult for Houthi representatives to go back home next Monday and land here after failing to strike a truce in Geneva talks," the official said on condition of anonymity.

Residents near the airports said they heard fighter jets hovering above before six powerful explosions rocked the whole area.

The airports were under control of Shiite Houthi militia since September when they seized the capital by force. They advanced to the south in March and forced Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi and his government ministers to seek refuge in the neighboring oil-rich Saudi Arabia capital of Riyadh.

The air raids also killed at least 10 Houthis in their stronghold in northern province of Saada bordering Saudi Arabia. Houthi media also reported air strikes on Saturday morning on the village of the group leader Abdulmalik al-Houthi, but did not elaborate on casualties.

The warplanes pounded elite military camps controlled by the forces loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa, according to witnesses.

The Saudi-led Arab collation has been waging a daily air campaign against Houthi group and Saleh forces since late March at the request of the exiled Yemeni government to restore its authority.

Meanwhile, ground battles between the Houthis and pro-Hadi fighters raged in the southern cities of Aden and Taiz.

In the country's second largest city of Aden, residents said at least two air strikes hit a Houthi gathering on Saturday morning.

Local officials and witnesses said Houthi fighters fired Katyusha rockets on Saturday morning against their opponents in Aden's districts of al-Mansoura, Dar Saad and al-Tikania. Civilians were killed in the fighting.

In Taiz, conflicts left a woman and a child killed, according to medics and residents.

Ground battles intensified in the provinces of al-Bayda, Ibb, al-Jouf and Marib, as well as the Red Sea port city of al-Hodayda, as the five-day Geneva talks concluded without reaching a ceasefire. Representatives of Hadi and Houthi group traded accusations, saying the other rejected to reach a truce. The exiled government has demanded Houthi to implement the UN resolution to withdraw from the cities and hand over weapons they took from the army in return for permanent truce, while Houthis said they will pull out from Aden and Taiz when the coalition agree to halt air strikes for 15 days.

Guards stand by a wall of a United Nations building, damaged by Saudi-led air strikes that hit the adjacent house of Brigadier Fouad al-Emad, an army commander loyal to the Houthis, in Sanaa, Yemen, on 15 June, 2015.—REUTERS

The outcome of the primary talks disappointed millions of Yemeni who were expecting for an end to the war.

"This is disappointing news. We will continue suffering from their stupid war and sinking until those corrupted politicians reach a truce," said a Sanaa resident, a taxi driver.

"Those war leaders seek to seize power and money, while 25 million Yemenis are in dire need for peace, food, water, medicine, fuel and electricity," he added.

The capital Sanaa and all other major cities have been cut from electricity, water and fuel supplies for months.

Following the talks, the United Nations appealed for 1.6 billion US dollars to help millions of Yemenis in need of aid, warning of a "looming catastrophe" in the war-torn country.

"The money is needed to address the constantly increasing humanitarian needs in Yemen until the end of 2015," Jens Laerke, spokesman for the UN's humanitarian agency, said in Geneva.

"More than 21 million people, or 80 percent of the population, are now estimated to be in need of some form of humanitarian aid," he added. —*Xinhua*

Israeli killed in drive-by shooting attack in West Bank

JERUSALEM, 20 June — An Israeli was killed and another injured on Friday afternoon in a suspected Palestinian shooting attack in the West Bank, Israeli officials said.

A spokesperson with Magen David Adom, Israel's Red Cross, said one of the two injured was in critical condition and later succumbed to his wounds at a hospital outside Tel Aviv. The other man was lightly-to-moderately wounded after being shot at his legs.

An initial statement by a military spokesperson said that several shots were fired at an Israeli civilian vehicle near the Jewish settlement of Dolev, six km north-west of Ramallah.

Israel's Channel 2 TV news reported that a passing car opened fire at a vehicle of Israelis, who were apparently on a tour at the Ein Buvin spring.

Scores of security forces were at the scene, canvassing the area for suspects, the military spokesperson said.

Violent incidents between Israelis and Palestinians have been on the rise since the US-brokered peace talks collapsed last April.

There have been dozens of militant attacks by Palestinians against Israelis, mainly in Jerusalem, claiming Israeli victims, along Palestinian casualties from the frequent clashes between the Palestinians and the Israeli security forces. —*Xinhua*

Israeli soldiers search an area where a Palestinian man attacked two Israeli men with gun near the Dolev settlement, northwest of Ramallah in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, on 19 June, 2015. An Israeli was killed and another injured on Friday afternoon in a suspected Palestinian shooting attack in the West Bank, Israeli officials said.—XINHUA

Five Libyan troops killed by mortar in Benghazi

BENGHAZI, (Libya), 20 June — At least five Libyan troops were killed late on Friday when a mortar landed in the eastern city of Benghazi where pro-government forces have been fighting against a mix of Islamist militant brigades, medical sources said.

Benghazi is just one front in a complex conflict involving Libya's two rival governments, and loose alliances of armed factions as well as Islamist militant forces taking advantage of the chaos to gain ground.

"Five members of the Libyan National Army were killed when a mortar shell landed among them late Friday evening," the medical source at Benghazi's Al-Jala hospital told *Reuters*.

The source said at least 20 troops had been killed in fighting in June. LNA Mohamed Hejazi said their forces had been fighting in around six districts in the city.

"These militant groups have become individuals who are taking high building as posts. The militants have also booby-trapped all houses and streets," Hejazi said.

Army forces loyal to Libya's internationally recognized government have been fighting several Islamist groups in Libya's second-largest city as part of a wider struggle since the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

Fighters claiming allegiance to the Islamist State group holding parts of Iraq and Syria have also claimed attacks in Benghazi as that group looks to expand its foothold in Libya.

Pro-government forces in Benghazi have regained some territory lost last year. But progress has stalled as militants hole up in several districts and the port area despite claims by army commander Khalifa Haftar that his forces control most of the city.

Libya's recognized government operates out of the east since an armed faction known as Libya Dawn took over the capital Tripoli last summer and declared its own government.

Ongoing United Nations negotiations to end the conflict and bring the two main factions into a unity government and broker a broad ceasefire have struggled as both sides seek more concessions over their rivals.—*Reuters*

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 June, 2015

Myanmar farmers need stable exchange rate

By *Aung Khin*

Myanmar's agricultural sector needs a stable exchange rate for the sake of the farmers who make up around 70 percent of the country's population. Unstable exchange rates are currently troubling growers, causing input costs to rise in cultivation season, while lowering crop price in harvest season.

Agricultural machinery, quality seeds, chemical fertilizer and pesticides should be made available for farmers at reasonable prices. Agricultural loans must be effective for farmers. Nevertheless, modern agricultural technology is of the greatest importance to farmers in the long run.

Myanmar was a major rice exporter before World War II, exporting some 3.4 million tonnes in 1934. After decades of decline in paddy yields, Myanmar adopted the Special High Yielding Programme in 1977-1988. However, more efforts are still needed to lift paddy production to adequate levels for supplying the international market.

While farmers are being urged to grow more, they also need more aid programmes in the form of input items and technology. Myanmar has targeted 29.2 million tonnes of paddy for the 2015-2016 cultivation and harvest season.

Businesspersons or exporters need to consider the interests of farmers without monopolizing the paddy market by manipulating exchange rates. Farmers should not be underdogs in the agricultural sector. Mutual benefit is more appropriate than one-sided interest for the sustainable development of any industry.

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.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish "Letter to the Editor" that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

The last old Myanmar capital city "Ratanapon" [Mandalay] Part VI

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Religious edifices and sacred images already located in Mandalay areas, long before King Mindon founded his new capital city and built his new palace there, are as many as they date far back to the Bagan period of Myanmar history. To begin with, we have four ordination halls [Simas] founded and consecrated by Primate Shin Arahan of Bagan period. An ardent Mon-Sri Lankan missionary monk and rajah guru of King Anawrahta and his successors, Shin Arahan founded and consecrated ordination halls not only in and around Bagan but also beyond it. These ordination halls still exist in Thaton in Mon State, and Meiktila, Mandalay in central Myanmar. In Mandalay, there are four ordination halls namely (1) Sun-rise ordination Hall at Bo Tet Kone [Htun tone Put et] near Aung Pin Lei Reservior in Pathein Gyi township (2) Noon Ordination Hall at Kan Kauk village to the west of Mandalay [PyinOoLwin motor road in Chan Aye Tha Zan township] (3) Sunset Ordination Hall in the 11th Street in Nyaung Gwe ward in Aung Myey Thazan township and (4) Midnight Ordination Hall in the precinct of Pyay monastery in Tagun Taing ward in Pyi Gyi Tagun township.

Shwe Kyi Myin Temple and Pagoda now located in down town Mandalay to the north west of the palace city was built by Prince Min Shin Saw. The Prince was founding a town at Htun tone Putet and looking for an auspicious site to build a pagoda. He saw a community of crows cawing on a mound. So he built a temple and pagoda and named it Shwe Kyi Myin [golden crows saw the site]. In the temple sits a thickly gilt sitting Buddha image of Bagan style studded with precious stones on its crown. In 1899, all sacred images from the Mandalay palace shrine rooms were brought and kept in the temple of this pagoda. There are two Bagan period stone inscriptions at this temple.

Phaya Ni: Located in Pale Ngwe Yaung ward in Anaukpyin of Mandalay, this monument was built by Shwe Taik Soe Wun (Minister in charge of royal treasury) and his younger sister, in the reign of King Bodawpaya of Amarapura. Because its walls were left uncovered by concrete plaster, they remain original brick red. Hence came to be called Red Pagoda [Phaya Ni] though its official name was Hsu Taung pyi phaya [wish-fulfilling pagoda]. Local legend says that in the past, lawsuits were decided in the front of the Buddha statue inside the temple. Vows were made to the statue and lie and guilt were revealed when the face of the statue turned red, [Hence Red phaya]. Nearby is a pagoda called Baung taw kya built by Prince Min Shin Saw at that place where his headgear fell down.

In Myaukpyin, near Thu-ye-Zay there are two pagodas Ayeik mahtwet phaya and Baung taw kya phaya. Local people say these two pagodas were built by King Kyan zittha of Bagan period. The former, it is said, cast no shadow until King Kyan zittha was reborn human, and the latter marked the site where his headgear fell down.

Prince Min Shin Saw built a cave like monument called Gu-Gyi kone in Nyaung Gwe ward near the Ayeyawaddy River.

At Minte E-kin quarter, there lies a well-known pagoda Yadana Myit Zu built by Pyi sone Min, Maha Thiha Thura. A cluster of minor pagodas, images and inscribed stone pillars of the past and present tell the past and present history of Mandalay.

In Anaukpyin, there are religious edifices of antiquity. By the side of Thingaza stream lies a prominent temple pagoda and Buddha image most well-known as "Chan Tha Ya" phaya built by son and Crown Prince of King Bodawpaya.

On the summit of Mandalay Hill, sits "Hsu Taung Pyi Zedi [wish-fulfilling Pagoda] built by King Anawrahta of Bagan, on his return from his pilgrimage to Gadalayit [China]. The son and Crown Prince of King Bodawpaya repaired and renovated it. Later King Bagyidaw again gilt and renovated it. Four covered causeways were built around it. King Mindon enshrined in the sanctorium of the Zedi two Buddha statues Myat Saw Nyi Naung which were originally from the shrine room of King Narapatisithu of Bagan period.

Other little-known pagodas are Shin Bo Mei built by Queen Shin Bo Mei, in Yadana Bhumi township, Ayo oh gyi and Ayo oh kalay pagodas enshrining the bone ashes interned in urns, of prominent monks, Mingyi U Pwa's pagoda, Kyun Lone U Shaung, and Myey Sun Wun's phaya at Myo Haung Railway Station.

The following pagodas, temples and images have extraordinary legend and background history. Till today they are most attractive centres of pilgrims and tourists at home and abroad.

(See page 9)

In appreciation to all Fathers across the nation on Fathers' Day

June 21, 2015

◆ Father, you are a great role model to me !
All through your career
You work smart
You work hard
In diligence and perseverance
You always stand first

◆ Integrity and character
And the values you treasure
You walk the talk
Righteousness along you brought
A good legacy to leave behind is your main thought

◆ You are a special brand
A kind so rare and so grand
With little or no self-interest
You extend your hand to your best

◆ You are a top-class leader
Yourself, a man of principle
Great mentor, coach, advisor and teacher
That's what you are to all your people

◆ A true scout you stay
"Be prepared" is your way
With non-stop thinking to serve community
For the betterment of mankind and society

◆ You said I've been a blessing from the start
And you love me with all your heart
The same goes with me
"I love you, too"
All my life through.

Aye Phyu

Bahan Aye Min

ARTICLE

The last old Myanmar capital city "Ratanapon" [Mandalay] Part VI

Atu Mashi (the Great Incomparable) Monastery.—PHOTO-GOOGLE

(from page 8)

First, we begin with Eindawya Zedi [officially named Maha Loka Yanthi] built by King Bagan to mark the site of his residence before he became king. It was built in 1847 A.D. At the south west corner was a pavilion in which a middle size black stone (chalcedony) Buddha image is housed. Originally it was sheltered at Zaung Ka Law Pagoda [Loka Muni Cula] situated to the south east of Mandalay. There used to be a natural lake called Zaung Ka Law Lake. Now it was land filled and many public houses were built on it.

Next, a very prominent Buddha image in Mandalay is Maha Muni. The son and crown prince Thiri Maha Dhamma bhizeya Sihasura, was sent by his father King Bodawpaya to the Kingdom of Rakhine to bring to his capital the alloy Buddha image in 1785 A.D. It was enshrined in a very sumptuous temple built near his capital Amarapura. When Mandalay was founded this temple with the great image were included within the boundaries of Mindon's capital city. In 1883 A.D. a great fire broke out destroying all buildings. Although all gold ornaments on the image were melted down by the fire, the original alloy image remained intact. Melted gold weighted 5450 viss. The image is 12 feet 7 inches high. The pedestal throne is 7 feet high. Today the image has collected nearly 3 tons of gold gilt and gold ornaments on its body and the crown and several diamonds and precious stones. Its regalia, the bowl, umbrella, stand, water goblet, flower stands, candlesticks, etc. are made of gold studded with rubies. There are religious and historic objects – statues, bells, inscribed pillars on display in the surrounding museums and halls. There is a shed in which stone inscriptions of all historic period are stored for scholars and researchers to study. In a separate brick house are displayed four bronze statues of elephant, lion and two human males. They were brought from Rakhine when Maha Muni Image was moved to Amarapura. Originally these statues were from Cambodia. When Ayuthia [Siam] invaded Cambodia, Khmer images were taken to Ayuthia. When King Bayint Naung conquered Ayuthia, he brought bronze statues to his capital Hanthawddy (Hamsavadi). When Rakhine King invaded Hanthawaddy he took many war booties to Rakhine including Khmer bronze statues. When King Bodawpaya's son and crown prince took Maha Muni image, these bronze statues came with Maha Muni image. So, the only remaining four statues are seen today in the precinct of Maha Muni Image.

Regarding the Iron Buddha Image "Sanda Mani" cast by King Bodawpaya and brought to Mandalay by King Mindon, we have described its background history in Part V of this article.

We shall now deal with the third category of monuments and images at and around Mandalay built and made by King Mindon.

The first group of seven known as Thata Thana သတ္တဌာန် or seven sites with seven buildings were chosen and on which structures were built on the same date and at the same astrologically auspicious time. They were (1) the capital city (2) the moat (3) Maha Loka Marazein Zedi (4) Ordination Hall (5) Maha Atula Way Yan Monastery (6) Pitika Taik Taw and (7) Thudhamma Zayat. In the previous articles, the first two – the capital city and the moat were described in detail. Here we proceed with the remaining five religious works. Maha Loka Marazein Zedi built in 1857 A.D. and was completed in 1860. Three brick walls around it and between the walls vast spaces were left where later the king built 729 dhamma zedi cases with inscribed Tipitaka literature on marble stone slabs sheltered in them, arranged in the form of a book. The design of the zedi is that of Bagan Shwezigon pagoda. In the relic chamber were enshrined a replica of Sacred Tooth Relics of Lord Buddha presented by Sri Lanka and votive objects. Except the eastern side, the remaining three sides of the zedi, north, south and west have big brick salas [rest houses] built with the special fund from royal treasury. The meaning of Maha Loka Marazein is "The Great Conqueror of Five Enemies of Human Life" one of the spiritual attributes of Gotama Buddha. But the zedi is more commonly well-known as Kutho daw Gyi [The Great Religious Merit].

To the north of the capital city, at the foot of Mandalay hill was located "Ordination Hall" built by King Mindon's queen "Maha Ratana Mingala Devi" of North Palace. It was destroyed by four elements. Today wellwishers of Mandalay are reconstructing it on its site. It was known as Pathan Golden Ordination Hall.

In Ashey Pyin, in a spacious precinct, lies the great brick monastery of extraordinary size and design known as Maha Atula Vizaya Yama Taik Taw, loosely rendered into English it is "In-comparable Brick Monastery". It took 18 years to complete it. The roof has five tiers of gilt and decorative designs of stucco [plaster] art. These are 246 teak posts, of which the tallest measures 63 cubit feet. A Buddha image made of King Mindon's clothing and Bodhi tree ashes gilt and with a big diamond of 100 carats on its forehead was one of the extra-ordinary religious objects kept in the monastery. Minister of Yaw, U Po Hlaing supervised its construction.

The following is a firsthand account of this monastery by an English man who visited it in 1885:

"In Mandalay, King Mindon erected a monastery the like of which there is not, the Great Incomparable [in Myanmar Atumashi] which possesses a beautiful hall, unquestionably the finest in all Mandalay. It would be no great stretch of truth to say that it is the finest in the world. The building is composed of a series of bold terraces, seven in number, rising one above another, the central one being the highest. The golden hall is carried on thirty-six pillars some of which are seventy feet high, the ceiling reaching its greatest elevation in the high central terrace. And there, a colossal figure of Goutama Buddha sits, meditating beside a golden throne intended for the king. The boldness of the general design, the noble proportions of the immense hall, and the great height of the golden roof soaring over the throne and the statue, fill the mind with surprise and pleasure. Pillars, walls and roof are richly gilt, glass-inlaying heightening the brilliancy…"

Unfortunately the Great Incomparable suffered vandalism, during the turbulence following the British annexation of Mindon's kingdom in 1885. The large diamond mysteriously disappeared. The art treasures were looted and finally in 1892, the whole building was burnt to the ground.

For decades, it remained in that state of ruin. But with the fund allotted by the government and cash and kind donated by well-wishers the Great Incomparable had been reconstructed on its original model based on historical documents and copies of the original designs. The only alteration made is that the pillars inside have been replaced by flying buttress beams concealed behind the ceiling to provide more space for assembly.

Today the reconstructed Atu Mashi or the Great Incomparable is a splendid building. Massive and gigantic, yet artistic and visually pleasant, its interior gives the visitor the illusion of the Hall of Mirrors in the Versailles Palace of the French King Louis XIV. Though there are no mirrors there, the gilt décor, the glass mosaic work, the grand chandeliers on the gilt ceiling and the snow white sagyin marble stone flooring combined, create such illusion. The spacious hall which can comfortably accommodate an assembly of over one thousand exudes and air of majesty, permeated by religious solemnity. The reconstructed Atu Mashi, the Great Incomparable is one of the marvels of Mandalay or can even be said to be the "finest in the world" as remarked by the English visitor in 1885.

(To be continued)

Helicopter makers upbeat on market despite oil-led slump

PARIS, 20 June — Top US and European helicopter executives said this week that the oil price-led commercial helicopter market slump would be temporary and that they will keep investing in new technologies given the sector's positive long-term outlook.

The downturn will likely last 18 to 24 months, Sikorsky Aircraft's new president, Robert Leduc, said at Paris Airshow, adding that he fully expected demand to rebound at some point.

United Technologies Corp's (UTX.N) announcement this week that it would sell or spin off Sikorsky was not a sign of enduring overcapacity in the market but rather a strategic move to focus on its supplier role, Leduc and other helicopter executives added.

The optimism about a recovery was reflected in comments by the head of Textron Inc (TXT.N), who said the company was not interested in selling Bell Helicopter.

"We love our helicopter business," Scott Donnelly said. "It's a profitable business, it's a great technology business, we're investing a lot. It's always going to go through cycles like every business in the world." Airbus Helicopters used the Paris show to launch a new heavy helicopter for civil customers. Chief Executive Guillaume Faury said the oil price slump had caused some delivery deferrals but had also prompted customers to seek more efficient models for future demand. "It's triggering efforts from customers to reduce their costs," Faury told journalists.

*Visitors look at A H160 of Airbus Helicopter on display during the 51st Paris Air Show at Le Bourget airport near Paris on 17 June, 2015.—*REUTERS

The oil price LCOc1 is down almost 40 percent from a year ago, with Brent crude trading close to $63 a barrel.

Sikorsky's Leduc said sales to the oil and gas sector accounted for about 80 percent of its commercial sales, but that demand in other sectors remained solid, including VIP transports and emergency medical services.

He said overall he was encouraged by the company's $49 billion order backlog, largely in US military programmes that account for about 70 percent of the company's business as it is the Pentagon's biggest helicopter supplier.

Bell Helicopter President and Chief Executive John Garrison declined to estimate how long the downturn would last but remained upbeat about longer-term demand and said the company was continuing to invest in new products and technologies to ensure it was well positioned when the market recovered.

Sales to the oil and gas sector accounted for just 12 to 15 percent of company revenue, but lower oil prices were dampening demand for new aircraft in the Middle East and other countries highly dependent on the sector, he told *Reuters* at the show.

He said Bell saw a strong correlation between worldwide GDP growth and helicopter demand.

"If you believe that the economy's going to continue to grow on a global basis, and we do, growth will return in our segment," he said.

Leduc said Sikorsky hoped its investments in autonomous flight control systems and automatic health monitoring of aircraft would lift future commercial sales. It planned to develop a new medium-lift helicopter around 2020.

Aviation leasing company LCI, part of Libra Group, moved into the helicopter leasing market in 2012, where it competes with GE-owned Milestone (GE.N).

Chairman Crispin Maunder said it was fortuitous in light of the oil price collapse that LCI had focused on the medium side of the market rather than the larger models that typically serve the oil and gas industry.

"The oil price is creeping up gently," Maunder told *Reuters*. "We see it coming back and we have heavy helicopters on order from 2017 onwards."

He said the company aimed for a helicopter portfolio with around one-third exposure to oil and gas, one-third to emergency and medical services and one-third serving other markets.—*Reuters*

Africa needs more blood products: WHO official

COTONOU, 20 June — More efforts need to be made to guarantee rapid and effective access to secure and sufficient blood products in Africa, an official of the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday in Cotonou.

Dr Youssouf Gamatie, WHO representative in Benin, deplored that in 2013, only 3.9 million units of blood were collected from donors in the African region, a volume that could only cover 50 percent of the annual blood requirements in this region.

He was speaking during a preparatory forum for a regional meeting to be organized by the WHO in September in Cotonou to discuss how to develop a regional strategy on securing blood products and establishing national regulatory systems for collecting blood and blood products.

"This regional workshop will enable us to analyze the approaches that need to be taken to effectively respond to a number of challenges facing blood transfusion in the region," the WHO official indicated.

He said blood transfusion is a priority area for WHO which has committed to help African countries develop their blood transfusion services.

Currently, he continued, only 24 African countries have blood banks equipped with blood from voluntary donors, yet this is supposed to be the norm in all the 47 Sub-Saharam African countries.

Dr Gamatie said all blood donors should always be subjected to proper testing of diseases such as HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C and syphilis before transfusion.

"Unfortunately, in 25 African countries, all the blood donors are not tested for one or all of these infections. The test results are not reliable in a number of countries due to shortage of personnel, lack of testing kits or absence of basic laboratory services," he observed. —*Xinhua*

MERS outbreak now No 1 aviation sector risk

PARIS, 20 June — Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) has risen to the top of the list of risks facing the aviation industry, the head of a leading aircraft lessor said, outstripping traditional concerns about fuel and currencies.

An outbreak of MERS in South Korea that began last month and is the largest outside Saudi Arabia has infected 166 people, killing 24 of them.

"You see airlines cancelling some flights out of Taiwan, out of China, to Korea, and tour groups beginning to cancel. So we hope we get over this quickly and that the world has learned from SARS, but the jury's out," Robert Martin, chief executive of Singapore-based leasing firm BOC Aviation, told *Reuters*.

*Crew members of Thai Airways prepare to disinfect the cabin of an aircraft of the national carrier at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport, Thailand, on 18 June, 2015.—*REUTERS

Shares of Thai aviation firms and hoteliers fell on Friday after Thailand confirmed its first case of MERS.

The Thai case may compound fears in Asia of a repeat of a 2002-2003 outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which began in China and killed about 800 people worldwide.

"This has become the number one risk over the last few weeks. The problem with MERS is that it's harder to catch, but the fatality rate is higher once you've got it," Martin said in an interview.

"It's the fact that people then say to their families ... I really don't want you to travel to Korea. It's the fear factor. This is why we need it to blow over quickly."

MERS was first identified in humans in Saudi Arabia in 2012 and the majority of cases have been in the Middle East. Isolated cases cropped up in Asia before South Korea's outbreak and Thailand is the fourth Asian country to register a case.

Moody's Investors Service warned on Thursday that MERS could hurt South Korea's economic recovery as the Health Ministry reported three new cases, though there were also signs the outbreak is slowing.

The International Air Transport Association estimates that Asia-Pacific airlines lost about 8 percent of their annual traffic due to SARS, costing them $6 billion in lost revenues.

According to the Geneva-based group that represents more than 250 airlines, while SARS caused relatively few deaths worldwide, a loss of confidence can ripple through travel and tourism, imposing heavy economic damage.

Martin said, however, that the SARS outbreak also showed confidence tends to return quickly once such shocks evaporate.

Reuters

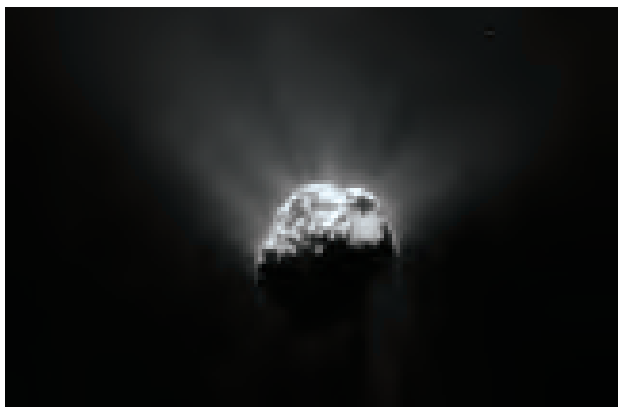
Chinese investment in Britain creates huge amount of jobs

LONDON, 20 June — Britain has become the number one destination of choice for education for Chinese high net wealth families, and the year 2015 has seen a substantial rise of Chinese investment in Britain, creating huge amount of jobs here, said the Hurun Research Institute here on Friday.

In its report named "the UK Engaging the Chinese Private Sector 2015," the institute highlights eight key findings, including Masters courses and boarding schools have been the most important drivers of personal connections with Chinese entrepreneurs; led by Huawei, Britain has seen notable rise in job-creating investments from China's private sector. Rupert Hoogewerf, Chairman and Chief Researcher of Hurun Report, said that the private sector of Chinese mainland is the most dynamic and the one with the brightest future. According to a report released by UK Trade & Investment on Tuesday, China made 112 foreign direct investment (FDI) projects in Britain, becoming the fourth biggest FDI countries for UK in fiscal year 2014/15, which ended March 2015. "There has been a clear evolution of Chinese wanting to send their children to the UK and US, whereas a decade ago it was Canada and Australia," said Hoogewerf.

The education destination choice also bolsters the residential purchases for Chinese high net worth families in Britain. London was the only European city to make the Top 10 preferred cities for Chinese to buy residential property, according to Hurun's report in June 2014.—*Xinhua*

Europe's revived comet lander phones home



The Comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko is seen in an image taken by the Rosetta space probe on 13 June, 2015 and distributed by the European Space Agency (ESA) on 17 June, 2015.—Reuters

Cape Canaveral, 20 June — Europe's Philae comet lander re-established radio contact with its orbiting mother ship on Friday, boosting scientists' hopes of reviving a pioneering mission to study a relic of the solar system's formation, project managers said.

In November, Philae, a 62-pound (100-kg) spacecraft that hitched a ride with the *Rosetta* orbiter, touched down, bounced, then finally landed on the surface of comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko. Philae ran through a preprogrammed, 64-hour series of experiments, then fell silent, unable to collect enough sunlight to recharge its batteries from its shadowed landing site beneath a cliff. But with the comet streaming toward the sun and heating up, Philae emerged from hibernation last weekend with two radio transmissions to *Rosetta*. Additional attempts to contact Philae failed because *Rosetta* was tackling a previously determined set of science operations. Two more transmissions on Wednesday, each lasting two minutes, confirmed the lander's health, the European Space Agency wrote on the project's website. *Rosetta*, which is orbiting about 112 miles (180 km) from the comet, will be lowered another two miles (three km) to better position itself for radio contact with Philae.

"It's of utmost importance to see if we can get a stable communications pattern between the two machines," *Rosetta's* deputy flight director, Elsa Montagnon of the European Space Agency, told reporters during a webcast news conference at the Paris Air Show.

Once regular communications are re-established, managers plan to put Philae back to work, starting with experiments that require little power and no movement of the lander. Eventually, scientists want to rotate Philae about 30 degrees so that its small drill can dig out samples from the comet for analysis. The comet is covered in carbon-based material that may be similar to organics found on Earth.

"It's something we can do, maybe not in the next weeks but certainly in the next months," said Philippe Gaudon, Philae project manager at CNES, the French space agency. Comets are believed to be relics of the building blocks that formed the solar system and may hold clues about how water and the chemicals that gave rise to life were delivered to Earth. The comet circles the sun in an elliptical path that passes between the orbits of Earth and Mars and extends past Jupiter's orbit. Its closest approach to the sun will be on 13 August. *Rosetta* will accompany 67P until at least the year's end before joining Philae on the comet's surface.—*Reuters*

Advanced Micro Devices mulling breakup, spinoff

An AMD Opteron 6000 series processor is seen on a motherboard during a product launch in Taipei on 14 April, 2010.—Reuters

New York, 20 June — Chipmaker Advanced Micro Devices Inc is at the initial stage of reviewing whether to split itself in two or spin off a business, seeking to reverse its fortunes and take on rival Intel Corp, according to three people familiar with the matter.

The deliberations are preliminary and no decision has been made, the people said. The review highlights Chief Executive Lisa Su's determination to consider every possible option to turn the company around.

AMD, based in Sunnyvale, California, has asked a consulting firm to help it review its options and draw up scenarios on how a break-up or spin-off would work, the people said this week, asking not to be identified because the deliberations are confidential.

One option under consideration is separating AMD's graphics and licensing business from its server business, which sells processors that power data centers, one of the people said.

AMD had explored such a move in the past and decided against it, the people said. Su, however, who took over as CEO last October, judged that there is merit for the company to at least consider such a possibility again, the people added. There is no certainty that a split or spin-off will occur, the people cautioned.

An AMD spokeswoman said no such project was in the works at this time and reiterated the company's commitment to the long-term strategy it laid out in May at its analyst meeting.

AMD, which has a market capitalization of around $2 billion, has competed with much larger Intel since the 1980s, and at times has made inroads with its PC and server chips. AMD has an extensive cross-licensing agreement with Intel, an issue AMD would have to study carefully in the case of a break-up.

In the last few years, AMD has been caught somewhat flat-footed by new competitors designing low-cost and power-efficient chips. AMD shares have fallen 40 percent over the last 12 months.

The company, which said in October it would cut 7 percent of its workforce, is now shifting its focus to gaming consoles and low-power servers to combat falling laptop sales.

While large rivals such as Intel have deeper pockets to fund research on new products, AMD faces declining cash flows and has a more modest balance sheet.

AMD's net loss widened to $180 million, or 23 cents per share, in the quarter that ended March 28, from $20 million, or 3 cents per share, a year earlier. It also missed on revenue expectations. It is forecasting a return to profitability in the second half of the year.—*Reuters*

Mexico's home robot "Justina" to compete in RoboCup

Mexico City, 20 June — Justina, a home robot designed by a team at Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM), is set to compete at the upcoming 2015 RoboCup in Hefei, capital of central China's Anhui Province, in July this year.

Designed to help with simple chores around the house, Justina was created by students specializing in a variety of majors, and is currently undergoing last-minute testing and adjustments at UNAM's Engineering Faculty.

The team says Justina is ready to show off her domestic skills in one of the event's four competitive divisions, which include RoboCupSoccer, RoboCupRescue, RoboCupJunior and RoboCup Home.

The competition will be tough, with entries from 46 countries having to undergo basic trials, including "going from one point to another and if there is an unexpected obstacle in the way, having the ability to sidestep it," project coordinator Dr Jesus Savage Carmona told *Xinhua*.

Marco Antonio Negrete Villanueva, who is working on a doctorate in computing, designed Justina's navigation system.

"She'll do a good job," he said, even in the "types of complex settings you see in the RoboCup."

In addition to mobility, robots need artificial intelligence, said Savage, adding Justina "also has to be able to understand what she's instructed to do."

Measuring a meter and a half in height, with restless eyes and the golden insignia of the university football team Pumas, Justina can do more than simply navigate her way around home furniture: she can clean, make a bed, clear away the dishes and even pour a glass of milk.

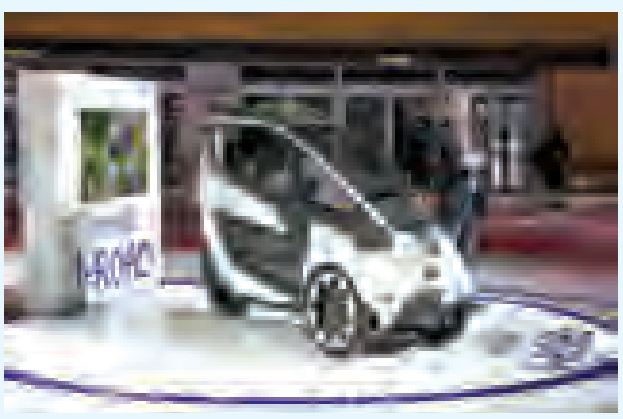
She can also speak and follow spoken instructions or gestures, said Savage, who has been promoting the field of robotics in Mexico for more than 10 years. This won't be the first time Justina has entered into competition, having debuted at a 2006 robotics contest in Bremen, Germany, and competed every year since: Atlanta, US (2007), Suzhou, China (2008), Graz, Austria (2009), Singapore (2010), Istanbul, Turkey (2011), Mexico (2012), Eindhoven, Holland (2013), and Brazil and Toulouse, France (2014).

But Justina has been upgraded, with better vision and smoother actions, such as approaching a table or following someone, said Jesus Cruz Navarro, team leader and a master's candidate in computing.

In general, the three components that make her tick — mechanical, electric/electronic and artificial intelligence — have been gradually improved for this year's challenge.

First held in 1997, RoboCup organizers and participants hope to drive enough progress in the field by 2050 to assemble a team of robot football players to pit against the winners of the FIFA World Cup.

Xinhua



7th Int'l Motor Show held in Buenos Aires

A visitor observes an I-Road concept car of Toyota during the 7th International Motor Show in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina, on 18 June, 2015.
Xinhua

France, central European states oppose quotas in EU migrant debate

BRATISLAVA, 20 June — French President Francois Hollande said on Friday he thought commitments by individual EU member states offered a better way of resettling African and Middle Eastern migrants rather than the imposition of national quotas by Brussels.

Debate has grown over how to deal with a growing influx of migrants into the 28-member European Union and a number of countries have stressed any acceptance system should be based on a voluntary approach.

Hollande spoke after joining a meeting of prime ministers of the Visegrad group of countries within the EU — Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, which jointly oppose quotas.

"We need to address the reasons that have led to and that have caused the migration," Hollande told a news conference held with the central European leaders in the Slovak capital Bratislava. "I do not think (quotas) make any sense for migration. I do not think it is the right method."

The European Commission wants EU governments to agree to resettle over the next two years 40,000 asylum-seekers who reached Italy and Greece, many after perilous boat trips across the Mediterranean in which hundreds have died.

Only refugees from states deemed by the EU to be known to be facing the worst strife and conflict will be taken in.

A general view shows tents and umbrellas used by migrants to shelter on the rocks of the seawall at the Saint Ludovic border crossing on the Mediterranean Sea between Vintimille, Italy and Menton, France, on 18 June, 2015. — REUTERS

The plan will be discussed at an EU summit on 25-26 June.

Italy and Greece, bearing the brunt of the migrant wave, have repeatedly called on fellow EU states to share the burden.

Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico, hosting a meeting of the Visegrad countries of Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, said issuing quotas among member states flew against earlier EU decisions. He said the four countries supported a voluntary approach.

"We (the Visegrad countries) are ready to talk in the European Council about how to help people who need help. But it is not possible for the Commission to propose legal regulations that lay the basis for mandatory quotas," he said.

Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka said he still expected a tough debate on the issue among EU leaders next week.

Countries in the EU's emerging east have faced varying pressure from the sharp increase in asylum seekers, especially countries like Hungary that border on the Balkans, a major transit route for migrants from the Middle East and Africa.

Hungary announced a plan this week to build a four-metre-(13-foot)-high fence along its border with non-EU member Serbia, a move that triggered a swift rebuke from the United Nations Refugee Agency.

Prime Minister Viktor Orban defended the move on Friday, saying Hungary needed to protect its border on the outer edge of the EU's Schengen zone in which free movement is allowed.—*Reuters*

Violence against women worldwide remains an issue: Chinese ambassador

GENEVA, 20 June — China's ambassador to the UN in Geneva Wu Hailong on Friday said "violence against women and girls remains one of the most pervasive human rights abuses around the world."

The ambassador was speaking in the context of the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which builds on the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, and seeks to provide equal participation for women in economic, social, cultural and political decision-making.

Wu said that "despite efforts undertaken by the international community to eliminate all forms of violence against women including domestic violence, which have resulted in the strengthening of legislation and the criminal justice system, challenges and gaps are still remaining." In light of this, he advocated a "transformative agenda," where particular emphasis is placed on the empowerment of women in socio-economic spheres, while also calling for the eradication of gender stereotypes.

"States should consider implementing legislation which enables the active involvement of women in the formal sector and in decision-making processes and actively promote gender equality and increase the role of women in development, socialization and policy development," he added.—*Xinhua*

Japan, China agree on early setup of maritime communication system

BEIJING, 20 June — Japan and China agreed on Friday to speed up the process of setting up a maritime communication mechanism as part of efforts to avert accidental clashes in nearby waters, at a time when their once-frosty relations have been thawing, despite a continuing dispute over the Senkaku Islands.

Without providing details, the Japanese and Chinese defence ministries respectively said in a statement they have also reached some common understanding on technical matters of the planned mechanism during working-level talks in Beijing.

According to an official with knowledge of the one-day meeting, among other major issues, Japan and China agreed to communicate in English in the event of an emergency and set up hotlines between the chiefs of their naval and air forces.

The two countries have yet to decide whether their territorial waters and airspace will fall within the scope of the new mechanism, the source said, adding that the next round of talks could take place next month in Tokyo.

Following Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's first meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in November, the two countries resumed working-level talks in January, the first time since 2012.

Abe and Xi have agreed to ease maritime tensions stemming from a standoff over sovereignty of the Japan-controlled, China-claimed uninhabited islands.

The talks had been suspended since Japan put most of the islands, called Diaoyu by China, under state control in September 2012. Differences over the islands in the East China Sea and wartime legacy issues persist between Tokyo and Beijing. But high-level political contacts, as well as exchanges in the private sector, have been on the rise between the two countries recently.—*Kyodo News*

Eight suspected pirates nabbed after Malaysia recaptures hijacked tanker

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 June — Eight suspected pirates have been arrested in Vietnamese waters after trying to flee after Malaysia recaptured a hijacked oil tanker and all crew onboard were safe, officials said on Friday.

All eight hijackers fled in rescue boats on Thursday evening, but the captain of the hijacked tanker only informed the authorities after mid-night, some five hours later as he was threatened by the pirates not to reveal their escape plan, according to Malaysian Navy chief Abdul Aziz Jaafar.

Earlier, the pirates requested a following Malaysian Navy ship to keep a five nautical miles distance, threatening that the crew would be hurt if the ship gets close. Pirates said they were heading toward Natuna Islands of Indonesia.

Malaysian maritime officials later said eight Indonesians who believed to be the hijackers were arrested by Vietnamese border guards near Tho Chu Island.

"The pirates that fled the ship was arrested by Vietnamese authorities when trying to escape from our control," said Ahmad Puzi bin Ab Kahar, Deputy chief of Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency. "They have been questioned by this time," he said.

Malaysia's *Star* newspaper described the hijackers as "part-time pirates" as they attempted to disguise the tanker with paint, changing its name from the original "Orkim Harmony" to "Kim Harmon. "

Meanwhile, All 22 crew members, including 16 Malaysians, five Indonesians and a Myanmar citizen were all safe, Abdul Aziz said. One crew member was shot in the thigh when the pirates hijacked ship. He had been airlifted to hospital and was reported to be in stable condition.

The Orkim Harmony went missing off the east coast of Malaysia's southern Johor state since 11 June. It was carrying 6,000 metric tons of petrol worth some 21 million ringgit (5.6 million US dollars).

Abdul Aziz said the petrol remained on the ship.

The tanker was on its way from Malacca to the port city of Kuantan when hijacked. It was spotted on Thursday off Cambodian waters.

The tanker was travelling along the Malacca Strait, one of the busiest waterways in the world. Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia have joint effort in fighting piracy in the Malacca Strait. Malaysia maritime officials said this was the fifth hijacking case this year in the southern part of the strait along the Malaysian coast.—*Xinhua*

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (082N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (082N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1509)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC DAWN VOY NO (1509) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.6.2015 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 MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE) PTE LTD

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10/2015)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars / Myanmar kyat,

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-021(15-16)	5" Drill Pipe (5000) Meter	US$
(2)	IFB-022(15-16)	5" Heavy Weight Drill Pipe (50) Nos	US$
(3)	IFB-023(15-16)	6 1/2", '7 3/4" & 8" Drill Collars (3) Items	US$
(4)	IFB-024(15-16)	13 3/8", 9 5/8" & 5 1/2" Casing Shoe & Collar (16) Items	US$
(5)	IFB-025(15-16)	BJ Cementing Unit Spares (30) Items	US$
(6)	IFB-026(15-16)	Assorted Sizes of Casings	US$
(7)	IFB -027(15-16)	Electrical Spares (22) Items for HDD Rig	US$
(8)	IFB-028(15- 16)	Spares for HDD Rig (10) Items	US$
(9)	IFB-029(15-16)	Pump Spares for D3 T2 Drilling Rigs (23) Items	US$
(10)	IFB-030(15-16)	F 1000 Rig Pump Spares Ex D3 T2 Drilling Rigs (23) Items	US$
(11)	DMP/L-005(15-16)	Spares for SINO Truck (20 Ton Long Body)	KS

Tender Closing Date & Time - 15-7-2015, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 17th June, 2015 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

*A vendor sells fermented sticky rice at a market in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 19 June, 2015. Duanwu festival, celebrated on the fifth day of the fifth lunar month, is widely known in Vietnam as the festival to kill inner insects. Vietnamese people believe that eating fermented sticky rice during Duanwu festival can help clean the digestive system.—*XINHUA

Singapore to open airlines training centre marking 50th birthday

SINGAPORE, 20 June — Singapore Airlines'(SIA) training centre will open to the public for the first time on 25 July as part of SIA's programme to celebrate the country's 50th birthday, said the national carrier in a press release on Friday.

SIA said its Open House will give visitors access to the behind- the-scenes of its pilot and cabin crew training. The airlines will organize walking tours of the Flight Simulator, Safety Training and Cabin Crew training facilities, as well as an all-day carnival. Besides, the SIA Heritage Gallery will showcase the airline's development over the years.

Children may participate in a 60-minute "exclusive Junior Cabin Crew Experience", which provides opportunities to dress up the iconic SIA cabin crew uniform as well as role-play in a replica of SIA's *A380* Business Class cabin.

Christopher Cheng, chairman of SIA's Open House and Art Competition Committee, said it's has been an exciting year for the airline as the country celebrate its Golden Jubilee while giving back to the community.

Xinhua

At least two people injured in Lithuanian capital fire

VILNIUS, 20 June — At least two people were injured and three warehouses completely destroyed during a sudden fire in Lithuanian capital Vilnius on Friday evening.

According to the Fire and Rescue Department of Lithuania, the fire broke out in three warehouses situated not far away from inhabited city zones. The fire soon completely destroyed the assets of a furniture company at one of the warehouses and used car parts and computer technique stored at other two. According to local media reports, one spectator was injured and a firefighter suffered minor injuries during an explosion at the site.

The smoke was seen dozens of kilometres away, with spectators reporting explosions. No fatalities have been reported, confirmed Saulius Skvernelis, the Interior Minister of Lithuania, who arrived at the site.

"This is an unusual case. In terms of firefight forces dispatched, this is one of the largest fires in Vilnius recently," Skvernelis told news website lrytas. lt.

Around 10 firefighting vehicles have been working at the site for at least three hours. "Everything we had had been burned down. The losses will amount to millions," general manager of the company owning one of the hangars told news website 15min.lt.

The authorities continued investigating the causes of the accident.

Xinhua

Kenya eyes more investment in upcoming economic summit

NAIROBI, 20 June — Kenya said on Friday that next month's 6th Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) will help strengthen the country's trade ties with US, Africa and global markets. State House Spokesperson Manoah Esipisu said in a statement that the summit offered the country opportunities to exchange high- level views and ideas between government, global business leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators. "The privilege of hosting this summit endorses our professed positive economic outlook. We are eager to use this forum to deepen our regional integration and improve our global competitiveness," he said.

Launched by US President Obama in 2009, GES brings together entrepreneurs and investors from across Africa and around the world annually to showcase innovative projects, exchange new ideas, and help spur economic opportunity.

The 2015 GES agenda will focus on generating new investments for entrepreneurs, with a particular focus on women and youth.

The selection of Nairobi as host city for the 2015 GES underscores how Africa, notably Kenya, has become a center for innovation and entrepreneurship. Esipisu said the summit, which will coincide with Obama's visit in July, is likely to stimulate economic exchanges between Washington D C and Nairobi.

"As a country, we are acclaimed as an innovation leader in sub- Saharan Africa and we have evidence to support that acclaim, in our financial services and technology sectors," Esipisu said.

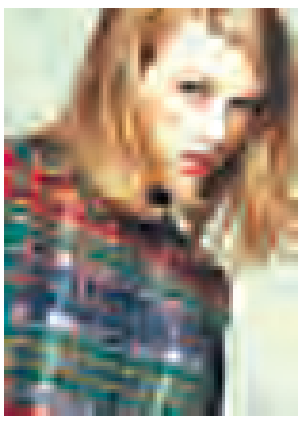
The government is keen on forging and strengthening its bilateral relations with the US to promote foreign investment and entrepreneurial innovations in the country, and the broader eastern African region, and will also seek much needed global support in the war against terror. Esipisu said that Kenya has evidence-based learning to offer in entrepreneurship and business leadership, and is also poised to benefit and learn from the entrepreneurial principles that are shared across international boundaries. This will foster its opportunities on inclusiveness, global competitiveness, expand the international supply chain and spread the exchange of ideas.

The spokesman said that the government would continue to integrate entrepreneurship into its transformation and economic development efforts by deploying necessary measures to support fledgling entrepreneurs and remove barriers that unnecessarily constrain them to stifle innovation.

He added that the government will promote private–public partnerships (PPP), pivotal infrastructure projects, manufacturing and others, to augment the small & mid-sized enterprises (SME) sector and promotion of entrepreneurship culture in the country. This, he said, will increase wealth creation, employability and provide a basis upon which a new paradigm shall be created.

Entrepreneurial innovation plays an important role in creating wealth and employment for the youth, enabling giant strides in efforts to eliminate poverty. Kenya's growth is attributable to a robust SME sector and the emergence of entrepreneurial innovations.—*Xinhua*

Taylor Swift's '1989' will not be offered on Apple Music



Taylor Swift

Los Angeles, 20 June — Pop star Taylor Swift will not be making her hit album "1989" available on Apple Inc's upcoming streaming service, the singer's label said on Friday.

Apple Music, which will launch at the end of June, will offer subscribers a large catalog of songs for a subscription fee of $10 a month, but Swift's "1989," her fifth studio album, will not be offered on any streaming service, her label Big Machine Group said.

Representatives for Apple did not respond to requests for comment.

Swift pulled her entire catalog of music from online streaming platform Spotify last November and refused to offer her latest record "1989" on streaming services, saying the business had "shrunk the numbers of paid album sales drastically."

The move, while risky, paid off for the 25-year-old singer as "1989" became the biggest debut of 2014. It has sold more than 4.9 million albums in the US since its October release.

Swift's back catalog remains available on streaming services that require a paid subscription, her label said.

Apple Music, unveiled earlier this month, will not offer a free, ad-supported on-demand streaming service like Spotify or Pandora.

The music industry has supported Apple bringing its vast music library to paid streaming, and the company said it will pay 70 percent of the music subscription revenue to music owners.

Reuters

Songwriters Hall of Fame honors Van Morrison, Lady Gaga

London, 20 June — Veteran soul and bluesman Van Morrison and pop star Lady Gaga have added fresh accolades to their list of honors, winning awards from the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

Northern Irish singer-songwriter Morrison took the prestigious "Johnny Mercer Award" reserved for Hall inductees — just a week after he was knighted for services to music in the Birthday Honours list of Britain's Queen Elizabeth.

Lady Gaga was handed the first "Contemporary Icon Award" to honor "a songwriter-artist who has attained iconic status in pop culture".

Both received their gongs at the organization's 46th annual gala in New York on Thursday night, when new inductees included country music writer Bobby Braddock, singer-songwriter Linda Perry and "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" singer Cyndi Lauper.

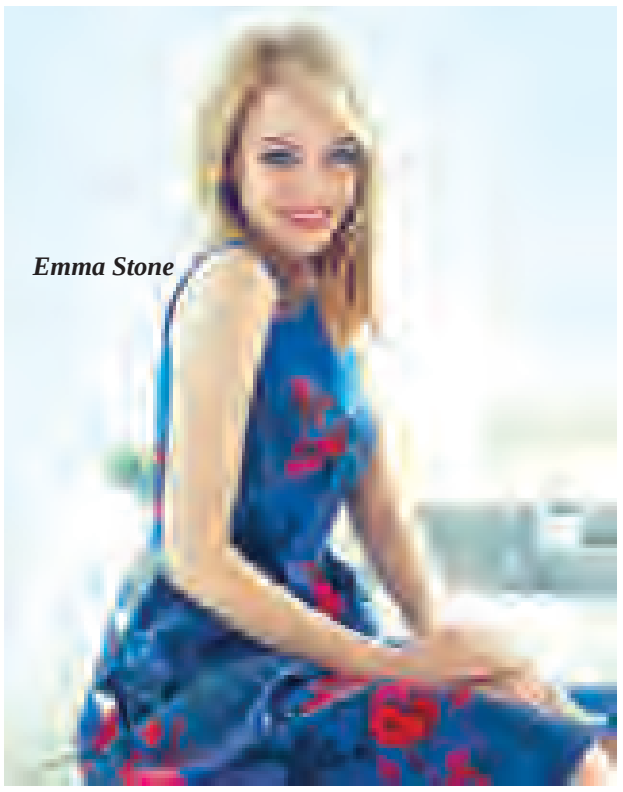
Grateful Dead guitarist and songwriter Jerry Garcia was honored posthumously alongside the band's lyricist Robert Hunter. "Hoochie Coochie Man" songwriter Willie Dixon, who died in 1992, was also on the roster.

Lady Gaga poses on the red carpet before the Songwriters Hall of Fame ceremony in New York on 18 June, 2015.—Reuters

"I have some really wonderful fans in the industry who really believe in me," Lauper, 61, said on arrival at the ceremony. "I'm blown away."—*Reuters*

I don't like to talk about my personal life: Emma Stone

Los Angeles, 20 June — Actress Emma Stona says she prefers to keep her personal life private. The "Amazing Spider-Man" star, who has been dating co-star Andrew Garfield for three years, apparently had a brief split this past March, reported *Us* magazine.



Emma Stone

"See, I never talk about this stuff for this exact reason — because it's all so speculative and baseless. Once you start responding — once you're like, 'No, that's not true' — then they're like, 'Well, if we push enough, we'll get a comment, so let's see what else we can make up'," she said.

"I understand the interest in it completely, because I've had it, too. But it's so special to me that it never feels good to talk about, so I just continually don't talk about it," she added.

Shortly after splitting from Garfield this spring, Stone, 26, was photographed in Beverly Hills carrying a shopping bag with her then-ex's name on it.

The pictures sparked countless headlines and a flurry of speculation.—*PTI*

One-take thriller 'Victoria' sweeps German film awards

Berlin, 20 June — German heist film "Victoria", shot in one single take in more than 20 locations in central Berlin, won top honors at the German Film Prize on Friday, taking best picture and five categories in one of the world's most lucrative film awards.

The movie tells the tragic story of Victoria — a talented, but jobless pianist from Spain stranded in Berlin — who as she leaves a nightclub gets acquainted with a wild bunch of young men and becomes embroiled in an armed robbery.

"Crime does pay," director Sebastian Schipper told an applauding audience of more than 2,000 people, including German Culture Minister Monika Gruetters.

The film also won the "Lolas" for best director, best actress (Laia Costa), best actor (Frederick Lau), best camera (Sturla Brandth Grovlen) and best music (Nils Frahm).

The screen rights for "Victoria" have been sold to more than 30 countries worldwide and it is slated for release in the United States, Britain, France and Spain in the coming months.

The Edward Snowden film "Citizenfour" by Laura Poitras, partly shot in Berlin, won the "Lola" for best documentary.

The ballots were cast by more than 1,600 industry professionals who make up the German Film Academy. The awards are not meant to award box office success but cultural achievement.

The German government underwrites the 3 million euros in prizes, which are distributed among the dozens of nominated films as an indirect subsidy for future projects. Presented every year since 1951, the "Lolas" are Germany's answer to Hollywood's Oscars and Britain's BAFTA awards. In 2006, the German surveillance state drama "Das Leben der Anderen" ("The Lives of Others") got seven "Lolas" before later winning the best foreign film Oscar.—*Reuters*

Movie role inspires Kate Winslet to take up gardening

London, 20 June — Actress Kate Winslet says she has destroyed her hands and fingers perfecting her gardening skills after portraying French landscape artist Sabine De Barra in her latest movie "A Little Chaos".

The 39-year-old "Titanic" star had always dreamed of becoming a gardener before taking on the role in Alan Rickman's directorial debut, reported Contactmusic.

"I'm proud to say that every single night during filming I would go home and have to dig out mud because it just had to live in Sabine.

"I don't have any gardening talents, truth be told. I'm just not very good at it, but I love gardens and I'd love to be a gardener." she said.—*PTI*

Actress Kate Winslet

GENERAL

Blatter backs German proposal for FIFA integrity checks

FIFA President Sepp Blatter pauses during a news conference at the FIFA headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland, on 2 June, 2015. —Reuters

London, 20 June — FIFA president Sepp Blatter has endorsed a German proposal for stronger integrity checks to vet top soccer officials as the sport's global governing body grapples with the fallout of a massive corruption scandal.

Blatter also took a swipe at European soccer federation UEFA, who he said had blocked the proposal by German FA president Wolfgang Niersbach.

"Wolfgang Niersbach from Germany, has put forward a motion I support,' the Swiss wrote in his column in *FIFA Weekly Magazine*.

"(He) has proposed an independent integrity check for all members of the most important FIFA Committees.

"In doing so, Niersbach has broached a subject that has so far been blocked by UEFA of all associations. Better late than never.

"The message he has thereby sent out must apply to everyone: only together can we continue to drive the process of reform forward.

"That is something I will stand for until my final day in office."

Following the arrests of high-ranking FIFA officials in Zurich last month, Blatter was re-elected as president for a fifth term on 29 May but days later announced he would step down and an extraordinary congress would find his successor.

FIFA's Executive Committee will meet in Zurich on 20 July to decide on a date to find Blatter's successor. In his column, Blatter did not address reports he might change his mind about stepping down and stand for re-election.

He said Niersbach's proposal would be discussed at the 20 July meeting but sidestepped the German's call to end the one-country, one-vote system used to elect the president.

Currently, each of FIFA's 209 member associations has one vote in the presidential election, meaning that countries such as Germany and Brazil have the same voting power as tiny nations such as Liechtenstein and Antigua.

Conversely, Blatter said more power over the governance of global soccer should be concentrated in Asia and Africa — blocs where he has traditionally relied on strong support — in the form of more representation on an expanded Executive Committee.

"The key is to strengthen democracy within the 'FIFA government'," he said. "The fact that CAF, the African confederation boasting 54 members and the AFC, the Asian confederation with 46 members, only have five and four delegates respectively in the 25-person FIFA Executive is contradictory to this notion of democracy.

"However, I am reluctant to take places away from anyone; there should not be a redistribution of seats on the Executive Committee but a commensurate expansion of this body."

Blatter also repeated his call for more women on the ExCo, saying FIFA was not a "men-only" club.

Burundi's Lydia Nsekera sits alone as a female full member of the ExCo — the only woman in the 111-year history of the organization to attain that post.—*Reuters*

Firefighters battle massive blazes from Alaska to drought-hit California

A firefighting helicopter drops water near Camp Bravo summer camp as firefighters battle the Lake Fire in the San Bernardino National Forest, California on 19 June, 2015. Reuters

Juneau, (Alaska)/ Phoenix, 20 June — Firefighters were working on Friday to contain several massive wildfires raging from Alaska to drought-hit California that have forced hundreds of people to evacuate from their homes and damaged dozens of structures.

The so-called Lake Fire in a mountainous national forest outside Los Angeles had swelled to 11,000 acres (4,500 hectares) on Friday from 7,500 acres (3,000 hectares) the day before as it scorched old-growth timber on steep slopes and threatened some 150 structures, the San Bernardino County Fire Department said.

Fire crews backed by bulldozers and water-dumping aircraft are battling to keep the blaze from crossing Highway 38 near the small city of Big Bear, the department said.

Highway 38 and other roads remained closed in the area and officials ordered people away from vacation cabins and camp sites.

In Alaska, about 900 firefighters were battling two major blazes in a state that has 56 active wildfires ranging from a few acres to 10,000 acres (4,000 hectares), officials said.

A fire in Willow, about 40 miles (65 kms) north of Anchorage, has charred slightly more than 7,000 acres (2,800 hectares).

The second major fire, in Sterling, about 140 miles (225 kms) south of Anchorage on the Kenai Peninsula, has blackened more than 7,500 acres (3,000 hectares).

The fires have destroyed about 40 structures, forced nearly 1,000 people from their homes and restricted traffic on a major highway this week.

"We are surrounded by fire right now," said National Weather Service meteorologist Matthew Clay in Anchorage, adding that smoke from both fires could bear down on the city amid shifting winds. "If we get a stable air mass, we are looking at getting smoked-in potentially."

In Arizona, fire officials said they have gained control of a 1,400-acre (600-hectare) brush fire that once threatened the 2,000-person community of Kearny, about 90 miles (145 kms) southeast of Phoenix, and forced hundreds of evacuations.

The blaze was 40 percent contained as of midday Friday and all evacuees have been allowed to return to their homes.

But crews on Friday continued to work the fire's perimeter to extinguish any hot spots, with full containment expected in a few days, officials said.

The so-called Kearny River Fire broke out on Wednesday and burned through a dry riverbed heavy with volatile salt cedar trees. —*Reuters*

mitv Myanmar International

(21-6-2015 07:00 am~ 22-6-2015 07:00 am) MST

* News
* Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (Part-3)
* Amazing: Magician Sak Kaw Ma
* News
* Myanmar Classic Car Rally 2015
* News
* Now In Yangon: Higer
* Black Gold (P-II)
* Mt Naw Bu Baw
* Architect: U Thaw
* News
* Unique Pattern of Myanma...A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress
* Now in Yangon: Mix Restaurant & Bar
* Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting
* News
* Food Trip (EP-1) Part -1
* Today Myanmar: Election
* News
* U Kyaw Thu: From Artist to Philanthropist (Part-I)
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* Waso Charity Feast
* Civic Duty
* News
* Let's Cook (Episode - III)
* Myanmar Street Foods
* Natural Lake: Fish Breeding Business
* Karaweik Palace-A Symbol of Glorious Myanma Culture
* Dengue Fever
* News
* Discovering Tribes "Bwe"
* Guiding Star of Song Birds

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(21-6-2015, Sunday)

6:00 am
- Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:35 am
- Documentary

7:00 am
- News / Weather Report

7:35 am
- Business News

8:00 am
- News / International News

8:30 am
- Head Line News

9:35 am
- Weekly Entertainment

10:50 am
- Documentary (MERS COV)

11:35 am
- Amazing World

12:00 noon
- News / International News / Weather Report

12:35 pm
- Round up of the Week's International News

12:50 pm
- Myanmar Movie (Part-1)

3:00 pm
- News / International News

3:35 pm
- Myanmar Movies (Part-2)

4:35 pm
- Business News

5:35 pm
- People's Talks

6:35 pm
- Weekly Entertainment

7:00 pm
- News

7:35 pm
- Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

8:00 pm
- News / International News / Weather Report

9:00 pm
- News
- Tasty Trip
- Sing & Enjoy

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(21-6-2015, Sunday)

6:00 am
- Alinka Wutyi Music Troupe

6:20 am
- Myanmar Video

7:50 am
- Fashion Show Music

8:20 am
- Teleplay

8:50 am
- Sing & Enjoy

9:35 am
- Teleplay

9:50 am
- Musical Programme

10:05 am
- Myanmar Movie

THE GLOBAL NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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Sunday, 21 June, 2015

Ecstasy in Auckland as Serbia make history

AUCKLAND, 20 June — In the end, a tournament full of surprises and late, late drama had a fitting conclusion. Serbia, playing in the FIFA U-20 World Cup for the first time as an independent nation, will leave as its champions. That is the remarkable outcome after a dramatic and enthralling final day of action that thrilled a sell-out, 25,000-plus crowd at Auckland's North Harbour Stadium. Nemanja Maksimovic's decisive, 118th-minute goal settled the final 2-1 in favour of the delirious Serbians, and left five-time champions Brazil to settle for silver.

Mali will also return home with medals after edging an all-African third-place play-off with Senegal. That game's final tallies of four goals and two saved penalties give an indication, but only that, of the excitement, drama and attacking football that both sides provided. Each head for home having provided fresh reminders of why they have been such fan favourites here in New Zealand. Mali's hero, Adama Traore, also headed the list of award-winners, picking up the adidas Golden Ball award as the tournament's best player. The Golden Glove and Golden Boot, recognizing the leading keeper and top scorer, went to Serbia's Predrag Rajkovic and Viktor Kovalenko of Ukraine respectively.

The players and coaches of Serbia celebrate beating Brazil to win the FIFA U-20 World Cup after the FIFA U-20 World Cup Final match between Brazil and Serbia at North Harbour Stadium on 20 June, 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand.—FIFA

Results

Match for Third Place

Senegal 1-3 Mali

Final

Brazil 1-2 Serbia AET

Goals of the day

Senegal-Mali, 1-2, Adama Traore (83)

When Adama Traore found the top corner with an inch-perfect, 25-yard free-kick, the thought that he would go on to top it — with just 16 minutes left to play — would have seemed ludicrous. But Mali and their richly talented No19 have made a habit of surprising us all, and today was no different. The three Senegal defenders who were surrounding Traore, ushering him down a blind alley, were more shocked than anyone when he suddenly turned 180 degrees to wriggle clear of them all. Then, they could only look on aghast as, somehow, with his weaker foot, he struck the perfect shot — flat, powerful and bound for the far corner from the minute it left his boot.

Brazil-Serbia, 1-1, Andreas Pereira (74)

Reclaiming Brazil's lost reputation for fantasy football has been a stated aim of Rogerio Micale's side, and goals like this will go a long way towards achieving that. Like Traore, Andreas Pereira seemed to be going nowhere but, similar to his Malian counterpart, he made light work of three pursuers. Milan Gajic, Andrija Zivkovic and match-winner Maksimovic were all left in his wake as the substitute capped a mazy, jinking dart in from the left with a clever change of direction and a delicious curling finish.

Adama Traore of Mali wins the adidas Golden Ball, Danilo of Brazil wins the Silver ball and Sergej Milinkovic of Serbia wins the Bronze ball after the FIFA U-20 World Cup Final match between Brazil and Serbia at North Harbour Stadium on 20 June, 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand.—FIFA

Memorable moments

Dedication amid the deluge

They may be outnumbered by their rugby and cricket counterparts, but there is no doubting the passion of New Zealand's football enthusiasts. That devotion was definitely put to the test today, as Auckland saved its worst weather of the tournament for the day when everyone had hoped the sun would shine. In a stadium with three uncovered stands and most of the fans open to the elements, the heavy, incessant rain that fell throughout the third-place play-off and returned late in the final was the most unwelcome of visitors. It was impressive, though, that Auckland's sodden supporters remained undeterred, sitting hardily through the downpour to enjoy their favourite sport. Fortunately, they were rewarded for that stoicism, with some thrilling on-field fare helping to make up for the conditions overhead.

Diarra, Traore help a friend in need

Falaye Sacko will return to Mali tomorrow as a hero, part of the side that broke new ground and brought home the bronze. But the midfielder will be as relieved as he is overjoyed at that status — for he could so easily have become a national villain. Missing one penalty was bad enough; conceding another at the other end just ten minutes later was positively calamitous. Fortunately for Sacko, he was bailed out by two inspired colleagues, with his errors all but forgotten due to Adama Traore's brilliant goals and Djigui Diarra's outstanding penalty save.

Coach knows best

Though Boschilia's U-20 World Cup has contained much to be proud of, his reaction to being substituted against Serbia — a bad-tempered booting of Brazil's dugout — was not his finest moment. And if the midfielder felt his coach had erred in replacing him, he was soon proved wrong. It took just eight minutes, after all, for his replacement to provide the magic that Brazil had been lacking. Fortunately, Boschilia's embrace with his coach after Pereira's strike told a story of a valuable lesson learned.

A fan-tastic final

In the red corner, we had horns, waving flags and bouncing, chanting supporters. In the yellow, whistles, drums, balloons, dancers and the unmistakable sounds of Samba. If New Zealanders wanted a taste of the atmosphere that only a football World Cup can deliver, this was it. The colour was dazzling, the noise near-incessant, and Kiwi neutrals were clearly — and rightly — enraptured. And while the Europeans were left delighted, the South Americans disconsolate, both groups of supporters contributed to a wonderful occasion.

The stat

118 — Nemanja Maksimovic's title-winning goal, scored two minutes from the end of extra time, is the latest ever seen in a U-20 World Cup final.

The words

"I'm very happy to have sent a message in this tournament — a message of unity, of passion and playing with heart. And I hope we can help unite our people to live a peaceful kind of life after 20 years of struggle," Veljko Paunovic, Serbia coach.—*FIFA*

Chile crush Bolivia 5-0, finish top of Copa Group A

SANTIAGO, 20 June — Hosts Chile brushed aside Bolivia 5-0 at the Copa America on Friday to finish top of Group A and ensure they remain in the capital Santiago for their quarter-final. Midfielder Charles Aranguiz scored twice and Arsenal striker Alexis Sanchez grabbed his first goal of the tournament as Chile cruised to victory in a one-sided encounter at the national stadium.

Full back Gary Medel added a fourth, Bolivian captain Ronald Raldes scored an own-goal and Sanchez hit the woodwork twice against a Bolivia side that offered little in the way of resistance. Despite their defeat, Bolivia finished second in the group and also progress to the last eight.

Ecuador, who beat Mexico 2-1 earlier, will have to wait for other results to see if they go through, while Mexico, who came to the Copa with an understrength side, are eliminated.

"I'm happy with the victory and for the number of goals we scored because we weren't scoring enough," playmaker Jorge Valdivia said.

"It's best for it to be this way, for us to be getting better with each match. We have to keep on improving."

Chile made the perfect start, Aranguiz putting them ahead after three minutes.

Medel launched a long ball forward, striker Eduardo Vargas hooked it back with his first touch and Aranguiz ran on to it to fire home a powerful shot from the edge of the box. After Sanchez had hit both posts, he finally found the back of the net after 37 minutes, meeting a Valdivia cross with a diving, glancing header into the bottom corner.

The Chileans continued their domination after the break, Aranguiz scoring his second from close range in the 66th minute.

Medel, a hard-tackling defender, capped a fine night for the hosts with a goal worthy of a striker, chesting down a pass from Valdivia before chipping a delicate lob over the oncoming goalkeeper.

Raldes then deflected a right cross into his own goal to complete a miserable night for the Bolivians.

Chile's victory comes at the end of a difficult week dominated by news of their midfielder Arturo Vidal, who was charged with drink-driving after spending an afternoon off from the Copa drinking at a casino.—*Reuters*

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