

President sends messages of felicitations to Luxembourg

NAY PYI TAW, 23 June—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Royal Highness Henri, The Grand Duke of Luxembourg and His Excellency Mr. Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, on the occasion of the National Day of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which falls on 23 June 2015.—MNA

CLMV leaders affirm trade, investment cooperation

By Aye Min Soe

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — The 7th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit kicked off Monday in Nay Pyi Taw, with the neighboring countries reaffirming their commitment to peace, stability and prosperity in Southeast Asia.

In his opening address, President U Thein Sein expressed his delight in the achievements of the four countries in the last 12 years, noting that the total trade of CLMV increased from 12.4 percent of the ASEAN's total trade volume in 2013 to 14.1 percent in 2014.

Also present were Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, Mr Thongsing Thammavong, Prime Minister of the Lao People's



The 7th Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit in progress at Myanmar International Convention Centre (1) in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 June—MNA

Democratic Republic, Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist

Republic of Vietnam and Mr Le Luong Minh, Secretary-General of ASEAN.

CLMV countries started economic cooperation in 2004 with a view

to narrowing the development gap among ASEAN countries.

President U Thein Sein thanked CLMV (See page 3)

Cooperation key to sustainable tourism: CLMV nations

By Aye Min Soe

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—Cooperation among regional neighbours is important in fostering a sustainable and responsible tourism sector, leaders from Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam said Monday during a summit in Nay Pyi Daw.

The four countries comprising the CLMV community collectively saw an 11.4 percent increase in tourist arrivals last year, with more than 19.6 million visitors in 2014.

In the joint statement of the 7th CLMV Summit, the leaders expressed the importance of developing the tourism industry in order to establish the CLMV Sub-region as one of the world's top destinations.

In the joint statement, the leaders also reiterated

an agreement made at the second CLMV Tourism Ministers meeting in Cambodia in 2013 to invite international organizations, financial institutions and other partners to support sustainable, responsible tourism development, and to encourage greater private sector involvement in tourism development.

As part of efforts to promote the tourism industry in the Ayeyawaddy-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) countries, comprising the CLMV nations plus Thailand, a joint-business council called for a single-visa scheme for the five countries.

The heads of CLMV countries also welcomed Myanmar's plan to host the third meeting of CLMV Tourism Ministers on 28 July.

GNLM

Opening ceremony of 6th ACMECS summit to be broadcast live

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—The opening ceremony of the 6th Ayeyawaddy-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Summit (ACMECS) of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand scheduled

to be held at Myanmar International Convention Centre (1) at 8 am on 23 June will be broadcast live by News Channel of Myanmar Radio and Television and Myanmar Radio at 7.50 am on 23 June.—MNA

Business leaders endorse single visa for 5 Southeast Asian nations

By Aye Min Soe

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—Tourists would be able to visit five Southeast Asian nations on a single visa under a scheme recommended Monday at a regional business forum in Nay Pyi Taw.

The recommendation was one of six made by the Ayeyawaddy-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Joint Business Council, comprising officials of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, at the ACMECS Business Forum.

The recommendations were submitted for consideration of national leaders at the following day's 6th

ACMECS Summit in the Myanmar capital.

U Moe Myint Kyaw, Secretary-General of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, said the proposed ACMECS

Single Visa Scheme would allow tourists to apply for a visa from just one of the countries and visit all five.

The ACMECS Joint Business Council urged all five countries to continue developing a framework to

implement the scheme.

The business representatives also called for the promotion of trade between the member countries in multiple currencies.

(See page 3)



ACMECS Business Forum held in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 June.—MNA

President and wife host dinner for ACMECS heads of state



President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win present bouquet of flowers to members of music and dance troupes at dinner hosted in honour of heads of state/government of Ayeyawaddy-Cho Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) member countries.
MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win hosted a dinner Monday for regional heads of state at the Jade Hall of Myanmar International Convention Centre (1) in Nay Pyi Taw.

The leaders were in the country for the Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Summit and the Ayeyawaddy-Cho Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) Summit, involving the CLMV na-

tions plus Thailand.

The dinner was attended by heads of government of the CLMV countries and Prime Minister of Thailand Prayud Chan-ocha and wife, the ASEAN Secretary General and wife, foreign ministers, deputy foreign ministers, senior officials and guests.

The president thanked them for attending the summits despite their various duties, reflecting their support for the summit and regional development.

The president added that he was glad to have the opportunity to host the CLMV and ACMECS summits and explained that a joint declaration was successfully issued on completion of the 7th CLMV summit on Monday.

Afterwards, the president expressed his belief that efforts of participant countries, all of which are ASEAN members, would contribute to establishing the ASEAN economic community and bridging

development gaps among member countries.

Later, the president and guests enjoyed the dinner and performances of dance troupes and musical groups of the Ministry of Culture.

MNA

Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu inspects stie of ancient Pyu garrison city in Natogyi Township, Mandalay Region.—MNA

Union Minister for Culture inspects stone inscriptions

YANGON, 21 June — Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu made a field trip to the ancient city of Wadi near Phayagyi Village in Natogyi Township, Mandalay Region, on 22 June.

The city is one of the nine ancient Pyu garrison cities recorded by China's Tan Dynasty.

The minister urged officials to carry out preser-

vation works on buildings already excavated and to find out missing links of Pyu history. The minister proceeded to Petaw Monastery in Myittha Township, where a stone inscription of King Saw Lu written in Pyu, Mon and Nagri languages in the 11th Century was preserved.

Afterwards, the union minister inspected the ancient Pyu stone inscription

relocated to the precinct of Sutaungptai Shwemudaw Pagoda in Myittha.

In the afternoon, the union minister proceeded to Mandalay palace and inspected booths of stone inscriptions. Before wrapping up his trip, the union minister inspected renovated buildings in Myanansankyaw Shwenandaw palace and gave instruction on maintenance tasks.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw

MP proposes new China border gate

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — The Union government should open a new border gate with China, an MP of Muse Township constituency in northern Shan State suggested to the Pyithu Hluttaw on Monday.

In response to the proposal from MP U Sai Bo Aung, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint San said the proposed border gate in Hosaung area of Muse has the potential to promote trade and tourism, but territorial issues between Myanmar and China must be discussed first.

Regarding road construction in Chin State, U Tin Ngwe, Deputy Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, said the Department of Rural Development in Htant-

lang Township will receive K1,058.245 million for construction of a 58-mile road, and some sections will soon be built.

He also rejected a proposal of Thanbuyzayat Township constituency to repair two roads in the southern Myanmar town, as the projects were not included in the fiscal 2015-2016 budget allocation.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee submitted the Protection and Conservation of Ancient Buildings Bill to the Lower House.

The Public Affairs Management Committee also presented a number of draft laws to Pyithu Hluttaw, including reports from the Bill Committee on the draft laws.

MNA

Thura U Shwe Mann gives awards to outstanding students in Phyu

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — Pyithu Hluttaw speaker looked around development programmes and opened a new town hall in Pyu Township, Bago region, on Sunday.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Bago region's chief minister U Nyan Win and Amyotha Hluttaw MP Dr Khin Shwe.

Thura U Shwe Mann donated offertories to the Buddhist monks residing in monasteries in Phyu, and he also gave prizes to the

outstanding students in the township.

Bago region ministers also gave prizes to outstanding students with flying colours in 2014-2015 matriculation examination.

The No.2 Basic Education High School in Kanyutkwin Township was the highest pass rate in previous academic year.

Thura U Shwe Mann also met local community in Kanyindaing village and discussed rural development programmes.—MNA



President U Thein Sein meets Prime Minister of Vietnam

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar met with Prime Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Tan Dung at the MICC-1 in Nay Pyi Taw at 3:40 pm on 22 June 2015.

At the meeting, they exchanged views on further

strengthening mutual cooperation in twelve domains, cooperation in banking, energy, trade and investment sectors, increasing the trade volume between the two countries up to USD 500 million, cooperation in regional security and peace and stability among

the ASEAN countries, exchange of experiences in the growing of coffee, pepper and cashew and experiences of Vietnam in conducting vocational training courses.

Present also on the occasion were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Ye Htut, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Myint, Dr. Kan Zaw, U Htay Aung and Myanmar Ambassador to Vietnam U Win Hlaing and

officials.

The Vietnamese PM was accompanied by Vietnamese deputy Foreign Minister.—MNA

President U Thein Sein of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar shakes hands with Prime Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Tan Dung.—MNA

CLMV leaders affirm...

(from page 1)

economic ministers for their efforts toward smooth regional trade in accordance with the ASEAN Blueprint and ahead of the establishment of the ASEAN Community by the end of 2015.

He also stressed the importance of stepping up efforts for the “Four Countries, One Destination” program agreed upon by

the CLMV countries, affirming the agreement on establishment of sister cities and promotion of human resource development.

In the joint statement of the summit, the leaders of CLMV countries reiterated their commitment to implementing all existing agreements between and among members in order to promote trade and investment.—GNLM

Union FM felicitates

Luxembourg counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 23 June—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Jean Asselborn, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, on the occasion of the National Day of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which falls on 23 June 2015.—MNA

Foreign Ministers’ Meeting for the 7th CLMV Summit and 6th ACMECS Summit held

NAY PYI TAW, 22 June—The Foreign Ministers’ Meeting for the 7th CLMV Summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw, MICC-1 on 22 June 2015 with the participation of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister from the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Foreign Minister from the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Deputy Foreign Ministers from the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The meeting was chaired by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and the Draft Provisional Agenda of the CLMV Summit, and Draft Joint Statement of the CLMV Summit were discussed to be submitted to the Summit. The Ministers also discussed and exchanged views on the economic cooperation among CLMV countries, trade and investments cooperation and development plans and financial assistance from international partners.

The Foreign Ministers’ meeting for the 6th Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Summit was held in Nay Pyi Taw, MICC-1 on 22nd June 2015 with the participation of Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister from the Lao People’s Demo-



Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin poses for documentary photo with foreign ministers and officials of ACMECS countries.—MNA

cratic Republic, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, Foreign Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Deputy Foreign Ministers from the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The meeting was chaired by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and ministers have exchanged views on ACMECS cooperation and future direction.

The member countries discussed the drafts of Nay Pyi Taw Declaration and Ayeyawady-Chao-Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy Plan of Action (2016-2018).

MNA

Business leaders endorse...

(from page 1)

U Moe Myint Kyaw gave the example of the Myanmar-Thailand border, saying it was necessary to establish banks on both sides to increase trade in both Thai baht and Myanmar kyat.

The council welcomed the relaxation of regulations on carrying Thai currency to the other four countries nations and the implementation by Thai Banks of baht-kip and baht-riel exchange services.

In the area of agriculture cooperation, the

council strongly urged the leaders to expedite the implementation of the Contract Farming Project in border areas and to focus more on reviewing specific commodities for contract farming.

They also called for rice exporters and traders of CLMV — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam — to meet and exchange trade information and knowledge on a regular basis.

Regarding industrial cooperation, the council said special economic zones with the highest potential



Bangladesh to avoid publishing fabricated news

Press Release

U Aung Lynn, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, received H.E. Mr Mohammad Sufur Rahman, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh to Myanmar, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nay Pyi Taw on 20 June 2015. During the meeting, the Permanent Secretary explained the true situation on the arrest of the serviceman of Bangladesh security force in the Myanmar’s territorial waters in Maungdaw Township, Rakhine State, on 17 June 2015.

The Permanent Secretary clarified on the incident where Myanmar border police force arrested a partially-dressed uniformed serviceman in Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) uniform, in possession of firearms, ammunition and trawler in the Myanmar territorial waters at the Naaf River between the mouths of Yedwinkyun Creek and Ywetnyotaung Creek in Maungdaw Township, Rakhine State. He stressed that the other side started the fire and, the person in question was later arrested and has been interrogated by the Myanmar authorities for illegally entering into the Myanmar territory. The Permanent Secretary also urged the Ambassador to report the real situation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the authorities concerned in Bangladesh. In view of the existing friendly relations between Myanmar and Bangladesh, and in promoting the spirit of good neighbourliness, he stressed that Myanmar stands ready to work with Bangladesh and sought cooperation from Bangladesh to avoid from publishing fabricated news made by the Bangladesh media.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Nay Pyi Taw.

Dated 22 June 2015

benefit must be identified and promoted.

The business council also voiced their support for development of vocational programmes to increase competitiveness of small to medium enterprises.

The council also rec-

ommended ACMECS members set clear standards for cross-border transportation before the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community at the end of 2015, and to enforce job contracts for ACMECS migrant workers.—GNLM

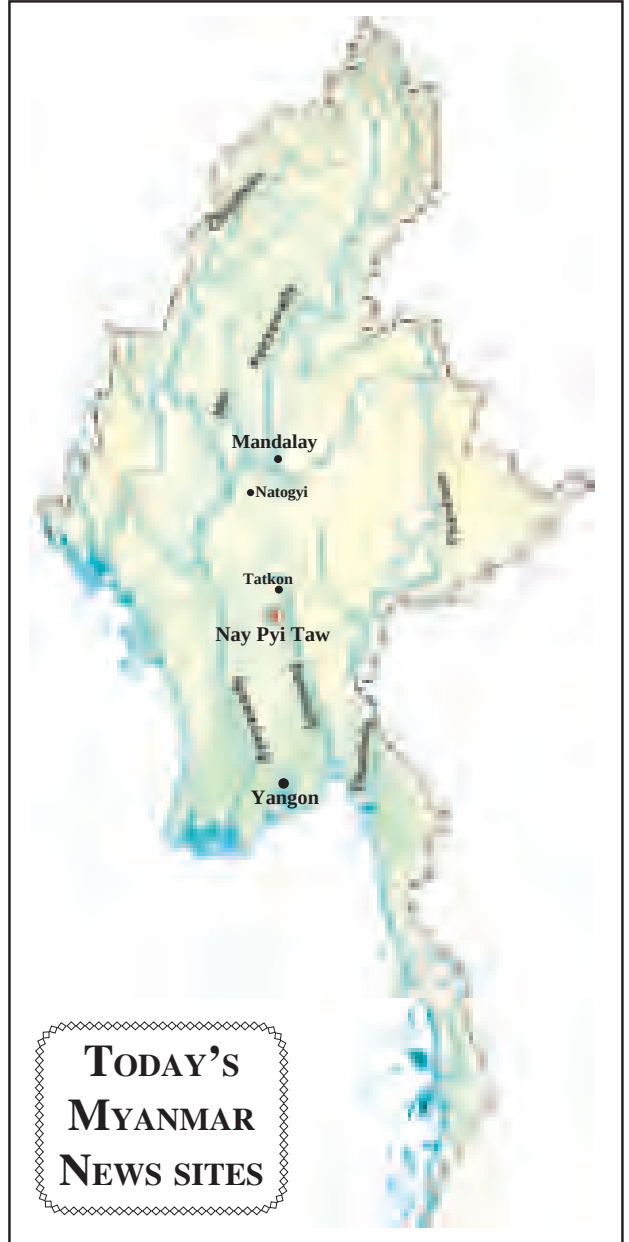
Course for Election Commission members conducted in Nay Pyi Taw



NAY PYI TAW, 22 June — An electoral course was conducted in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday, with officials lecturing trainees on election laws, formation of election commissions, compiling of voter lists, and advance voting procedures.

The chairmen and members of ward and village election sub-commissions in Dekkina Thiri District in Nay Pyi Taw took the course. Union Election Commission U Aung Myint was the main guest.

Dekkina District IPRD



Centenarian grandmother honoured by president

YINMABIN, 22 June — Myanmar citizens aged 100 years and older received presidential certificates of honour at a recent ceremony.

Among the centenarians honoured was Daw Aye Paing from Letkapyia village, in Sagaing region's Yinmabin Township. The grandmother turned 100 on 7 December 2013.

On behalf of the president, Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Thaung Han and Sagaing Region Hluttaw representative U Aung Bo Myint presented the certificate to Daw Aye Paing.

She returned the honour by wishing the government representatives health



and happiness.

The centenarian lives

with her sons, daughters and grandchildren in the village.—*Tun Ko Ko (Yinmabin)*

Doctors identify TB cases in rural areas

NWATOGYI, 22 June — A project to identify tuberculosis cases in 37 villages in Nwato gyi Township in central Myanmar has been a success, a doctor involved in the project said. It was carried out by the Myanmar Medical Association together with an NGO.

Payments of 2,000 to 3,000 kyat are made to people who undergo TB testing. Those who test positive receive medicines free of charge. During the six-month project, most patients diagnosed with TB were from rural areas.

Khin Zar Mon Myint

Wheel makers survive in Tatkon Tsp despite modernization

TATKON, 22 June — Cartwheel-making businesses are surviving as family-run enterprises in Tatkon Township, supplying wheels for bullock carts in the face of more modern forms of transport.

It takes one month to complete a new cartwheel, a pair of which sells for nearly 250,000 kyat.

Use of bullock carts for transport and agriculture continues in parts of rural Myanmar, despite the prevalence of motor vehicles and mechanized farm machinery.—*Tin Soe Lwin*



Crop pests destroy sesame plantations in Nwato gyi Tsp

NWATOGYI, 22 June — Local farmers in central Myanmar's Nwato gyi Township have reported losing nearly 100 acres of sesame plantations to crop pests. The disaster cost farmers about 15,000 kyats per acre to spray pesticide. To save costs, farmers remove pests by hand.—*Htay Myint*

The plantations are

REGIONAL

Abe, Park to call for future-oriented ties in anniv messages

TOKYO/SEOUL, 22 June — Japan and South Korea marked the 50th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations on Monday, with the leaders of the two neighbours set to call for building a “future-oriented” relationship in the next half a century.

South Korean President Park Geun-hye will call on Tokyo and Seoul to work together to establish a future-oriented relationship in a message to be read at a reception in Seoul later Monday to commemorate the anniversary, according to the presidential office.

The message will call for “laying down the heavy burden of past history and cooperating together for a future-oriented relation-

ship,” spokesman Min Kyung Wook told reporters in Seoul.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is expected to deliver a similar message when he attends a South Korean Embassy-sponsored reception on Monday at a Tokyo hotel.

In a meeting with South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung Se earlier on Monday in Tokyo, Abe expressed willingness to hold summit talks with Park.

The two leaders have not held formal talks since they took office — Abe in 2012 and Park in 2013 — due to the so-called “comfort women” issue.

“Together with President Park, I would like to further improve relations



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) is handed pictures of his late father and former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe by South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung se (L) in Tokyo on 22 June, 2015. The two nations marked the 50th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic ties the same day.

KYODO NEWS

toward the next half a century,” Abe told Yun in the

meeting at the prime minister’s office, part of which

was open to the media.

Speaking to reporters separately, Abe said, “I would like to celebrate (the anniversary) with the people in both countries.”

In a related move, Fukushima Nukaga, a former Japanese finance minister who heads a Japan-South Korea parliamentarian group, plans to attend the reception in Seoul and hold talks with Park.

In a sign of improvement in bilateral relations, which have been soured over historical and territorial disputes, Yun and Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida agreed on Sunday to work toward realizing talks between Abe and Park at an “appropriate time.”

Kishida and Yun, who became the first South Korean foreign minister to visit Japan in four years, also agreed in a meeting in Tokyo to hold a trilateral summit with China this year.

They, however, remained at odds over the issue of comfort women, including Korean, who were procured for wartime brothels for the Japanese military. South Korea has demanded Japan settle the issue in a way acceptable to those women still alive, such as through an apology and compensation.

But Japan maintains that all compensation issues were settled under the 1965 bilateral treaty that normalized diplomatic ties.—Kyodo News

Philippines steps up drills with US, Japan forces near South China Sea



US Navy Rear Admiral William Merz salutes to a Philippine flag during the opening ceremony of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2015 at the Navy headquarters in Puerto Princesa city, Palawan, west Philippines on 22 June, 2015.—REUTERS

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY, (Philippines), 22 June — The Philippines will hold separate naval exercises with US and Japanese forces this week on a Philippine island that is not far from the disputed Spratly archipelago, where China’s rapid creation of seven island outposts is stoking regional tensions.

Manila, which has one of the weakest navies in Asia, has stepped up its security cooperation this year in the wake of Chinese assertiveness in the South China Sea, not just with ally Washington, but also with Japan and Vietnam.

A Philippine military official said there was no plan for the Philippine, US and Japanese navies to hold combined exercises on Palawan island, 160 km (100 miles) from the Spratlys, although the drills could intersect because Manila had limited naval assets.

“At some point all three forces could merge in one activity because we only have two ships and limited aircraft to take part in these exercises,” said the official, who declined to be identified.

Late on Sunday, reporters could see two P3C-Orion maritime sur-

veillance planes, one belonging to the United States and the other Japan, parked on a military airfield in Puerto Princesa City, the Palawan capital.

The two-week exercises with the United States began late last week. The two-day drills with Japan start on Tuesday, officials said. Both will take place in Philippine territorial waters, not part of the contested South China Sea.

While the Philippine military trains regularly with US forces, it only held its first joint naval drills with Japan in May.

Tokyo has no territorial claims in the South China Sea, but it worries about becoming isolated should China dominate a waterway through which much of Japan’s ship-borne trade passes. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s government has beefed up security cooperation across Southeast Asia this year.

China claims most of the South China Sea. The Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam, Taipei and Brunei have overlapping claims.

Beijing said last week that some of its reclamation work in the Spratlys would be completed soon but that it would continue to build facilities on the reefs it occupies.

It says the outposts will have undefined military purposes as well as help with maritime search and rescue, disaster relief, environmental protection and navigation.—Reuters

Medical tourism expertise helps Thailand cope with MERS

BANGKOK, 22 June — Thailand’s status as a hub for medical tourism could be helping the country contain the spread of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), government and health officials said, after confirming its first case of the deadly virus last week.

Tourism accounts for about 10 percent of the Thai economy, and the country is also the top destination in Southeast Asia for patients seeking low-cost, quality healthcare, with an average 1.4 million medical tourists a year, compared with 600,000 for Singapore, a Thai medical tourism association said.

That meant the stakes were high for Thailand when the health ministry reported on Thursday the first case of MERS in a 75-year-old man from Oman, who had travelled to Bangkok for treatment for a heart condition. South Korea, currently battling the largest MERS outbreak outside Saudi Arabia, reported two more deaths and three new cases on Monday, bringing the number of fatalities to 27 and the total infections to 172.

In Thailand, although authorities said 176 people had been exposed to the MERS patient, Deputy Health Minister Vachira Pengchan said on Monday there were no new cases. “It is the very fact that we are a travel and medical hub that works in our favour and that allows us to be pre-

pared,” Tourism Minister Kobkarn Wattanavrangkul told Reuters. “It is our experience handling foreign visitors and medical tourists from high-risk regions like the Middle East and South Korea. Thailand is also prepared because we saw what happened in South Korea, we had time.”

As well as being a gateway for many of the more than 25 million visitors to Thailand each year, Bangkok is also one of the region’s main aviation hubs.

At the city’s Suvarnabhumi Airport, face masks were handed out to passengers at the weekend, while Thailand’s health and tourism ministers showed reporters thermoscanning equipment and special aeroplane parking bays set aside for flights coming in from high-risk countries.

The airport has ordered heightened screening of arrivals from South Korea and the Middle East, general manager Sirote Duangratana told reporters.

The unidentified man whom laboratory tests confirmed on 18 June had MERS was a patient at the high-end Bumrungrad Hospital (BH.BK). Popular with international visitors, it says 20 percent of its patients are from the Middle East. The sick man was later moved to an infectious disease institute. Doctors at Bumrungrad Hospital said on Friday that 58 staff had been quarantined and were under observation. Prasert Thongcharoen, an

advisor to Thailand’s Disease Control Department, said he had investigated Bumrungrad’s handling of the MERS case and found it to be “flawless”. “They put the patient in an isolation room and everything that was needed for infectious control was done,” Prasert said in a telephone interview. The Geneva-based World Health Organisation, in an e-mailed response to Reuters, also commended Thailand’s response.

“Thailand diagnosed and isolated the MERS patient in a designated, well-equipped facility,” said Doctor Poonam Khetratal Singh, regional director, WHO South East Asia Region. Josef Woodman, CEO of Patients Beyond Borders, a US-based website that offers consumers information about medical travel, said Thailand could see a temporary drop in visitors but, as with the impact of last year’s coup, it was likely to be short-lived. “I believe, as with social and political unrest in Thailand ... a temporary drop in tourism and medical tourism may be experienced, usually with a rapid recovery to normal levels,” he said.

Josephine Guillot, 28, a French postgraduate student travelling around Southeast Asia, said she had come to the Bumrungrad Hospital for a health check-up despite knowing that Thailand’s first MERS patient was treated there.

Reuters

Ruling coalition decides to extend Diet session until 27 Sept

Tokyo, 22 June — Japan's two ruling parties decided on Monday to extend the current 150-day regular session of the Diet for 95 days to 27 September to make time for deliberations on controversial security legislation, coalition lawmakers said.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who heads the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and Natsuo Yamaguchi, leader of the LDP's junior coalition partner Komeito, met in the Diet building and confirmed the extension of the regular Diet session.

The House of Rep-

resentatives, or the lower house, is scheduled to vote on the extension later in the day.

Under the current Constitution, which took effect in 1947, the 95-day extension will be the longest in history, topping the existing record of 94 days in 1982.

Opposition lawmakers have stepped up criticism of the government since legal experts called into question earlier this month at a parliamentary committee the constitutionality of the security bills that would allow Japan to engage in collective self-defence, and



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (3rd from R), also head of the Liberal Democratic Party, and Komeito chief Natsuo Yamaguchi (2nd from L) are seen among the top officials of the two ruling parties in Tokyo on 22 June, 2015. The parties decided to extend the current 150-day regular Diet session for 95 days to 27 September to discuss controversial security legislation.

KYODO NEWS

its Self-Defence Forces to defend allies under armed attack even if Japan itself is not being attacked.

Objections to the bills remain strong, despite Abe and Cabinet ministers spending more than 50 hours in Diet deliberations in an attempt to win support in the parliament for expanding the scope of overseas operations by the Self-Defence Forces.

The ruling coalition has judged it needs to secure enough time for deliberations of the bills to gain public support for them.

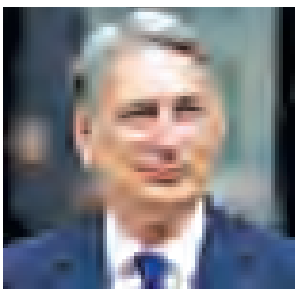
If the House of Councilors, or the upper house, fails

to pass the bills within 60 days after the lower house endorses them, the ruling coalition aims to hold a revote in the lower house, where passage by a two-thirds majority would see the legislation become law under the Constitution which gives precedence to the House of Representatives.

The main opposition Democratic Party of Japan is opposed to the bills, while the Japan Innovation Party, the second-largest opposition party, is expected to submit a counterproposal to parliament.

Kyodo News

Iran will need to show more flexibility to reach nuclear deal — UK



British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond

LUXEMBOURG, 22 June — Iran will need to show more flexibility to reach a nuclear deal with the six powers it is negotiating with, British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond said on Monday, suggesting the talks might go on beyond a 30 June deadline.

"There will need to be some more flexibility shown by our Iranian partners if we are going to reach a deal, but, look, this is a negotiation, we

always expected it would go right to the line and maybe beyond the line," Hammond told reporters as he arrived for a European Union foreign ministers meeting in Luxembourg.

"So I think the serious negotiations are now getting underway and over the next week or so I hope we will start to see some real progress," he said.

Hammond is due to hold talks later with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif as well as the EU's foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini and the foreign ministers of Germany and France.

Asked if it would matter if the 30 June deadline slipped by a few days, he said: "Let's see where we get to. We are pushing hard to get there."—Reuters

KARACHI, 22 June — An intense heat wave killed more than 120 people over the weekend in Pakistan's southern city of Karachi, officials said on Monday, as the electricity grid crashed during the first days of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

The outages hit large portions of Pakistan's financial heart and home to 20 million people, where residents lit bonfires in protest.

"Hundreds of patients suffering from the heat wave are being treated at government hospitals," Saeed Mangnejo, health secretary for the province of Sindh, told Reuters.

Temperature soared to 44 degrees Celsius (111 Fahrenheit) on Saturday and hovered at 43 degrees Celsius (109 Fahrenheit) on Sunday, coinciding

with a surge of demand for power as families observed Ramadan, when Muslims fast during daylight hours.

Both the federal government and K-Electric, the private company that supplies Karachi with power, had promised there would be no outages during the time when families gathered to break their fast

at sunset.

Officials from K-Electric were not immediately available for comment on the scale or cause of the outages, which left many families without water, air-conditioning, fans and light.

One of the Karachi's biggest hospitals, the Jinnah Postgraduate Medical

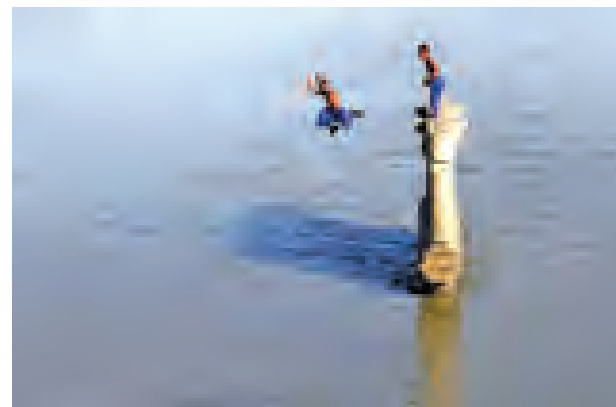
Centre, reported 85 deaths from heat stroke and dehydration.

Thirty-five patients died from heat stroke in other hospitals, doctors said. Two more died from heat-related complications, Mangnejo said.

Corruption and mismanagement mean Pakistan usually suffers eight hours of daily power cuts even in its wealthy urban areas. Those in poorer areas are hit even harder.

The cash-strapped government sells power for less than the cost of production, but its late payments to suppliers cause a chronic shortage.

Many wealthy or influential families and factory owners exacerbate the problem by refusing to pay their bills or cutting deals with corrupt power officials.—Reuters



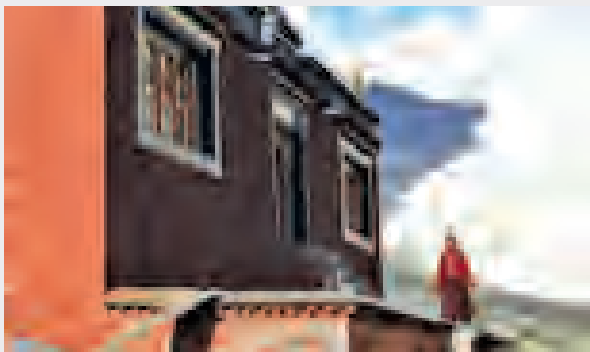
A boy jumps into the Sardaryab River to beat the scorching heat in Peshawar, Pakistan on 1 June, 2015.

REUTERS

China opens new land route for Indian pilgrims to Tibet

BEIJING, 22 June — China inaugurated a new land crossing into Tibet on Monday for Indian pilgrims who wish to visit one

of the holiest sites in both Hinduism and Buddhism, state media said, as the two countries seek to set aside differences and improve ties.



A Tibetan monk stands outside a temple near Mount Kailash in Ngari, Tibet Autonomous Region on 3 Sept, 2011. Picture taken on 3 Sept, 2011.

REUTERS

The first group of pilgrims entered Tibet via a Himalayan pass in mid-morning for the 12-day trip to Mount Kailash, which will also take in a holy lake, the official Xinhua news agency reported.

The opening of the pass was agreed last year when Chinese President Xi Jinping visited India.

The move will "further promote religious exchanges between the two countries", Xinhua said.

Few Indian pilgrims ever make it to Mount Kailash despite its significance, not only because of its remoteness but also because of

difficulties in getting visas for China's tightly controlled region of Tibet.

China and India have growing commercial links and long historical ties, but their recent history has been overshadowed by suspicion and they have yet to sort out a festering border dispute.

China and India proposed measures to resolve the border issues while Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in Beijing in May. Beijing has sought to clear obstacles to a relationship that it says could change the international political order.—Reuters

South Korea reports two more deaths in MERS outbreak, three new cases

SEOUL, 22 June — South Korea's health ministry reported on Monday two more deaths in the country's Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) outbreak, bringing the number of fatalities to 27.

The ministry also con-

firmed three new cases, taking the total to 172 in an outbreak that is the largest outside Saudi Arabia.

The new fatalities were aged in their 80s with pre-existing health problems, according to the health ministry.—Reuters



Policemen wearing masks to prevent contracting Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) stand guard in front of Japanese Embassy in Seoul, South Korea, on 22 June, 2015.

REUTERS

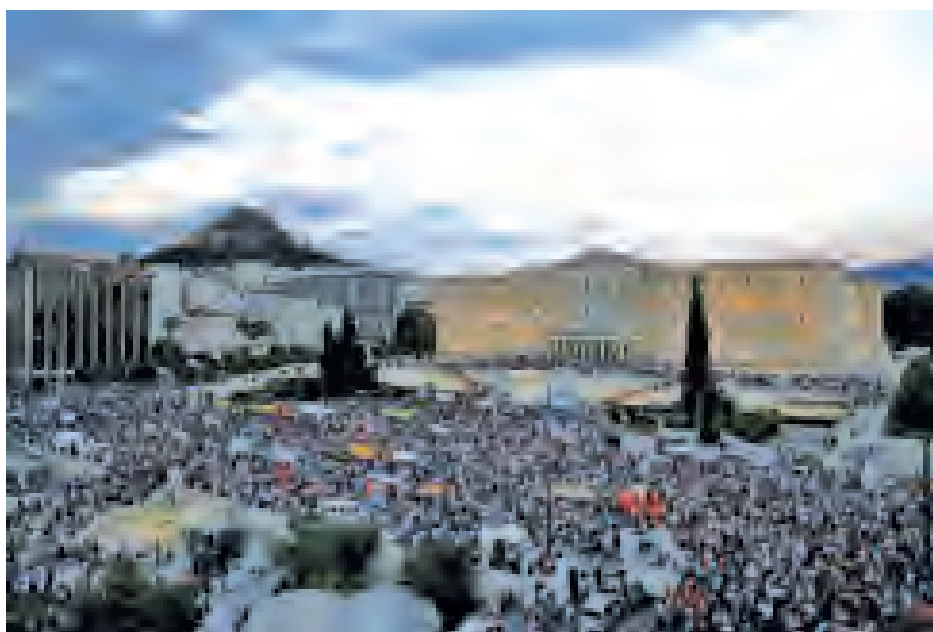
EU welcomes 11th-hour Greek proposals in “forceps delivery”

BRUSSELS/ATHENS, 22 June — The European Union welcomed new proposals from Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras as a “good basis for progress” at talks on Monday where creditors want 11th-hour concessions to haul Athens back from the brink of bankruptcy.

EU chief executive Jean-Claude Juncker’s chief-of-staff spoke of a “forceps delivery” as officials worked late into the night to produce a deal ahead of a summit of euro zone leaders in Brussels that they hope can keep Greece in the currency bloc.

Giving no detail of a proposal he said was also received by the European Central Bank and International Monetary Fund, German EU official Martin Selmayr tweeted: “Good basis for progress at ... Euro Summit. In German: ‘eine Zangengeburt’.”

After four months of wrangling and with anxious depositors pulling billions of euros out of Greek banks, Tsipras’s leftist government showed a new willingness at the weekend to make concessions that would unlock frozen aid to



Protesters gather during an anti-austerity pro-government rally in front of the parliament building in Athens, Greece, on 21 June, 2015.—REUTERS

avert default.

It was not immediately clear how far the new proposal yielded to creditors’ demands for additional spending cuts and tax hikes, but the offer was a ray of hope that a last-minute deal may yet be wrangled before Athens runs out of cash.

Tsipras spent much of Sunday holed up in a marathon cabinet meeting and discussed the new offer with the leaders of Germany, France and the Europe-

an Commission by phone.

“The prime minister presented the three leaders Greece’s proposal for a mutually beneficial agreement that will give a definitive solution and not a postponement of addressing the problem,” a statement from Tsipras’s office said.

He will meet European Commission President Juncker, ECB President Mario Draghi, IMF head Christine Lagarde and euro zone finance ministers chairman Jeroen Di-

jsselbloem at 11 am (0900 GMT), an EU spokeswoman said. Euro zone finance ministers are due to meet 90 minutes later and a summit of euro zone prime ministers and presidents is scheduled at 7 pm (1700 GMT).

US stock futures jumped in early Asian trade on Monday on hopes for a deal. The euro also ticked up against the dollar.

European ministers have played down the prospect of a final agreement on

Monday but hope a political understanding can be reached in time for a full deal by the end of June.

Elected on a pledge to end austerity, Tsipras has defiantly resisted demands to cut pension spending and is pushing strongly for debt relief in return for any concessions.

But Greek officials have said Athens may be willing to consider raising value-added taxes or other levies to appease the lenders, who want concrete assurances that demanding budget targets will be met.

“There is no time to lose. Every day counts. Talks and negotiations must continue so that an agreement is reached,” French President Francois Hollande told a joint news conference with Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi.

Locked out of bond markets and with bailout aid frozen since summer last year, Athens is quickly running out of cash. The deputy finance minister on Sunday confirmed Athens had enough money to pay public sector wages and pensions this month.

But Athens also urgently needs access to

funds to avoid defaulting on a 1.6 billion euro IMF loan that falls due at the end of the month. As the crisis gets pushed from one meeting to the next, each side has put the responsibility on the other’s shoulders for finding a deal.

Money has drained out of Greek banks after a breakdown in talks last weekend, and Greece might have to impose capital controls within days if there is no breakthrough.

Underlining the pressure to stem the flow of withdrawals, Bank of Greece Governor Yanis Stournaras met senior bankers on Friday and told them to brace for a “difficult day” on Tuesday if no deal is reached, two bankers at the meeting told Reuters.

Sources in Frankfurt and in Brussels said the European Central Bank’s board would discuss the liquidity of Greece’s banking sector at 0830 GMT on Monday. The sources said Greek pre-orders for deposit withdrawals for Monday had already reached 1 billion euros - after savers pulled over 4 billion euros out of their banks last week.—Reuters

Italy’s Renzi says no tension with France over migrant crisis



Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi (R) smiles as he arrives with French President Francois Hollande to visit the French pavilion at the Expo 2015 global fair in Milan, northern Italy, on 21 June, 2015.—REUTERS

MILAN, 22 June — Italy’s prime minister and France’s president put on a show of unity on Sunday, dismissing suggestions of tensions between their countries over handling the waves of migrants landing on southern Europe’s shores.

Ministers in Paris and Rome have exchanged barbs after France began turning back migrants at the French-Italian border

earlier this month, invoking EU rules requiring refugee seekers to do so in the first European country where they set foot.

Italy has long argued that it and Greece cannot cope alone with the influx just because they are the closest landing points for refugees and economic migrants from Africa and the Middle East streaming toward the European Union in rickety boats.

Following a meeting with France’s Francois Hollande at the Expo 2015 world fair in Milan, Italy’s Matteo Renzi said the two saw eye-to-eye and would push for an agreement with other European Union states at a summit scheduled for 25-26 June.

“Were there tensions to defuse? No,” Renzi told a joint news conference. “Ministers have been making statements ... it’s like couples who have been together for a long time.”

Hollande said Italy should not be left to handle the brunt of the migrant crisis, but rules had to be followed. He rejected national quotas for resettling the migrants, saying voluntary commitments by individual states would be more effective.

“The quota system creates confusion ... and makes no sense,” he said. “Every country has to say how much it can do, taking into account its specific geographic, economic and also political situation. But

it’s clear that every country has to make a commitment.”

A number of EU countries have stressed that any acceptance system should be based on a voluntary approach.

Last week, Italian police began hauling away around 300 mainly African migrants camped out on coastal rocks at the border town of Ventimiglia, many hoping to proceed through France to northern Europe where some had relatives and job opportunities might be better.

More than 50,000 migrants have arrived in Italy so far this year. Reuters TV filmed more migrants being helped off a boat at the port of Crotone in the southern Calabria region on Sunday.

Local media said there were more than 700 people on that boat, which was flying the flag of Luxembourg. Renzi said there was no reason for hysteria, but also called on other countries in the region to not be selfish.—Reuters

Solution can surface only if Pristina is constructive



Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic

BELGRADE, 22 June — Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic said on Sunday that Serbia would make maximum effort to have the constructive approach to the Brussels dialogue between Belgrade and Pristina continued, adding that results could be there only if the other side showed the same kind of approach.

Asked by journalists about his expectations from the new round of Bel-

grade-Pristina talks in Brussels on Tuesday, Dacic said that Serbia was aware that there were many things we sometimes could not say were just coincidence and that there were a lot of difficult topics to deal with, but Serbia would certainly not be making any kind of decisions under pressure.

“Serbia will be making decisions that are rational and that look at the future, but only those that offer full protection to our state and national interests,” Dacic, who also serves as OSCE chairperson-in-office, said after meeting with the candidate for his new special representative for Ukraine, Austrian diplomat Martin Sajdik.—Tanjug

EU extends sanctions on Russia, launches Libya mission

LUXEMBOURG, 22 June — European Union foreign ministers extended economic sanctions on Russia over its involvement in Ukraine by six months until the end of January 2016, an EU official said. The ministers, meeting in Luxembourg, also agreed to launch a naval mission in the Mediterranean to combat people smugglers who have brought thousands of migrants on perilous journeys to Europe from Libya, the official said.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 23 June, 2015

Loyalty, honesty must go hand in hand

By Aung Khin

Honesty and loyalty are keys to cementing relationships among people or organizations. However, it is more important to be both honest and loyal to all of humanity rather than an individual.

Remaining loyal to a certain person should not come at the cost of honesty to others. Instead, honesty should stand on the truth. True loyalty should mean a dedication to fair dealing with everyone.

A politician must maintain perfect honesty for the welfare of the country and people by speaking, living and loving the truth. Political careers should only be for those interested in the wellbeing of all people, rather than just their friends and relatives.

A good state leader is more loyal to the people and the country than the party. Even when they make a mistake, if it is honest, the people will continue to give their support and understanding.

Honesty is always the best policy. It should not be abandoned out of a misguided sense of loyalty to anyone. Loyalty without openness and honesty can be considered akin to conspiracy. We therefore need to be loyal to our country and people by maintaining perfect honesty.

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.

An Invisible Attachment

Aye Pe (Padaung)

By the time the teachers respect paying season comes round, our old pupils busy themselves making preparation for a welcoming reception for us old teachers with all due ceremonial on a large scale.

Especially at this time of the years, our old pupils ready themselves to pay homage to their old teachers according to their old cultural tradition. This age-old custom has been handed down from our forefathers since time immemorial.

In this Golden land of ours Buddhism has flourished since two thousand years ago. Without being goaded by anyone, we take upon ourselves responsibility to bow down to our five Gems: the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha, parent and teacher without taking what they are into serious consideration. In other words they put these five Gems on a level. We are obliged to equalize them because they had all to be assumed that they are personifications of "metta" (benevolence). They are really equal to our mind and eye, and highest ideals of our Myanmar society.

Without exception, every man jack if Buddhist does not find it difficult to offer what is the most essential things of great value to these five omniscient Gems. Beyond shadow of doubt that they must be installed in a state of moral purity. I have had some unforgettable events one of which I have noted down is as follows:

The day dawned cool and fresh, the blue sky

cleaned up. Under the magic spelled skies. I was pacing leisurely towards my Alma Mater. When I got into the school compound, my old pupils gently and fondly held my hands and conducted me to the venue where respect paying for old, retired teachers was going to be held. Though they were in their forties, their lovely and childish features were still lustrous, That's well discerned, and lively and dynamic. Turn to my grey-haired colleagues, some could not see things clearly far and near, some could not hear distinctly, some mumbled. When they saw the broadly smiling faces, they seemed to rejuvenate. But what cannot change up to now are four "Bandar" trees. I used to take a rest on those benches under those trees as a student as well as a teacher.

Come back old memories. As I was once a student and once a teacher of this Alma Mater nothing could measure how much deeply I am committed to my personal attachment! My dear school is my dear life, my dear life is my dear school. Both could never be separated. In this place I drove a stake into ground for a new building as I am Sunday born. I built a wooden, strong fence round the flower garden between the main building and a flag pole. The part of my life is rooted there. It puts arms around my neck when I get into depression. It gathers me to itself like a child. It's still lingering on in my memory.

Memory is both blessing and curse. It hurts to recall the days that are over. But man needs memory. Without memory, there wouldn't be any painters,

or writers, no doctors, no engineers, no architects. Memory is what enables man to survive and progress. And it is true, but it is more than that. Man is the only creature whose emotions are entangled with his memory. Bitter or sweet, we don't want any part of life to be really over, it should always be available if only through people who have shared it. When they go, they take a part of your life-story, even that old dilapidated wooden school building. But the roots remain. The roots that will forever keep calling you back "come home".

The change is too much to bear. In place of old buildings are emerging new ones furnished with new electronic equipment for learning or teaching.

How much is the change, no matter! We are the same. Our old pupils are the same. Our spirits are the same. The sweet tantalizing is the sameness!

Our old pupils paid respect to us three times. We blessed them. A lot of blessings in the past, at present, will never end!

An old student-cum-Minister from

one Ministry made a nostalgic words of grateful speech. When I heard his heart-rending speech, a nearly full recollection of old memories were rushing into my mind successively. When new generation young girls sang a song "Myat Saya" (noble teacher) the momentum of ceremony reached its highest peak. As we "Aphogyis" (old men) became enlivened, our eyes frosted, our hearts beat faster. Why? I don't know.

No one could feel what we feel for our pupils. In the evening of our life, we need only fondness, warmth, love, kindness, tenderness and last but not least "Metta" from our old pupils. Some old men are still going strong but some are frail in low spirits.

Our Metta sanchaung (a spring of loving kindness) will never cease to flow, will never dry up. Flows on and flows on till the end of mother earth. Even "Thagyamin" (king of devas) could not stop it.

Though our attachment is invisible yet it is so strong that even that poor Thagyamin couldn't cut it off.

Let's get together again next auspicious year!

WORKING TOGETHER WE PROSPER

Htun Tin Htun

Wisdom makes the impossible possible.

Open membership is one of the principles of Co-operatives.

Recognition is important to motivate the people to get things done.

Knowledge sharing definitely improves the performance of the center of excellence.

Innovative approach needs to be expanded for all social enterprises.

No one is perfect but practice makes perfect.

Great leaders always think the acronym of SERVE (See the future, Engage and develop others, Reinvent continuously, Value respect and relationships, Embody values).

Team spirit and team development makes the institution more effective.

Ownership is so important for the community people for their sustainable development.

Good governance makes the Government more transparent, accountable, participatory and efficient.

Endowment with right mindfulness, effort and wisdom can help attain enlightenment and liberation from suffering.

Time and tide wait for no man.

Head, Heart, Hands and Health are important 4Hs for Human Resources Development.

Entrepreneurship training can make the young people to become wealthy persons.

Right man in the right place, in the right time can definitely develop our nation.

Win-win conflict resolution can be desirable for conflict management.

Endurance is one of the qualities of Great Leaders.

Propagation, Promotion, Perpetuation, Preservation and Prosperity are important functions of missionary work.

Resilience needs to be nurtured especially in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Organization Capacity Assessment is a tool for Organization Development.

Survival, Sustainable, Successful and Significant are 4Ss for lifelong development.

Peace makers need to learn and practice 4 Universal Peace Making Guidelines (Brahma-Vihara) (Loving Kindness, Compassion, Appreciative Joy and Equanimity).

Enlarging the peoples' choices (Equity, Employment, Empowerment and Environment) is most important focus in human development.

Responsible businesses concepts are now popular for the equitable and sustainable development of "People, Profit and Planet".

I am now running a check on public buses while there is no rain.

No rainwater leaking from the roofs of buses, Sir.

Wow!



Hla Htut Oo

NATIONAL

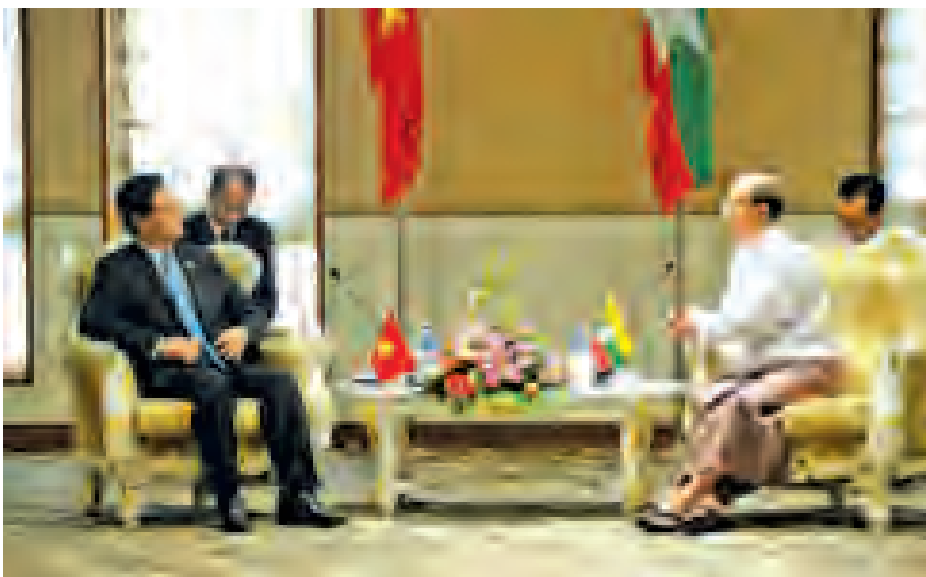
IMAGES OF 7TH CLMV SUMMIT



President U Thein Sein, Prime Ministers of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam, along with ASEAN Secretary General, pose for photo at the 7th CLMV Summit in Nay Pyi Taw on 22 June.—MNA

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen being welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport.

MNA



President U Thein Sein seen with Vietnamese Prime Minister at Myanmar International Convention Centre(1).—MNA



Laotian Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong being welcomed by Union Information Minister U Ye Htut.—MNA



Prime Minister of Thailand Prayut chan-O- cha and wife seen at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport on 22 June.—MNA



Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung arrives at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport to attend 7th CLMV Summit and the 6th ACMECS Summit.—MNA

Taleban attack Afghan parliament, seize second district in north

KABUL, 22 June — A Taleban suicide bomber and gunmen attacked the Afghan parliament on Monday, shattering windows, wounding at least 19 people and sending a plume of black smoke across Kabul, as a second district in two days fell to the Islamist group in the north.

Violence has spiralled in Afghanistan since the departure of most foreign forces at the end of last year as the insurgents push to take territory more than 13 years after the US-led military intervention that toppled the Taleban from power.

A series of Taleban gains, and Monday's attack on the symbolic centre of power, have raised questions about the NATO-trained Afghan security forces' ability to cope.

Four women were among the 19 wounded, said Sayed Kabir



A vehicle is seen on fire after a blast near the Afghan parliament in Kabul, Afghanistan on 22 June, 2015.—REUTERS

Amiri, a health official who coordinates Kabul hospitals.

"A suicide bomber blew himself up just outside the parliament building and several fighters took

positions in a building close to parliament," said Ebadullah Karimi, spokesman for Kabul police.

Kabul police chief Abdul Rahman Rahimi said all lawmak-

ers were safe and that fighting was ongoing. TV pictures showed legislators calmly leaving the building which was engulfed with dust and smoke. Taleban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility.

"We have launched an attack on parliament as there was an important gathering to introduce the country's defence minister," he said by phone.

Lawmaker Shukria Barekzai said: "It was a huge blast that shook the building and shattered windows."

The withdrawal of foreign forces and a reduction in US air strikes have allowed Taleban fighters to launch several major attacks in important Afghan provinces.

The second district to fall to the Taleban on Monday was in the northern province of Kunduz.

Officials said it fell after urgently needed reinforcements failed to arrive.

The Taleban captured Dasht-e-Archi district a day after hundreds of militants fought their way to the centre of the adjacent district of Chardara.

"The Taleban managed to take it over this morning as the area has been surrounded for days," Nasruddin Saedi, the district governor who escaped to the provincial capital, Kunduz city, told *Reuters* by telephone. "They are many foreign fighters with heavy machine guns. We have asked for reinforcements, but none arrived." Afghan soldiers were preparing a counterattack to retake both districts, another local official said. Monday's heavy fighting was just three km (two miles) from the governor's compound.—*Reuters*

Blasts in Egypt's North Sinai wound police, civilians — security sources

ISMAILIA, (Egypt), 22 June — At least eight policemen and civilians were wounded on Monday when explosions hit two houses in Egypt's El-Arish, the provincial capital of the North Sinai region, security and medical sources said.

Militants planted two bombs in two adjacent houses, both inhabited by police, the sources said. The force of the explosions led to the collapse of large parts of the homes, injuring three policemen and five civilians.

The extent of their injuries was not immediately clear.

Egypt is facing a Sinai-based insurgency that has killed hundreds of policemen and soldiers since the army toppled Islamist President Mohamed Mursi after mass protests against his rule in 2013.

The most active militant group is Sinai Province, which has pledged allegiance to Islamic State, the Sunni group that controls large parts of Iraq and Syria. Egypt executed six members of Sinai Province for carrying out an attack on soldiers near Cairo last year, their lawyer said in May.

Reuters

FATF urges to overhaul anti-terror finance rules to cut off funding channel for IS

SYDNEY, 22 June — Anti-terror finance rules need to be overhauled to cope with the use of social networking sites and social media fundraising that support foreigners fighting for Islamic State (IS), the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) said on Monday.

Delegates from the more than 180 members of the FATF, an intergovernmental body established in 1989 to stop monetary flows to terrorist organizations, will also consider the potential danger of online, or crypto-currencies such as Bitcoin and the operation of the global financial system at its

week-long meeting in Brisbane.

FATF President Australian Roger Wilkins, Secretary of the Australian Attorney Generals department, told Newsorp on Monday FATF wanted to expand on a report it received in February on the funding of Islamic State.

"Social networking and that sort of use of funds is something we identified in the IS report, even crowdfunding, using some of the newer forms of finance as some of the ways of anonymous supporting," Wilkins said.

Crowdfunding involves raising money for a project from a large number of people, either

through informal networks or by using websites such as Kickstarter.

The FATF meeting, which started on Sunday, will also examine the abuse of charities by terror groups and old-fashioned cash smuggling.

"The capacity of border protection people to pull up cash and ask some difficult questions, interrogate people who are caught in the act, is a little bit weak in terms of how countries enforce it," Wilkins said.

The FATF meeting is being held in Brisbane from 21 - 26 June.

Xinhua

Arab warplanes continue strikes on Houthis — residents

SANAA, 22 June — More than 20 air strikes by Arab forces hit targets controlled by Houthi rebels across Yemen late on Sunday, residents said.

An Arab military coalition has been bombing the Houthis for three months to restore the country's exiled government and fend off what they see as Iranian influence.

The Houthis took over the capital Sanaa in September and spread throughout the country in a push they view as a revolution against a corrupt government but deny any military links with their allies in Teheran.

Backed up by Arab bombings and weapons drops, local fighters in Yemen's south and its main city Aden have resisted the heavily armed militia's advance.

In Aden, residents reported three raids on the Houthi-controlled international airport while another bombing destroyed parts of the Ottoman-era Seera castle, a symbol of the city and the latest cultural site in Yemen to suffer damage in the war. Along Yemen's border with Saudi Arabia, residents in Hajja province reported five air raids on buildings housing Houthi forces and their army allies, who have repeatedly clashed with Saudi forces in recent weeks. Mainly drawn from the Shi'ite Zaydi sect, the Houthis are allied to Yemen's former president Ali Abdullah Saleh, who still has the loyalty of much of the army.

They are fighting President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who is exiled in Riyadh, and southern separatists, tribal factions and other political groups.

Reuters



Two men inspect a destroyed building after an airstrike by the Iraqi Air Force in Islamic State (IS) militants-seized city of Fallujah, some 50 km west of Baghdad, Iraq, on 22 June, 2015. At least six people were killed and nine others wounded during the bombing on Monday.—XINHUA

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Asia cheers Greece's eleventh hour proposals to avert default

TOKYO, 22 June — Asian shares got the week off to a strong start and US stock futures and the euro firmed on Monday, after Greece scrambled to avert defaulting on its debt with last-minute proposals aimed at appeasing its creditors.

Financial spreadbetters expected the mood to carry over into early European trading, with FTSE 100 .FTSE seen opening up as much as 0.2 percent, Germany's DAX .GDAXI 0.7 percent and France's CAC 40 .FCHI 0.4 percent.

"European equities are set to get a pop higher on the open as traders cautiously welcome developments in Greece," Jonathan Sudaria, a dealer at Capital Spreads, said in a note.

Many investors were still cautious about Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras' proposals because it was not immediately clear how far they yielded to creditors' demands for additional spending cuts and tax hikes, nor whether creditors can stom-

ach the offer.

The chief-of-staff to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker sent a tweet calling the latest proposal from Greece to resolve its debt crisis a "good basis for progress" in talks at an emergency euro zone summit meeting later on Monday. "Today will supposedly be the last round of negotiations, so there could be a possible surprise in the form of an agreement with both parties seeing the writing on the wall," said Shin-ichiro Kadota, chief Japan forex strategist at Barclays in Tokyo. "Still, it is unclear when and if an agreement will be reached, and the euro will remain sensitive to headlines over Greece."

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan .MIAPJ0000PUS was up 0.8 percent after touching a more than two-week high, while Japan's Nikkei stock index .N225 added 0.9 percent.

US stock futures ESc1 tacked on 0.4 percent, while

the euro EUR= also ticked up about 0.4 percent to \$1.1393, moving back toward a one-month high of \$1.1440 hit on Thursday. The greenback was nearly flat on the day at 122.71 yen JPY=.

Athens is running out of cash to repay a 1.6 billion euro IMF loan due at the end of the month, unless it secures new financing from international creditors.

Speculation is rife that, if no deal were reached on Monday, Greece would need to impose capital controls on Tuesday to avert a banking crisis as savers keep withdrawing funds from banks.

Bank of Greece Governor Yannis Stournaras met senior bankers on Friday and told them to brace for a "difficult day" on Tuesday if no deal is reached, two bankers at the meeting told Reuters.

In Asia, Chinese mainland markets were closed on Monday for a holiday, after posting their biggest weekly loss since 2008 last week.

Some strategists said such a correction was long



Men look at a display showing market indices at the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) in Tokyo on 11 June, 2015. —REUTERS

overdue as Chinese shares had at one point marked gains of more than 40 percent this year. But others fret that falling stock prices could stoke concerns about a slowdown in the Chinese economy.

In commodities trading,

copper futures CMCU3 rose about 0.2 percent \$5,672 a tonne, moving away from last week's three-month low hit on worries about demand in top metals consumer China and uncertainty in the Greek debt talks.

Crude oil futures edged

slightly higher amid caution about Greece, and worries over high US oil product. Brent crude LCOc1 was up about 0.1 percent at \$63.07 a barrel, while US crude futures CLc1 also rose about 0.1 percent to \$59.66.

Reuters

Malaysia steps up health screening for MERS at entry points



A monitor connected to a body temperature scanner shows flight passengers arriving at Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport, Thailand, on 21 June, 2015. —REUTERS

KUALA LUMPUR, 22 June — Malaysia has stepped up health screenings at all entry points into the country, after the first case of Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) was reported in neighbouring Thailand last week.

The Southeast Asian nation, which shares a 650 km (400 mile) land border with Thailand, has already begun monitoring body temperatures at the airports, Deputy Health Minister Hilmi Yahaya said in a statement to state news agency Bernama. "Now, we are going further to include

all entry points," he said.

Visitors entering the country would also be briefed on precautions to be taken to avoid being infected with the disease, the minister said in the statement. There have so far been no cases of MERS reported in Malaysia.

South Korea has been dealing with the largest outbreak of MERS outside Saudi Arabia, and on Monday reported two more deaths, bringing the number of fatalities to 27. Seoul also said it had confirmed three more MERS cases, taking the total in the outbreak to

172.

Thailand's health ministry said at the weekend that 175 people were exposed to its only case of MERS, which was unconnected to the outbreak in South Korea.

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

CVC and Temasek to buy \$2 billion generic drugs firm Alvogen

LONDON, 22 June — European private equity fund CVC and Singaporean sovereign wealth fund Temasek [TEM.UL] are to buy a controlling stake in the pharmaceutical firm Alvogen, its chairman and chief executive said. Robert Wessman, former CEO of Actavis, founded the New Jersey-based generic drugs firm in 2009.

The size of the stake the consortium purchased was not disclosed, but the deal values the company at around \$2 billion (£1.3 billion), a source familiar with the matter said on Monday.

The transaction is the latest sign of the hectic pace of deal-making in the

healthcare sector, which has seen more than \$250 billion of mergers and acquisitions so far this year, up nearly two-thirds from a year ago, according to Thomson Reuters data. Wessman sold a stake in Alvogen to the private equity fund Pamplona in 2014. The new owners also include US investment group Vatera Healthcare Partners. Wessman and Pamplona will retain a stake.

The fast-growing company currently has 350 generic products on the market and has been pushing into the Asia-Pacific region with several acquisitions, including that of South Korea's Dream Pharma last

year. "We have grown from a small base in the US back in 2009 to a global player with operations in 35 countries," Wessman told Reuters. "Our growth has been 76 percent a year in the past six years, a majority being organic, but with access to network and capital from our partners you should expect to see more acquisitions." Generic drugmakers like Alvogen are looking to get bigger to enjoy economies of scale in manufacturing and distribution, while CVC has an interest in health through previous deals, such as a 2012 investment in Chinese drugmaker Venturepharma.

Reuters

Australians overeating, choosing unhealthy food, not exercising enough: survey

MELBOURNE, 22 June —Many Australians have admitted to regularly eating fast food, skipping breakfast and not doing enough exercise in alarming findings uncovered by a health and wellbeing survey released on Monday.

Participants in a Cancer Council Victoria survey revealed that they think poor eating habits are becoming "normal," and more than 85 percent of respondents think "occa-

sional treats" had become everyday snack items.

The statistics showed that many Australians believe they are living a healthy lifestyle, but in reality they are not.

One in three Australians skip breakfast, which does more harm than good and contributes to overeating throughout the day, while only a third are exercising once a week at most.

Only one in 14 of those surveyed admitted to eating

the recommended amount of vegetables, while half of respondents said they regularly snack on chocolate and biscuits. A quarter of the people surveyed said they eat takeaway at least every second day.

Heart Foundation Victoria CEO Diana Heggie said on Monday that "mindless eating" was contributing to poor eating habits and an unhealthy lifestyle.

Xinhua

Mourning shooting victims, Charleston anguishes over ‘freshness of death’

CHARLESTON, 22 June — Hundreds of people packed a sweltering Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston for an emotional memorial service on Sunday just days after a gunman, identified by authorities as a 21-year-old white man, shot dead nine black church members.

“We are reminded this morning about the freshness of death that comes like a thief in the night,” the Reverend Norvel Goff told a mostly black congregation that swelled to about 400 people for a service remembering those killed on Wednesday in the latest US mass shooting.

Armed police searched bags at the door of the church, home to the oldest African-American congregation in the southern United States, and officers stood at intervals inside the church along the side of the nave and in the gallery.

Outside the church, a large, mostly white crowd gathered to express solidarity with those inside.

Goff’s rollicking ser-



People walk in solidarity along the Arthur Ravenel Jr. bridge in Charleston, on 21 June, 2015, after the first service at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church since a mass shooting left nine people dead.

REUTERS

mon brought people alternately to tears and laughter as the church reopened to worshippers for the first time since the shooting. They whooped, cheered and raised their hands, and ended the service with embraces after Goff, whose voice rose to a shout at times, encouraged them to “hug three

people next to you and tell them, ‘It’s going to be alright.’”

The suspect, Dylann Roof, was arrested on Thursday and has been charged with nine counts of murder. Authorities say he spent an hour in an evening Bible study group at the church, nicknamed “Mother Emanuel” for its key role in US black history, before opening fire.

Federal investigators were examining a racist manifesto on a website that appeared to have been written by Roof. The site featured white supremacist writings and photos, apparently of Roof.

Goff was standing in for Clementa Pinckney, 41, senior pastor at Emanuel and a Democratic member of the state Senate who was killed in the massacre.

“When evil is in the world, you and I may not be able to control evil-doers. ... Some of us are still trying to seek answers to what happened last week, Wednesday,” Goff said. “I’ve decided to turn it over to Jesus.”

Among those at the service, which lasted more than two hours, were South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, US Senator Tim Scott, Charleston Mayor Joseph Riley and Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum.

“The blood of the Mother Emanuel Nine requires us to work until not only justice in this case but for those who are still living in the margin of life, those who are less fortunate than ourselves, that we stay on the battlefield until there is no more fight to be fought,” Goff said.

Hand fans fluttered as

those in attendance tried to beat the heat.

“I thought the service was comforting, refreshing and encouraging,” said Everald Galbraith, 58, president of the Methodist church in Jamaica, who attended the service. “There was not a sense of great mourning. They recognized what had happened but there was confidence in the salvation of those that died.” The massacre has again trained a spotlight on the divisive issues of race relations and gun crime in the United States and reignited a debate over gun control in a country where the right to own firearms is constitutionally protected.

On Sunday evening about 150 people gathered for a prayer vigil outside the church. At about the same time, a line of people joined hands across the Arthur Ravenel Jr Bridge, a span that links Charleston with its neighbouring suburb of Mount Pleasant in an event meant to show a united community.

Reuters

Hackers ground 1,400 passengers at Warsaw Airport



Polish Airlines LOT aircraft Boeing 787 Dreamliner jet is pictured through the window at Chopin airport in Warsaw on 9 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

WARSAW, 22 June — Around 1,400 passengers of the Polish airline LOT [LOT.UL] were grounded at Warsaw’s Chopin airport on Sunday after hackers attacked the airline ground computer systems used to issue flight plans, the company said.

The computer system was hacked in the afternoon and fixed after around five hours, during which 10 of the state-owned carrier’s

national and international flights were cancelled and about a dozen more delayed, spokesman Adrian Kubicki said.

LOT was taking care of the passengers on Sunday evening and some were already able to board flights. LOT said it was providing hotels for those who needed to stay overnight.

At no point was the safety of ongoing flights

compromised, Kubicki said, and flights destined for Warsaw were able to land safely. No other airports were affected, he added. “We’re using state-of-the-art computer systems, so this could potentially be a threat to others in the industry,” Kubicki said. The attack is now being investigated by the authorities.

The airport itself was not affected, its spokesman said.—Reuters

Singaporean shooting suspect charged with unlawful discharge of firearms

SINGAPORE, 22 June — The suspect who allegedly snatched a police officer’s revolver and fired the gun at a hospital in Singapore has been charged for unlawful discharge of firearms at the State Courts on Monday.

Under the Arms Offences Act, the suspect Muhammad Iskandar Bin Sa’at could face death penalty if convicted. He was charged with using a revolver to discharge three rounds with the intent to cause physical injury to the police officer Mohammad Sadli Bin Razali at a care corner of Khoo Teck Puat Hospital on 20 June.

The prosecution, led by

Deputy Public Prosecutor Winston Man, has asked for the accused to be remanded for a week to assist in further investigations as the charge is a “fairly serious and recent” one.

Singapore’s Minister for Prime Minister’s Office, Second Minister for Home Affairs Masagos Zulkifli on Monday said findings from the investigation on the shooting will help the authorities determine the kind of “correction” that will need to be taken to mitigate against a future occurrence.

The suspect was arrested for motor vehicle theft on 19 June and was brought to

the hospital after complaining of chest pains. While inside one of the hospital’s examination rooms, the man attempted to escape but was stopped by one of the police officers. The suspect snatched the police officer’s revolver during the struggle, then the situation was brought under control swiftly, said the police.

The suspect sustained superficial injuries while the officer suffered gunshot wounds to his left thumb and right foot. The officer has undergone surgery and is currently in a stable condition.

Xinhua

N Korea not to participate in July’s University Games in S Korea

SEOUL, 22 June — North Korea has informed South Korea of its decision not to participate in the University Games scheduled next month in Gwangju, South Korea’s Unification Ministry said on Monday.

The North sent its notice via e-mail last Friday to the secretary general of the International University Sports Federation, citing as a reason the United Nations’ planned opening

of its field office in Seoul on Tuesday to investigate human rights violations in North Korea, according to a games organizing committee official.

North Korea said in March it will send a 108-member delegation to the biennial international multisport event for university athletes, scheduled to take place from 3 to 14 July in the southwestern South Korean city.

The Office of the UN

High Commissioner for Human Rights has said it will work on monitoring and documenting the human rights situation in North Korea.

Pyongyang, however, has threatened to retaliate against Seoul in the event it hosts the UN field mission.

North Korea had sent an average of 45 athletes to the University Games competitions over the last 10 years.

Kyodo News

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO (1003W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MATHU BHUM VOY NO (1003W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.6.2015 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 MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV JRS CARINA VOY NO (RY-1506-16N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JRS CARINA VOY NO (RY-1506-16N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.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 TRANSOFFSHORE
LOGISTICS PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO (1507)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA LUPUS VOY NO (1507) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/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**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-641)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-641) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV NINOS VOY NO (1035W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1035W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.6.2015 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 CHINA SHIPPING LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

Advertise with us!

For inquiries to place
an advertisement in the
GNLM,

Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com
(+95) (01) 8604532

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 23rd June, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Rakhine State, isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced Deltaic and off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar water.

Japan suicides down but still “serious issue” for under 40s: gov’t

TOKYO, 22 June — The number of suicides in Japan declined for the fifth straight year in 2014 but the margin of decline in suicides committed by people under 40 was relatively small, showing they “still remain a serious problem” for the younger generation, the government said in a report released on Monday.

The total number of suicides dropped to 25,427, down 1,856 from the year before and staying below the 30,000 mark for the third consecutive year, according to the white pa-

per on suicide prevention measures.

Of the total, 68 percent were committed by men and 32 percent by women. Health problems were the top reason for their suicides, accounting for 12,920 of the total, followed by financial and family problems, the report showed.

People aged below 40 accounted for 6,581 deaths, roughly 26 percent of the total, prompting the government to call for phone counseling services in late hours as data between 1972

and 2013 showed the greatest number of suicides was committed by men in the age group around midnight.

The white paper also showed suicides by people aged 18 or younger were concentrated around early April and early September, typically the start of a school semester in Japan.

Noting the trend, the report said schools, communities and family members need to carefully monitor changes in children's behavior after long school breaks.

Kyodo News

Typhoon to hit China's Hainan, seen easing drought



Ships berth at Xingang harbor in Haikou, capital of south China's Hainan Province, on 22 June, 2015. Tropical storm Kujira strengthened into a typhoon in the South China Sea on Sunday, which is moving northward and likely to become the first typhoon to hit China this year.—XINHUA

Indian Navy rescues 20 people on board sinking ship off Mumbai coast

NEW DELHI, 22 June — The Indian Navy on Monday rescued 20 people on board a sinking merchant ship off the coast of Mumbai in a major rescue operation.

“The Indian Navy's Seaking 42C helicopter rescued all 20 crew members, including the captain

of the ship, in the Arabian Sea,” Sitanshu Kar, principal spokesperson of the Indian Ministry of Defence, said.

The operation, which was carried out in low visibility, came in the wake of the Indian Navy getting a distress call from the ship, Jindal Kamakshi, around

11:15 pm local time Sunday night.

The ship sent an SIS signal after it started sinking some 40 nautical miles from the Mumbai port after the crew failed to contain the flooding.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, an official said.—Xinhua

BEIJING, 22 June — The first typhoon of the year to hit China is expected to make landfall on or near the southern island of Hainan on Monday, which should help ease a severe drought on the tourist centre and rubber producer, state news agency Xinhua said.

Typhoon Kujira will sweep over the Paracel Islands in the South China Sea before hitting land somewhere between Wanning on Hainan and Zhanjiang in the neighbouring province of Guangdong, bringing strong winds and heavy rainfall, Xinhua said late on Sunday.

It is expected to weakened gradually after reaching land, the report added.

But it should help ease Hainan's worst drought in more than half a century, Xinhua said, which has affected about one-third of the island, a place China likes to style its answer to Hawaii or Phuket.—Reuters

“Jurassic World” stays first in North America box office

LOS ANGELES, 22 June — Universal’s 3D film “Jurassic World” retained its first place at the weekend box office in United States and Canada with 102 million US dollars, beating out the latest Disney-Pixar animation film “Inside Out”.

“Jurassic World” grossed 102 million dollars this weekend with a 51 percent decline compared with the first weekend, making it the second largest 2nd weekend gross of all-time; behind only the 103 million take of 2012’s “Marvel’s The Avengers”.

“Jurassic World” has grossed 398.2 million dollars in just ten days of release in North America, which represents the largest ten-day start of all time. It is running 25.2 million

and 7 percent ahead of the 373.1-million-dollar ten-day take of former record holder “The Avengers”.

Among the ticket sales in North America this weekend, “Jurassic World” grossed an estimated 11.3 million from IMAX locations, which represented 11.1 percent of the film’s overall weekend gross. It has grossed 42 million to date from IMAX locations while 3D grosses represented 47 percent of the film’s overall gross this weekend.

This dinosaur-eat-men sequel was on track to sell 981 million dollars in tickets worldwide over its first eight days of screening, according to ticket tracking and analysis firm Rentrak.

Opening at 3,946 loca-



Scene in the 3D film “Jurassic World”.—XINHUA

tions, Pixar Studios “Inside Out” ranked the second and brought in an incredible 91 million dollars. It is Pixar’s first-ever debut below first place.

All was not lost at Pixar, however, as “Inside Out” has far outperformed the predicted sales of 60

million dollars in tickets. Its good performance makes it Pixar’s second largest opening weekend, behind “Toy Story 3”, which made 110.3 million dollars in 2010. “Inside Out” got an “A” from moviegoers and a highly 98 percent positive rate from critics.

The film also posted a fantastic worldwide start this weekend and has ticket sales of 132 million dollars worldwide. Its audience breakdown skewed heavily towards moviegoers 25 years and under (60 percent) and towards female moviegoers (56 percent). Family audiences represented 71 percent of the film’s overall audience. 3D grosses represented 28 percent of the film’s overall gross this weekend.

Fox’s “Spy” was placed in a distant third with an estimated 10.5 million dollars, though it added 383 screens in North America. This Melissa McCarthy-led comedy has grossed 74.4 million dollars through 17 days.

Warner’s “San Andre-

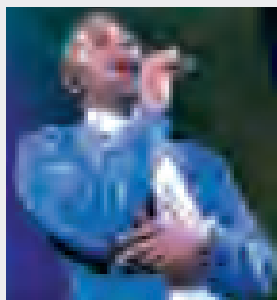
as” dropped 358 screens and ended up fourth with 8.2 million dollars. It has got over 132.2 million dollars within 24 days since its release.

Comedy film “Dope” debuted at the fifth place with an estimated 6 million dollars this weekend. It received an “A-” rating on CinemaScore and 90 percent approval rate from critics on Rotten Tomatoes.

Rounding out the 10 most popular films in the United States and Canada were “Insidious Chapter 3” (4.1 million dollars), “Pitch Perfect 2” (3 million), “Mad Max: Fury Road” (2.8 million), “Avengers: Age Of Ultron” (2.7 million) and “Tomorrowland” (2 million).

Xinhua

Jason Derulo tops UK music singles chart for fourth week



Singer Jason Derulo performs during a presentation for the video game “Just Dance” at the Ubisoft E3 conference at the Orpheum theatre in Los Angeles, California on 15 June, 2015.

REUTERS

LONDON, 22 June — US singer Jason Derulo topped the British music singles chart for a fourth consecutive week on Sunday with his track “Want to Want Me”, the Official Charts Company said.

It becomes the fourth track this year to spend at least four weeks in the number one spot, after seeing off stiff competition from the week’s highest new entry, Deorro and Chris Brown’s “Five More Hours” which ended up at num-

ber four.

Major Lazer’s “Lean On” climbed one spot to second, swapping places with OMI’s “Cheerleader”, which dropped to third.

In the album charts, British rock band Muse kept the top spot for a second week with “Drones”, while Florence and the Machine’s “How Big, How Blue, How Beautiful” also held on at number two. Paul Simon’s “The Ultimate Collection” jumped nine places to third.—Reuters

Chinese film big winner at Shanghai festival

SHANGHAI, 22 June — Chinese film “The Dead End” became a bigger winner with the best director and best actor awards at the 18th Shanghai International Film Festival, which ended on Sunday.

Cao Baoping, director of “The Dead End”, won the best director award, while Deng Chao, Duan Yihong and Guo Tao shared the best actor award for the film. “The Dead End” tells about a story of an unforgivable crime in which a family of five is brutally slaughtered

in a rape-murder case. The perpetrators evaded arrests but later confessed to their crime and were brought to justice. “The Night Watchman”, jointly shot by France and Belgium, won the best feature film of the top Golden Goblet Award.

“Carte Blanche” of Poland won the Jury Grand Prix award. “Cake” of the United States won the best screenplay award. Krista Kosonen from Finland won the best actress award for “The Midwife”.

The Shanghai film fes-



Cao Baoping, director of the film 'The Dead End', wins the Jinjue Award for Best Director during the awarding ceremony of the Shanghai International Film Festival, in Shanghai, east China, on 21 June, 2015.—XINHUA

tival was founded in 1993. This year 391 Chinese and foreign films were screened during the one-week festival, which attracted an audience of more than 300,000.—Xinhua

Paul Walker’s daughter posts duo’s old picture on Father’s Day



This is Meadow’s second Father’s Day since Walker’s death.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 22 June — “Fast and Furious” star Paul Walker’s teenage daughter Meadow shared a photo of him kissing her on the cheek when she was a baby, in a tribute to the actor on Father’s Day.

Walker died two years ago in a car crash. He was 40. Meadow, 16, is his only child. “Happy Father’s Day,” she captioned the adorable picture, said The

Hollywood Reporter.

This is Meadow’s second Father’s Day since Walker’s death.

“Furious 7” released this April, with Walker’s brothers serving as stand-ins in certain scenes.

Vin Diesel and girlfriend Paloma Jimenez welcomed their third child in March, whom they named Pauline, after Walker.

PTI

Apple bows to Taylor Swift on paying for all music streaming

LOS ANGELES, 22 June — Apple Inc (AAPL.O) reversed its policy and said it would now pay artists during free trials of its new Apple Music streaming service, after pop star Taylor Swift said she would hold back her latest hit album “1989” from the service.

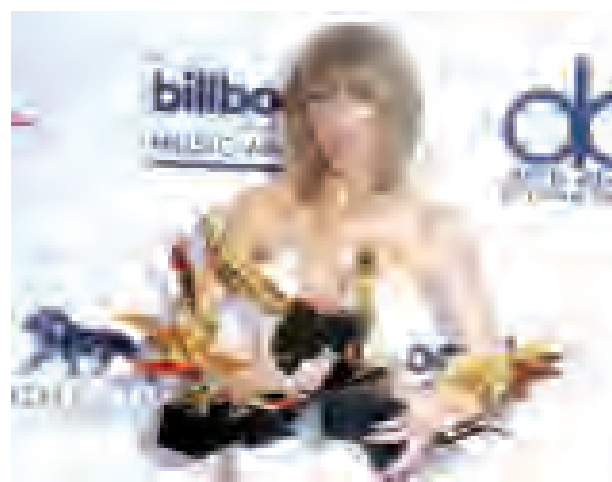
Apple is offering users a three-month trial of its new service and had said it would not pay artists for the use of their music during that time. Apple senior vice president Eddy Cue announced the change of heart through Twitter (@cue). “We hear you @taylorswift13 and indie

artists. Love, Apple,” Cue tweeted. Swift, 25, said in a Tumblr post on Sunday that she would hold back her album as she found Apple’s policy of not paying artists during free trial shocking and disappointing as it would hurt young artists just starting out.

After the backflip from Apple, she turned to Twitter to thank both Apple and her supporters, telling her 59 million Twitter followers: “I am elated and relieved. Thank you for your words of support today. They listened to us.”

Swift has fought with music

streaming services before. She pulled her entire catalog of music from online streaming platform Spotify last November and refused to offer “1989” on streaming services, saying the business had shrunk the numbers of paid album sales drastically. However she has supported Apple’s drive to supplant advertising-based free streaming services with one funded by user subscriptions. An Apple spokesman confirmed Cue’s tweets and that the company would pay artists during the three-month trial period.—Reuters

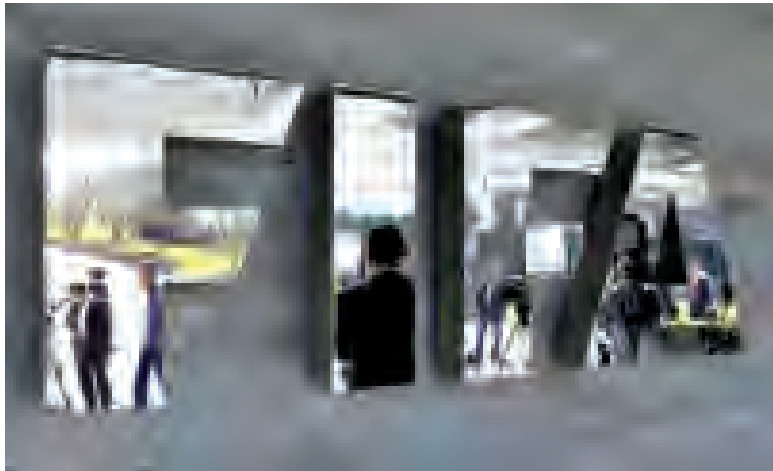


Singer Taylor Swift during the 2015 Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas, Nevada on 17 May, 2015.

REUTERS

GENERAL

Banks did not do enough to police FIFA transactions, says agency



Journalists are reflected in the FIFA logo as they wait for a news conference after a meeting of the FIFA executive committee in Zurich on 20 March, 2015.
REUTERS

LONDON/ST LOUIS 22 June— A global group of government anti-money-laundering agencies said that financial institutions have not done enough to police suspicious financial activity by officials at football's global governing body FIFA, and cautioned banks to step up scrutiny.

The warning from the Paris-based Financial Action Task Force came in the wake of last month's indictment by the United States of nine current and former FIFA officials and five business executives on a series of corruption charges, including bribery, money laundering and wire fraud.

With the US investigation continuing to widen, and a separate Swiss probe gearing up into whether there was corruption involved in FIFA's awarding of the hosting rights to Russia and Qatar for the next football World Cups in 2018 and 2022, the warning will add to banks' concern about handling certain football accounts for organizations and individuals.

Some European and US banks had already stepped up scrutiny of FIFA-related accounts and at least one said it had stopped handling FIFA business for some time because of corruption allegations.

In a statement, that has

now been removed from the agency's website, FATF said "recent reports about alleged corruption and money laundering activities on a large scale by several high-ranking FIFA officials underscore how important it is that financial institutions identify and monitor high-risk customers." It said that financial institutions "do not appear to have given a sufficient amount of scrutiny to the financial activities of the officials concerned, as many of these allegedly corruption-related transfers passed through the international financial system undetected." FATF, whose members include the US, China, Brazil,

Switzerland and many other European countries, said that an "ongoing public debate about the integrity of an entity should raise flags to financial institutions. As a result they should treat customers that are related to that entity as high risk customers."

Reuters was told about the statement, which appears to be dated 16 June, by a European official with knowledge of the FIFA case. It can be found through a Google search but is no longer accessible through the FATF website. FATF President Roger Wilkins told Reuters that he had taken the decision to remove the statement from the agency's website over concerns about its phrasing and a lack of concrete evidence to support the claims.

Reuters

Olympics: Baseball-softball among 8 on shortlist of added events for 2020

TOKYO, 22 June — The Tokyo Olympic organizing committee on Monday accepted eight of the 26 sports that sought to be added to the 2020 Games, including a joint bid from baseball and softball. The seven others chosen by a seven-member panel with three observers — including Olympic gold medalists Naoko Takahashi and Koji Murofushi — were bowling, karate, roller sports, sport climbing, squash, surfing and wushu.

The federations of the eight sports have until July 22 to reply in writing to a questionnaire from the panel, which will then hold a hearing on 7-8 August. The final list will be submitted to the International Olympic Committee by 30 September. The IOC will make a decision on which events will be added to the 28 core sports at its Session in August ahead of next summer's Rio de Janeiro Olympics. Fujio Mitarai, honorary chairman of Keidanren who chaired the panel, said the 26 applications were considered in line with 35 criteria listed by the IOC as well as the organizing committee's three principles — youth appeal, the potential to spike public interest and transparency.

Kyodo News

mitv Myanmar International

(23-6-2015 07:00 am~ 24-6-2015 07:00 am) MST

- | | |
|---|---|
| * News | * Taste of Myanmar (Lashio Noodle) |
| * Insight Myanmar "CSOs & Election" | * Up Against The Tide |
| * Famous pagodas of Sagaing | * News |
| * Tea Leaves | * Made of Jade |
| * News | * Delicacies From Magwe |
| * Taung Byone Nat Festival (Ep-2) | * Culture Show: Theatrical Make Up |
| * Kindhearted Pet Lovers | * News |
| * News | * Taung Byone Nat Festival (Ep-1) |
| * Life in Night Art In Life (Ep-2) (Part-1) | * School for the Blind |
| * News | * News |
| * Those Who Never Give Up (Ep-5) Shwe Min Thar Foundation | * "Myanmar's Traditions and Culture" Tea |
| * News | * We Love U-20 |
| * A Day out with Sarah (Ep-3) | * News |
| * Today Myanmar "Myanma Beans Export" | * Youth Filmmaker "Kaung Sint" |
| * News | * A Worth Studying Site For Ancient Myanmar Heritages |
| | * Art Students: Their Dream Art Bronze Casting |

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(23-6-2015, Tuesday)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:35 pm |
| • Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | • Mono Classical Songs |
| 6:20 am | 3:00 pm |
| • Physical Exercise | • News / International News |
| 7:00 am | 3:35 pm |
| • News | • Soclo Economic Scenes |
| 7:50 am | 4:35 pm |
| • 6 th ACMECS Summit (LIVE Broadcasting) | • University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — First Year (Philosophy) |
| 9:00 am | 5:30 pm |
| • News / International News | • Head Line News |
| 9:35 am | 6:35 pm |
| • Documentary(ASEAN) | • Money Talk Myanmar |
| 10:35 am | 7:00 pm |
| • Science and Technology Programme | • News |
| 11:35 am | 7:35 pm |
| • Documentary | • People's Talks |
| 12:00 noon | 8:00 pm |
| • News / International News / Weather Report | • News / International News / Weather Report |
| 12:35 pm | 9:00 pm |
| • Hluttaw Image | • News |
| 12 :50 pm | • Hluttaw Image |
| • TV Drama Series | • TV Drama Series |

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(23-6-2015, Tuesday)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 6:00 am | 8:35 am |
| • Mono Classical Songs | • Teleplay |
| 6:20 am | 9:35 am |
| • Pyi Thu Ni Ti | • Musical Programme |
| 6:45 am | 9:45 am |
| • Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than | • Radio Teleplay |
| 7:10 am | 10:35 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • ABU Radio Song Festival (2015) |
| 8:00 am | 10:40 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • Myanmar Video |

Colombia draw 0-0 with Peru in dull Copa America tie

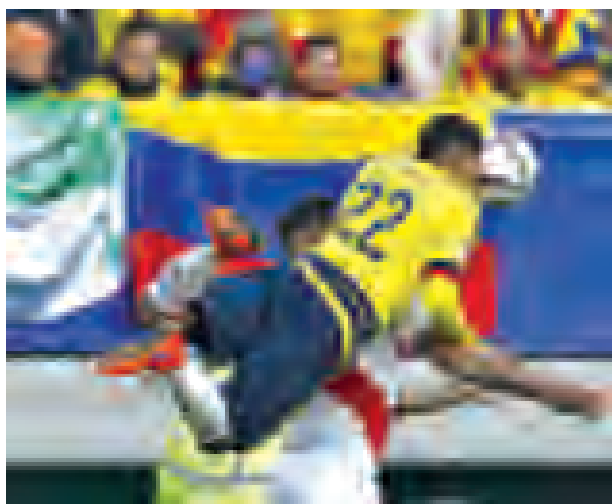
TEMUCO, 22 June — Colombia were left sweating on their Copa America hopes after a lacklustre 0-0 draw with Peru on Sunday.

The result took Peru into the quarter-finals but Colombia's advance is dependent on the result of the day's later match between Brazil and Venezuela.

Unlike in most tournaments the final Copa America group games are not played concurrently and so Colombia must hope for either Brazil or Venezuela to win and leave them as one of the best third-placed teams.

"We didn't play well and we're suffering," Colombia's James Rodriguez said. "We need to look at ourselves and recognise that when we don't score we have to take responsibility."

Colombia were the better side and Peruvian keeper Pedro Gallese got down well to stop Radamel Falcao opening the scoring in the third minute. Pablo Armero then shot into the side netting after a defence splitting



Colombia's Jeison Murillo heads the ball while jumping over Peru's Paolo Guerrero during their first round Copa America 2015 soccer match at Estadio Municipal Bicentenario German Becker in Temuco, Chile, on 21 June, 2015. —REUTERS

pass from Rodriguez.

Jackson Martinez missed a great chance to guarantee Colombia's advance when he scuffed a weak shot straight at the keeper in injury time.

The draw left both Colombia and Peru with four points in Group C and ended Ecuador's chances of progressing as one of the two best third-placed teams from

Group A. The other two teams in Group C, Brazil and Venezuela, play in Santiago on Sunday night.

The winner of Group C will play Paraguay in the quarter finals, while the team in second place will face Bolivia. The third placed team will face Argentina. Uruguay, one of the guaranteed best third-place teams, face hosts Chile.—Reuters

Andy Murray says playing better than when he won Wimbledon

LONDON, 22 June — Andy Murray says he is playing better than when he won Wimbledon in 2013 and after the last few weeks, it would be no surprise if he repeats that historic feat next month. The world number three oozed confidence as he tamed big-serving South African Kevin Anderson 6-3, 6-4 to win a fourth title at Queen's Club on Sunday.

That followed a semi-final run at the French Open where he lost narrowly to Novak Djokovic and stunning play on clay where he claimed titles in Munich and Madrid.

While Roger Federer also warmed up for Wimbledon with yet another Halle title on Sunday and Rafa Nadal won a grasscourt title in Stuttgart last week, Murray is emerging as the man to beat when Wimbledon starts on 29 June.

"You know, sport and life and everything moves on. If you don't continue to improve and get better, there is going to be people that will take your spot," Murray told reporters when asked how his game stacks up against the 2013 version when he became the first British man to win Wimbledon for 77 years.

"I feel like I have improved. Physically I'm definitely in a better place than I was then. Obviously I was having problems with my back around that time."

Anderson had bulldozed his way through the draw at Queen's using his serve as a weapon of mass destruction. But Murray was undaunted, breaking serve once in each set. With Swedish nine-times grand slam doubles champion Jonas Bjorkman now part of his coaching team as main coach Amelie Mauresmo prepares to become a mother, Murray seems completely at ease, on and off the court. Former world number one Mauresmo was known

for her flair, as was Bjorkman, and they appear to be the perfect compliment for Murray and his vast array of skills. His second serve, sometimes a hindrance, has improved markedly while the power and accuracy he is generating from the baseline allows him to dominate opponents from the back.

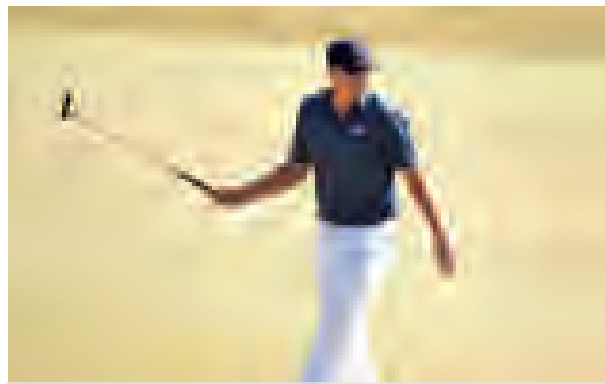
"I feel like I'm using my variety very well just now, something that maybe I wasn't the last couple of years. That's been good for me," Murray said.

"It's been a really good start, but, you know, it's a long way to go before Wimbledon even starts, and then all sorts of things can happen during slams."—Reuters



Great Britain's Andy Murray celebrates winning the final with the trophy. Aegon Championships, Queens Club, London on 21 June, 2015. —REUTERS

Spieth wins US Open after Johnson three-putt



Jordan Spieth reacts after a putt on the 11th green in the final round of the 2015 US Open golf tournament at Chambers Bay at University Place, Washington, on 21 June, 2015.—REUTERS

UNIVERSITY PLACE, WASHINGTON, 22 June — Masters champion Jordan Spieth added another chapter to golf's record books with a nerve-jangling, one-shot victory at the US Open on Sunday after Dustin Johnson blew his chance to force a playoff by three-putting the last.

American young gun Spieth sank a curling 28-footer to birdie the 16th and forge three ahead, then shrugged off a double-bogey at the 17th before becoming just the sixth player to slip into a green jacket and hoist the US Open trophy in the same year.

Though Spieth birdied the par-five 18th to end a wildly fluctuating final

round of high drama with a one-under-par 69, he then had to watch as fellow American Johnson, in the last pairing, had a 12-foot eagle putt to win it at the 18th.

Johnson's putt slid past the cup and he then missed a four-foot birdie putt coming back to squander the chance of forcing an 18-hole playoff on Monday at Chambers Bay. The 21-year-old Spieth posted a five-under total of 275 on a challenging links-style layout that firmed up under a baking sun as he became the youngest winner of the US Open since Bobby Jones in 1923.

"I'm still amazed that I won, let alone that we weren't playing tomorrow,"

Spieth told reporters. "So for that turnaround right there, to watch that happen, I feel for Dustin.

"But I haven't been able to put anything in perspective yet. When I finished, I was just hoping to be playing tomorrow. I can't seem to wrap my head around the finish of today."

The victory saw Spieth join Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Ben Hogan and Craig Wood as the only players to have won the Masters and US Open in the same year.

"It's cool to be able to have two legs of the grand slam now, and to conquer golf's hardest test," said Spieth. "The US Open is conquering the hardest layout in all of golf."

"The fact that we did it is amazing. We really grinded this week. Didn't have my best stuff ball-striking at all and we really grinded over those four or five-footers ... that was the difference." Spieth, who stunned the golf world with a wire-to-wire victory by four shots at the Masters in April, became the youngest player to win back-to-back majors since Gene Sarazen in 1922 (US Open and PGA Championship).—Reuters

Aussies upset Brazil, France shine as Canada scrape through

EDMONTON, (Canada), 22 June — Australia eliminated Brazil from the Women's World Cup on Sunday to advance to the quarter-finals along with a convincing France and battling hosts Canada.

A goal from substitute Kyah Simon 10 minutes from the end earned Australia a 1-0 win over a Brazil team who had won all three of their games in the group stage.

France reinforced the view of many that they are favourites for the title with a classy 3-0 win over South Korea, while a 52nd minute goal from Josee Belanger gave Canada a 1-0 victory over Switzerland in front of a crowd of 53,855 in Vancouver.

Australia had never won a knock-out round game in the World Cup and were up against a Brazil team that had not conceded a single goal in the group stage.

But Australia's combination of well-organised defence, relentless work in midfield and pacy coun-



Players from Canada react following a goal by defender Josee Belanger (far right) against Switzerland in the second half of a game in the round of sixteen in the FIFA 2015 women's World Cup soccer tournament at BC Place Stadium in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, on 21 June, 2015.—REUTERS

ter-attacking paid off.

The decisive goal came when substitute Katrina Gorry won the ball in midfield and sprayed the ball out wide to Lisa De Vanna, whose low shot was spilled out by Brazil keeper Luciana to Simon who slotted home.

"I think we are one of the most dangerous teams at the World Cup if not the most dangerous team going forward," said Australian coach Alen Stajcic.

"With such a young team, you just see so much growth and development in such a short space of

time. If they keep growing, we can beat anyone in the world."

France certainly look capable of beating anyone but will need to be at their very best in the last eight, where they will face Germany.

The Koreans, without

their best player Ji So-yun because of injury, were no match at all for Philippe Bergeroo's team, who were 2-0 up within eight minutes.

Marie Laure Delie opened the scoring in the fourth minute, ending a fast-flowing passing move with a precise finish.

Four minutes later Elodie Thomis fired home after racing into the box to pick up a pass from Olympique Lyonnais team mate Eugenie Le Sommer. Delie added her second and France's third in the 48th minute.

South Korean coach Yoon Deok-yeo said his side simply had not been able to deal with the fluid passing and movement of the French.

"Their speed was incredible ... and our defenders had trouble coping with that," he said. Canada were pushed hard by World Cup debutants Switzerland and struggled to find their rhythm but their endeavour was rewarded with Belanger's winner.

Rhian Wilkinson crossed from the right and Christine Sinclair laid the ball off to Belanger, whose first time shot beat Swiss keeper Gaelle Thalmann.

It was a tough loss to take for a Switzerland team who had created more in the final third, largely thanks to the inspired individual skills of forward Ramona Bachmann.

Canada coach John Herdman now faces the prospect of coming up against the country of his birth if England can beat Norway on Monday but did not consider it a potential conflict of interests.

"I'm a Geordie first and foremost, we have our own Geordie nation in the north east of England, and Canadian second, this is my country this is my place, I'd love to see England or Norway it makes no difference."

England face the Scandinavians in Ottawa while Monday's other game sees the United States take on Colombia in Edmonton.

Reuters