

Co-op ministry disburses loans, sells farm machinery to members

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—The Ministry of Cooperatives distributed more than K 23.1 billion in cash loans and sold over K9.3 billion worth of agricultural machinery to its members Saturday under the rural development programme in Bago Region.

Vice President U Nyan Tun attended the loan-providing event held at Zegone Township Hall in western Bago Region, together with union ministers, deputy ministers, parliamentarians, heads of government agencies and representatives of township cooperatives.

U Nyan Tun said the loan programme aims to reduce poverty and promote health and education for rural households.

He also urged the members of cooperatives to use the loans effectively. The government has targeted a reduction in the poverty rate from 26 to 16 percent in the near future.

Chief Minister for Bago region U Nyan Win explained rural develop-



ment programmes in the region. He and Union Minister for Cooperatives

U Kyaw Hsan presented loans to cooperative societies in Bago, Toungoo,

Pyay and Thayawady districts.

MNA

Vice President U Nyan Tun observes farm machinery displayed at loan-providing event held in Zegone, western Bago Region.—MNA

Information minister warns broadcasters against biased election reporting



Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut calls for strict measures against political bias in news coverage of the election.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June—Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut warned TV and radio stations Saturday that they risk losing their broadcasting licenses if they air biased views and breach the industry code of ethics during the campaign period for the upcoming general election.

The minister made the statement at a meeting to

clarify the code of ethics for TV and radio broadcasters.

Cherry FM was under investigation for improper expressions in two of its programmes — “Happy Time” and “Don’t Get Angry”— he said, adding that similar incidents are likely to arise at other stations.

Violators must apologize publicly and face closure for a specific length of

time and lawsuits, he said.

Broadcast media face criticism at home and abroad as there arose question of whether their coverage are fair or not than print outlets given the nature of their partnership with Myanma Radio and Television.

U Ye Htut called for strict measures against political bias in news coverage of the election, urging

MRTV-4, MNTV and FM stations to give all parties an equal number of political broadcasts. The meeting was attended by Deputy Minister U Paik Htway and representatives of Forever Group Co Ltd, Shwe Than Lwin Media Co Ltd, Mandalay FM, Pyinsawadi FM, Cherry FM, Padamyia FM, FM Bagan and Shwe FM.—MNA

Emporium offers gems through tender, competitive bidding

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June— The fourth day of the 52nd Myanma Gems Emporium 2015 concluded Saturday with precious stones on sale through open tender and competitive bidding.

Local and foreign merchants submitted proposed prices for 236 lots of gems under the open tender system in the morning, and a total of 87 lots were sold in the afternoon through competitive bidding.

The merchants also presented their proposed prices for 1,450 lots of jade on the fourth day of the emporium, with the tender winners to be announced on Sunday.

The event will offer 236 lots of gems and 8,608 lots of jades through the open tender system, and 87 lots of gems and 335 lots of jades through the competitive bidding system until 6 July.

MNA

New K10,000 notes to enter circulation 1 July

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June— The Central Bank of Myanmar has announced it will issue new, more-durable K10,000 banknotes with improved security features from next month.

The new, varnished banknotes will not affect the legal tender status of

older K10,000 notes issued from 15 June 2012, the bank said, adding that the new bills bear the number 10,000 in emerald green and a new type of watermark.

The new K10,000 notes will enter circulation from 1 July.

MNA

Agricultural officials introduce cultivation techniques to local farmers

NATOGYI, 27 June — Farmers in Natogyi Township's Letwe village have grown 204 acres of summer sesame on cropland irrigated by the Pyaungpya Dam in Mandalay Region.

Hsin Yadana strain sesame plants are thriving on the lands of farmers U Moe Tun and U Sein Ko.

Myingyan District officials recently gave a presentation on cultivation techniques for monsoon paddy, cold season chickpea, onions and summer sesame plantations in the



irrigated area.

It was attended by Myingyan District's depu-

ty commissioner U Myint Thin Aung, district and township officials of the

Agriculture Department and local farmers.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Philanthropic school nurtures ethnic orphans

MAHLAING, 27 June — A youth development philanthropic school in Monbinlay village of Mahlaing Township, Mandalay Region, has taught orphans from

ethnic minorities since its establishment in 1959.

The school admits ethnic children aged 5 and above, with a school population of up to 1,000 students from

primary to high school level.

Among the school's former students are a Buddhist monk who has passed the two-and-a-half treatises of the Tipitaka

examination and 15 civil servants.

Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing)



Taungup residents face flooding amid heavy rain

TAUNGUP, 27 June — Recent heavy rains have caused severe flooding in four wards of Taungup, Rakhine State.

Roads in urban residential areas were under 3 feet of water until 10 a.m. on 26 June, following the rains that began two days earlier.

The floods forced the closure of markets, schools and some government offices. Some villages surrounding the urban area were also flooded.

Rakhine State IPRD

8 injured in accident on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway

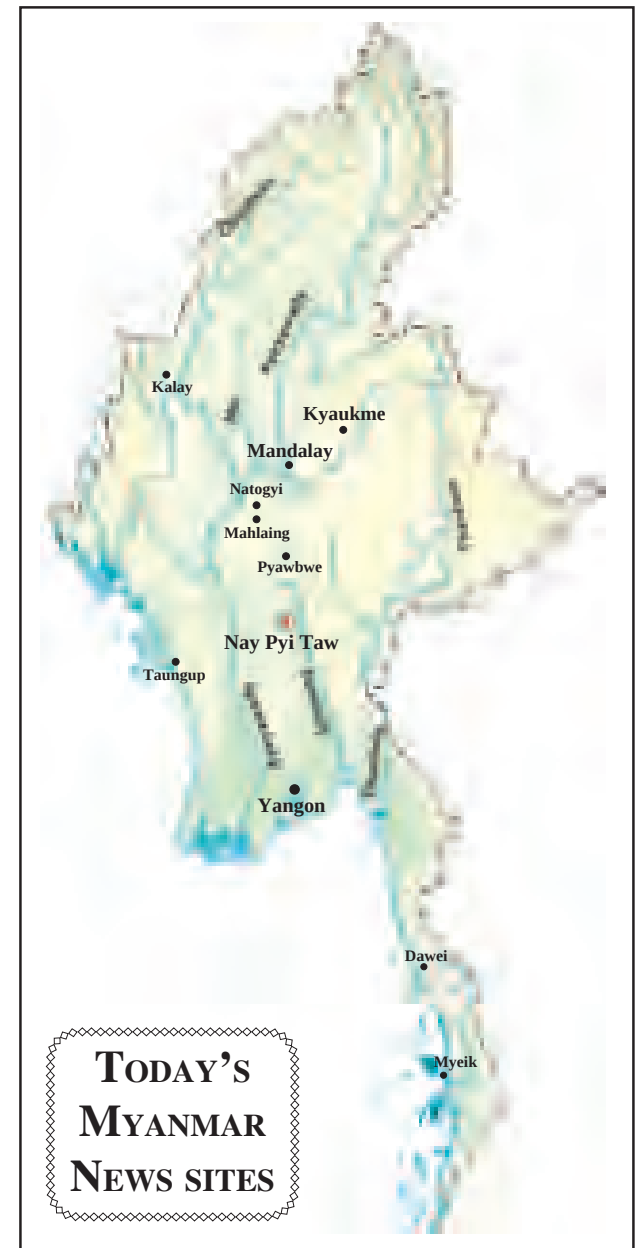


PYAWBWE, 27 June — An express bus overturned Friday on the Yangon-Mandalay Expressway in Pyawbwe Township, injuring eight people on board.

The bus operated by the Shwesin Sekkyar company overturned between mile posts 251/1 and 251/2 around 5:30 a.m.

Police have opened a case against the driver of the bus, Aye Min, 41, of Shwepaukkan, Yangon Region.

Police Information



U-20 footballer shares anti-drug message with students



KYAUKME, 27 June — Footballer Maung Than Paing, who represented Myanmar at the recent FIFA U-20 World Cup, met students from Basic Education High School Nos. 1 to 4 in Kyaukme, northern Shan State, on 25 June, at the invitation of the township's Anti-Drug Committee.

The star player recounted his experienc-

es training and playing games, giving the students advice on how to overcome challenges. The player donated five footballs to each school. The U-20 striker also demonstrated his football skills and accepted gifts from students.

Chairman of the Anti-Drug Committee U Tin Maung Thein spoke on the occasion.

Myint Aung (KaMa)

NATIONAL



Stability important for electoral period, says Thura U Shwe Mann

NATOGYI, 27 June—Government, Hluttaws and election commissions will ensure a successful election, while cooperation of political parties, people and security organizations plays crucial role for the

stability of the State, said Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker on Saturday in Mahlaing and Natogyi townships of Mandalay region.

During the meetings with the locals, Thura U Shwe Mann added responsible persons from electoral committees, health and educational sectors, as well as representatives from political parties and local dignities need to

work together with the election commission for a free and fair election which is scheduled to be held in early November this year.

Local authorities explained the development programmes of education, health and agricultural sectors in the area, and the Speaker facilitated the activities.

MNA

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann greets locals in Mahlaing.

MNA

Vice Senior General meets Cambodian military chief

NAY PYI TAW, 27 June — Vice Senior General Soe Win, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and Commander-in-Chief (Army), was welcomed by Gen Meas Sophea, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and Commander of Royal Cambodian Army, at the latter's office on 26 June.

Vice Senior General Soe Win also separately met Cambodian Commander-in-Chief Gen Pol Saroeun, Defence Minister Gen Tea Banh and Commander of Bodyguard Unit Gen Hing Bunhieng at their offices.

They discussed matters related to creating a new level of friendly relationships between the two armies,

military exercises, exchange of visits between sports and cultural teams, and cooperation in resolving armed conflicts and terrorism.—MNA

Vice Senior General Soe Win has a documentary photo taken together with Cambodian Armed Forces Chief General Pol Saroeun.—MYAWADY



IKBZ Insurance opens its branch in Pyay



IKBZ Insurance branch in Pyay.—MNA

YANGON, 27 June — IKBZ Insurance opened its new branch in Pyay, on 27 June.

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

At the opening ceremony, the chairman of the

board said development of the insurance business could help reduce property losses. IKBZ Insurance is now providing insurance programmes including fire insurance, life insurance, automotive insurance, cash in safe insurance and sportsman's insurance.

The company will launch health insurance on 1 July.—MNA

Residents evacuated amid floods in Rakhine State

MAUNGTAW, 27 June — Torrential rain in Rakhine State has caused severe flooding in Buthidaung Township, with landslides blocking the motorway to Maungta

Township on Saturday.

Houses and hospitals were inundated as heavy rains continued a day after some residents left their homes for emergency shelters.

Local government departments and social organizations are now providing relief aid to flood victims.

Maungta
District IPRD

University of East Yangon installs Wi-Fi, plans campus-wide coverage

YANGON, 27 June — Parts of the University of East Yangon have Wi-Fi Internet access following the connection of a fibre cable and installation of a new server, with plans to connect the entire campus in the near future, rector Dr Kyaw Kyaw Khoun said Friday.

The IT upgrade was carried out with K20 million from the government. The main administrative building and offices currently have Wi-Fi, but the university is seeking additional funds to provide campus-wide coverage, the rector added.

Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) has offered IT training for faculty members and students.

In addition, the university has set up a homepage to provide information about its courses and activities.

GNLM

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tateshi Higuchi welcomes Lt-Gen Kyaw Swe of the Office of the C-in-C (Army) and wife at the reception to mark Japan Self-Defense Forces Day on 26 June.—MNA



Weapons, ammunition, drugs seized in Mandalay Region

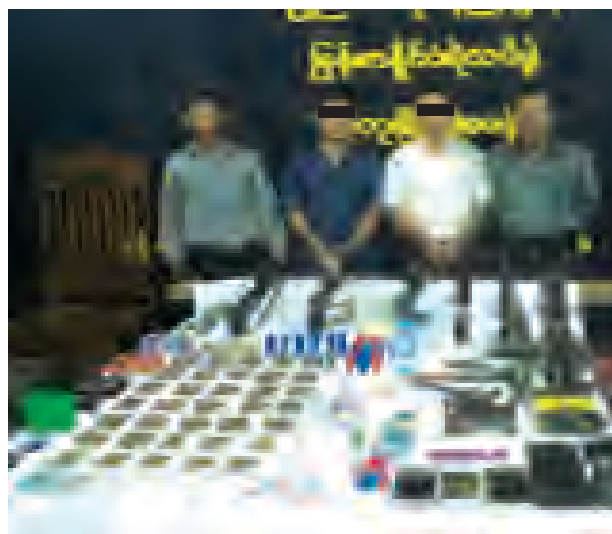
MANDALAY, 27 June — Police confiscated weapons, ammunition and stimulant tablets while they inspected a private car near Singu Township, Mandalay region, on Saturday.

After a tip-off, the

combined team stopped a Toyota Land Cruiser car near mile post 1/0 and found five guns, 252 bullets, two knives, 20 stimulant tablets, walkie-talkies, and accessories. The two suspects on board the car were arrested by the police officer in Singu Township.

Further investigations led to the seizure of some weapons and 19 units of accessories and 18 units of ammunition at Chan Aye Thar Zan Township.

An air rifle was also seized from Soe Thau Aung, 30, and Myint Ko Aung, 31, in the same township.—MNA



Japan to launch new body to study extraterrestrial materials

TOKYO, 27 June — Japan's space agency plans to launch on Wednesday a new entity to specialize in the study of extraterrestrial materials, with the aim of further discovering the development of the solar system, agency officials said on Saturday.

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency will establish the new organization within its Institute of Space and Astronautical Science in Sagami-hara, Kanagawa Prefecture.

The new organization is expected to analyze particulates brought back to Earth from the asteroid Itokawa by the Hayabusa probe as well as rocks taken from the asteroid 1999 JU3 by the Hayabusa2 probe which is now on a sample return mission journey, the officials said.

It will also likely study ice

and sand to be brought back to Earth from a satellite of Mars by a planned probe in the early 2020s, they added.

Asteroids are believed to maintain materials dating back to the birth of the solar system and information regarding the origin of life.

With the new entity, JAXA also plans to study samples to be brought to Earth from an asteroid by the Origin Spectral Interpretation Resource Identification Security-Regolith Explorer (OSIRIS-REx) to be launched next year by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the officials added.

JAXA will keep these extraterrestrial materials away from materials on Earth and handle them carefully with special apparatus to be set up in a clean

room.

Such extraterrestrial materials will be stored in containers filled with nitrogen to avoid contact with the atmosphere.

Rocks to be brought back from the asteroid 1999 JU3 by the Hayabusa2 probe are expected to contain a tiny amount of organic substances and moisture that could have become the origin of life. JAXA plans to develop a new analysis method for them, the officials said.

The new study group of extraterrestrial materials is likely to consist of around 10 members and work together with outside organizations such as the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology and the National Institute of Polar Research.

Kyodo News

Malaysia's PM Najib says will postpone UMNO elections by 18 months

KUALA LUMPUR, 27 June — The United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the biggest party in the ruling Barisan Nasional coalition, will postpone party elections scheduled for next year by 18 months, the country's prime minister announced on Friday.

"The postponement shall not exceed 18 months from the scheduled date," Prime Minister Najib Razak said, according to state news agency Bernama. Razak is the leader of UMNO.

Najib has come under pressure from former premier Mahathir Mohamad to step down over alleged mismanagement of the economy and the performance of a state investment company called 1MDB, whose advi-



Malaysia's Prime Minister Najib Razak speaks during the opening ceremony of the 26th ASEAN Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in this 27 April, 2015 file photo.

REUTERS

sory board he chairs.

Najib has said he won't succumb to pressure to quit as long as he has the support of Malaysians and party members.

Reuters

Tackling drug issue a priority for Laos, partners

VIENTIANE, 27 June — Drug production, trafficking and abuse is a transnational phenomenon with harmful effects for people and communities of both city and countryside of Laos alike, the nation's Prime Minister said on Friday.

Confirming the country's resolve in addressing the issue with international partners, Prime Minister Thongsing Thammavong said addiction was an issue deeply affecting users and their families in urban, rural and remote areas of the landlocked and increasingly land-linked country.

The Prime Minister issued the statement for 28th Annual International Day Against Drug Use and Illicit Trafficking, marked globally on June 26 since its establishment in 1987.

"As we know, drugs pose threats to individuals and their

families and are the main obstacle for national construction and development," Lao News Agency KPL reported Mr Thongsing as saying.

"They cause corruption, bring out the worst in people, and destroy communities."

He said addiction was affecting too many people in Laos, with particular dangers for youth, students and workers and fueling anti-social street crime including robberies, particularly in the form of bag snatches and muggings.

Calling for a society-wide response in Laos, he thanked international organisations and donors for their ongoing contributions to helping Lao officials and communities address the problem.

Though both remaining illicit drugs of concern in Laos, the primary focus of attention has

moved from the opium traditionally produced by the ethnically-diverse inhabitants of border-straddling highland areas to the increasingly multinational flows of synthetic amphetamine-type stimulants.

Cannabis, in use across the region as a therapeutic herb since antiquity, also remains widespread despite its illegal status.

Among the legal drugs, both alcohol and tobacco are cheap and available despite being the primary causes of drug-related deaths in the country and worldwide according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Headed by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, the Global Commission on Drug Policy has called for a so-called evidence-based approach to addressing the issue of drug use and addiction, favoring treatment over criminalization.—Xinhua

Singapore, Australia to ink comprehensive strategic partnership

SINGAPORE, 27 June — Australia Prime Minister Tony Abbott will sign a comprehensive strategic partnership with Singapore during his first visit to the country on Sunday, the Foreign Ministry said on Saturday.

Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong will sign the partnership deal with Abbott, while a welcome ceremony will be held for his Australian counterpart on Monday. The Australian prime minister will also call on President Tony Tan Keng Yam during his two-day visit, the ministry said.

The agreement will see new

levels of integration between the two countries across four sectors: economic, foreign affairs, defence and security, and people-to-people fields.

Abbott will visit the Singapore Botanical Gardens, where an orchid hybrid will be named in honor of the relationship between both countries.

"Prime Minister Abbott's visit underscores the deep and long-standing ties between the two countries as Singapore and Australia commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year," the ministry said.

Xinhua

Sri Lanka to strictly implement election laws during key polls

COLOMBO, 27 June — Sri Lanka's elections commissioner on Saturday said local elections laws will be strictly implemented during parliament elections to be held in August.

Elections Commissioner Mahinda Deshapriya said that he will also be writing to all the registered political parties seeking clarity on who will be contesting the 17 August parliament elections.

Deshapriya told reporters that the Department of Elections has been given the minimum number of days to prepare for the elections. President Maithripala Sirisena on Friday night dissolved the parliament and declared elections to be held in August, 10 months ahead of schedule.

Deshapriya said his department will prepare for the election within the time it has in hand and ensure everything is in place by election day. He said that over the next week

the department will communicate with the political parties which will contest the polls.

The Elections Commissioner said that there are 64 registered political parties in Sri Lanka. The Elections Commissioner said that political parties and candidates contesting the polls will be asked not to use the national flag or religious flags when campaigning.

He also said that the campaign office of one political party contesting the election cannot be used to promote another political party also contesting the election.

The use of loud speakers will also be limited to only within the venue of the election related meeting or rally during the campaign period. He said that strict regulations will also be in place for state media on election coverage while private media will be requested to also fall in line with those regulations.—Xinhua



A Jakarta roller skating policewoman directs the traffic in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 26 June, 2015. 28 roller skating police personnel serve the public on the celebration of Eid al-Fitr festival and other activities in Jakarta.—XINHUA

Pick of Hiroshima as G-7 venue aimed at encouraging nuke disarmament



Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui speaks to reporters in the city on 26 June, 2015, following the Japanese government's announcement that the 2016 Group of Seven foreign ministerial meeting will be held in Hiroshima. Matsui said he is honored.

KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 27 June — The Japanese government said on Friday it has picked Hiroshima as the venue for next year's Group of Seven foreign ministerial meeting to be held ahead of the G-7 summit in May, apparently to call attention to nuclear disarmament by bringing key figures from major powers to the atomic-bombed city.

The announcement of the venue for the meeting, which will see a US secretary of state visit Hiroshima for the first time, comes as local expectations remain strong that US President Barack Obama, who has pledged to seek a world without nuclear weapons, could set foot in the western Japan city devastated by a US atomic bombing in 1945.

Observers say Washington is likely to consider carefully whether the visit of US Secretary of State John Kerry to Hiroshima for the foreign ministerial meeting should be seen as laying the groundwork for a possible visit to the city by Obama.

The Japanese government also said the same day that the G-7 finance ministerial meeting will take place in Sendai, northeastern Japan. At least six more ministerial meetings will be convened in the run-up to the Ise-Shima summit on 26-27 May and their locations will be decided as early as next month.

After the Cabinet decided on the venues for the foreign and finance ministerial meetings, which are likely to be held between March and April next year,

Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told a Press conference, "Hiroshima is an appropriate place for G-7 foreign ministers to gather to send out messages for world peace, prosperity and the future as the city is a symbol of reconstruction from the atomic bombing."

To promote nuclear disarmament, the Japanese government has called on the world's political leaders to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the second city destroyed by a US atomic bombing in World War II, to witness the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons.

US Assistant Secretary of State Daniel Russel indicated in April that there remains a possibility that Obama could visit Hiroshima before his term ends in

January 2017, saying the president had stated in the past that he would be honoured to visit the city.

But the issue is sensitive in the United States where many believe the atomic bombings were necessary to end the war quickly.

Atomic bomb survivors in Hiroshima were delighted with the latest announcement as they hope visits by key figures will contribute to the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Keiko Ogura, a 77-year-old survivor who has spoken of her terrifying experiences to government officials from other countries including the United States, said, "I am happy... Realizing what happened in Hiroshima is a step toward realizing a world without nuclear weapons."

Hiroshima Mayor Kazumi Matsui said he will continue to call on Obama and other leaders to visit the city.

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Taro Aso explained that Sendai, the venue of the G-7 finance ministerial meeting, has previously hosted international conferences and holding the gathering there "could be a symbol of reconstruction" of Japan's northeastern region devastated by the earthquake and tsunami in March 2011.

Other ministerial meetings are likely to take up issues such as the environment, energy and economy.

The G-7 groups Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States.

Kyodo News

Delivery man beheads boss in suspected Islamist attack on French gas site



French special police forces escort a woman from a residential building during a raid in Saint-Priest, near Lyon, France, on 26 June, 2015.

REUTERS

SAINT-QUENTIN FALLAVIER, 27 June — A delivery man with known Islamist connections beheaded his boss and left the body, daubed with Arabic writing, at the site of a US-owned gas factory in south-east France before trying to blow up the complex.

The assailant rammed his delivery van into a warehouse containing gas canisters, triggering an initial explosion, and was arrested minutes later as he tried to open canisters containing flammable chemicals, prosecutors said on Friday.

Police found the head of the victim, the 54-year-old manager of the transport firm that employed the

suspect, dangling from a fence.

"The head was discovered hanging on the factory's wire fence, framed by two flags that included references to the shahada, or (Muslim) profession of faith," Paris public prosecutor Francois Molins told a news conference.

France is still coming to terms with attacks by Islamist gunmen who killed 17 people in January at a satirical weekly newspaper and a Jewish food store.

The latest attack occurred on the same day that a gunman killed at least 37 people at a Tunisian beachside hotel and an Islamic State suicide bomber killed two dozen and wounded

more than 200 at a mosque in Kuwait.

"There is no other link other than to say that terrorism is our common enemy," said President Francois Hollande, returning to Paris from an EU summit in Brussels.

"There should be no doubt as to our country's ability to protect itself and remain vigilant," he said, announcing a tightening of national security to levels he said were unprecedented in recent decades.

Hollande said there were inscriptions on the headless body, and police sources said they were in Arabic, but officials did not reveal their content.

Reuters

Kerry, Zarif see hard work ahead as nuclear talks begin

VIENNA, 27 June — Senior US and Iranian officials said hard work was still needed as they met in Vienna on Saturday for what could be their final negotiations to bridge significant differences on an agreement to curb Iran's nuclear programme.

With a self-imposed deadline approaching on Tuesday, both sides emphasised that major obstacles remained to finalising a deal under which Iran would cut back its nuclear programme in exchange for relief from economic sanctions.

"We have a lot of hard work to do. We have some very tough issues," US Secretary of State John Kerry said according to a State Department draft transcript.

"I agree. Maybe not on the issues. But on the fact that we need to work really hard in order to be able to make progress and move forward," Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was cited as saying in the transcript.

Nonetheless, Kerry

US Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, US Secretary of State John Kerry and US Under Secretary for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman (L-3rd L) meet with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif (2nd R) at a hotel in Vienna, Austria on 27 June, 2015.

REUTERS

also said he was "hopeful" of a successful outcome. His meeting with Zarif ended after 90 minutes.

The main differences are on the pace and timing of sanctions relief for Iran in return for its steps to restrain its nuclear programme and on the nature of monitoring mechanisms to ensure Teheran does not cheat on any agreement.

The United States, Israel and some Western nations fear that Iran has been trying to develop a nuclear weapons capability but Iran says its programme is for peaceful purposes only.

In addition to Iran and the United States, the talks include Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia. Foreign ministers from all the nations, as well as the European Union foreign policy chief, are expected in Vienna in the coming days.

The coming days could be extremely difficult and talks could go over the deadline by at least two or three days, a senior Western diplomat said on condi-

tion of anonymity.

In November, the seven nations involved in the talks set a late March deadline for a framework agreement, which they ultimately reached on 2 April, and a 30 June deadline for a comprehensive deal.

The real deadline is not 30 June but 9 July, diplomats say.

The US delegation must present the deal to Congress by 9 July if a mandatory congressional review period before President Barack Obama can begin suspending sanctions is to be limited to 30 days. After 9 July, the review will last 60 days, according to a law passed recently by US legislators.

Negotiators involved in the talks fear that such a lengthy delay, which would also hold up the cancellation of United Nations nuclear-related sanctions by the UN Security Council, would be too long and would create the opportunity for any deal agreed in Vienna to unravel.

Reuters



Newly disclosed Hillary Clinton emails may undercut her earlier claims

NEW YORK, 27 June — A batch of 15 newly disclosed Hillary Clinton emails appears to contradict her assertion last month that memos about Libya she received from an old friend while she was US secretary of state were “unsolicited.”

Clinton did not hand over the emails to the State Department last year when she provided the agency with what she said was a complete record of her work-related emails, the department said on Thursday night.

The disclosure that the record was incomplete, for reasons that remain unclear, has added to criticism of the favourite to become the Democratic Party’s nominee for the 2016 presidential election.

Political opponents say Clinton side-stepped federal record-keeping and transparency laws by using a private email server in her home for work-related correspondence. The Republican Party said on Friday it was renewing its demands that Clinton relinquish the server to be examined.

“Greetings from Kabul!” Clinton wrote in one of the newly disclosed emails in July 2012, in reply to a memo on the Libya election from her old friend and informal adviser Sidney Blumenthal. “And thanks for keeping this stuff coming!”

Blumenthal was barred from a job at the State Department by



US Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton stands as she is introduced at the Virginia Democratic Party’s annual Jefferson-Jackson party fundraising dinner at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, on 26 June, 2015.

REUTERS

aides to President Barack Obama because of lingering distrust over his role advising Clinton’s run against Obama in the acrimonious 2008 Democratic primary, according to the *New York Times*.

A Clinton spokesman did not immediately respond to questions about whether the newly disclosed emails undercut Clinton’s comments at a campaign stop in

Iowa last month on her relationship with Blumenthal.

“He’s been a friend of mine for a long time and he sent me unsolicited emails, which I passed on in some instances,” Clinton said of Blumenthal in May.

In a March 2012 email, Clinton replied to an email from Blumenthal about possible French and British actions in Libya. “This strains credulity based on what I know,” she wrote to Blumenthal. “Any other info about it?”

In a third example, she thanked Blumenthal for sending her intelligence about the Libyan National Transitional Council in August 2011 ahead of a meeting with NTC leaders. “I’m going to Paris tomorrow night and will meet [with National Transitional Council] leaders so this and additional info useful,” she told him.

Clinton has seen her trustworthiness ratings erode after the revelations in March about her unusual email habits while she was the nation’s top diplomat.

She used a single private email account for all her personal and work correspondence, connected to a computer server kept in her New York home, an arrangement that she said broke no rules.

In March, Clinton deflected accusations of undue secrecy by saying she had “absolute confidence” she had given any emails that could possibly be work-re-

lated to the State Department, including all that mentioned Libya. She later called for the entire cache to be made public.

It remains unclear why Clinton apparently did not include these 15 emails when she handed over her records in December, and whether there are other omissions yet to be made public.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said on Friday the department did not know if other emails were missing.

The undisclosed emails first came to light after a Republican-led committee of US lawmakers investigating the 2012 attack on diplomatic staff in Benghazi, Libya, obtained Blumenthal’s record of the emails through a subpoena.

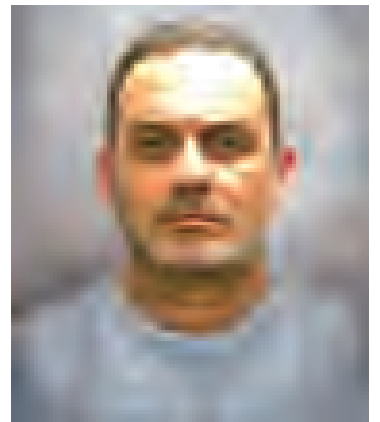
Clinton did include a number of emails between her and Blumenthal in her disclosure last year. Some of those had already been made public, but none of those included examples of Clinton actively encouraging Blumenthal’s correspondence.

Nick Merrill, a Clinton spokesman, said Clinton had provided the State Department with all the work-related correspondence she had in her possession. He declined to say whether emails had been deleted from Clinton’s private server at an earlier date, prior to the department’s request.

Blumenthal could not be reached for comment.

Reuters

New York prison escapee killed by police, accomplice still at large



Prison inmate Richard Matt

MALONE, 27 June — Law enforcement officers on Friday shot and killed one of two prisoners who broke out of a maximum security prison in New York three weeks ago and were pursuing a second escapee near the Canadian border, authorities said.

Richard Matt, a 49-year-old convicted murderer, was killed by US Border Patrol officers after he was spotted in a wooded area in the town of Malone, the New York State Police said.

Police were still combing the vicinity for Matt’s accomplice, David Sweat, a 35-year-old who was imprisoned for killing a sheriff’s deputy. “You never want to see anyone lose their life, but I would remind people that Mr. Matt was an escaped murderer from a state prison,” New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said at a news conference. “Mr. Matt killed two people that we know about.”—Reuters

Greek PM calls referendum on debt deal for 5 July

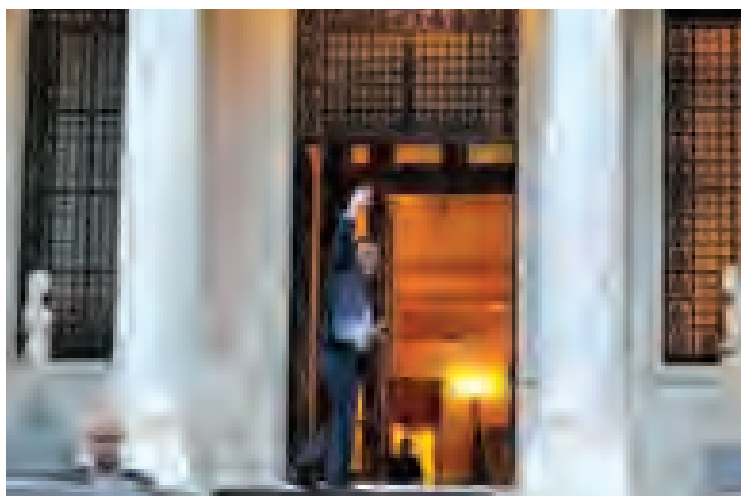
ATHENS, 27 June — Greece will hold a referendum on 5 July on the latest debt deal proposed by international lenders, Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said in a televised address to the nation in the early hours of Saturday.

The leftist leader made the dramatic announcement a few hours before a critical Euro Group meeting in Brussels, amid heightened anxiety over a possible Greek default next Tuesday that could potentially spark its exit from the eurozone.

“We are obliged to respond to the ultimatum based on the sovereign will of the Greek people,” he said at the end of an emergency cabinet meeting called on Friday evening upon his return to Athens from marathon negotiations in the Belgian capital.

The Greek prime minister said that his government did its best to reach a viable solution to put an end to austerity under the mandate they received at the 25 January general elections.

He said the Greek side was asked on Thursday to accept a draft proposal that undermines efforts to restore growth and so-



Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras waves as he arrives at his office at the Maximos Mansion in Athens, GREECE, on 26 June, 2015. “We cannot comprehend the institutions’ insistence on unbearably tough measures,” Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras told German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande on Friday at the sidelines of the EU summit, according to Greek government sources.—XINHUA

cial justice, adding that his suggestion for the conduction of the referendum on whether the proposed agreement with creditors should be accepted or not was unanimously accepted by the cabinet.

He did not ask the Greek people to vote no, but his message was crystal clear by the

wording.

“We need to respond to authoritarianism and harsh austerity with democracy, cool-headedness and decisiveness. Greece, the country which gave birth to democracy, must send a strong democratic reply to the European and international community,” he said.

In his televised address, the Greek leader added that he will formally ask on Saturday for the extension of the Greek bailout programme that expires on 30 June, “so that people can make their decision without pressure and blackmails as dictated by our Constitution and Europe’s democratic tradition.”

Tsipras said that European leaders such as German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Francois Hollande and European Central Bank (ECB) head Mario Draghi as well as the Greek president and opposition political parties’ leaders had been informed on the referendum plan before the address.

Media commentators in Athens said that developments could be rapid and dramatic before 30 June, when Greece has to repay a 1.5-billion-euro loan installment to the International Monetary Fund with state coffers running empty.

In first comments to media after Tsipras’ speech, opposition parties’ MPs said they feared that the high-stakes gamble could lead to a financial meltdown and a Greek exit from the eurozone

and the European Union.

The prime minister’s critics talked about an irresponsible initiative that exposed the country to great risks, calling on people to support pro-European forces.

“Greece is and will remain an integral part of Europe and Europe an integral part of Greece. But Europe with no democracy is a Europe without identity and a compass,” the Greek prime minister said before calling on Greeks to decide unanimously “for future generations, for the history of the Greeks, for sovereignty and the dignity of the Greek people.”

The last time a referendum was called in Greece was in 1974 after the collapse of a seven-year military dictatorship when voters were asked to decide whether the monarchy should be restored. Seven out of ten Greeks voted no.

A “no” vote in the 5 July referendum would most likely lead Greece to default on its debts and a so-called “Grexit,” or Greek exit from the eurozone, analysts said. According to all the latest surveys, seven out of ten Greeks want to keep Greece afloat and within the eurozone.

Xinhua

WORLD

UN council told sound of helicopters has Syrians 'watching for death'

UNITED NATIONS, 27 June — The sound of whirling helicopter blades fills Syrians with fear that "hell and fire" is about to fall in a barrel bomb, a rescue worker told the United Nations Security Council on Friday as pressure mounts for the body to take action to stop civilian killings in Syria.

"This sound means watching for death," said Raed Saleh, head of the Syrian Civil Defence, an organization of rescue workers known as white helmets who rush to the site of bomb and mortar attacks to dig through rubble for survivors.

In the past week UN chief Ban Ki-moon, 71 UN states and some 80 aid and human rights groups have urged the Security Council to act on the killing of civilians. France and Spain organised Friday's informal council meeting on barrel bombs.

Saleh said barrel bombs — steel drums of shrapnel and explosives — were the most lethal weapon. He told the Security Council that rescuers were camouflaging ambulances and fire engines

to avoid being targeted.

"As a patriotic Syrian I would never have thought of myself asking one day for a foreign intervention," Saleh said. "However, the souls of innocent women and children who die every day call us to ask for any intervention possible to put an end to the barbaric killing machine led by (President) Bashar al-Assad."

Assad has denied that his air force uses barrel bombs. In a video message shown to the 15-member Security Council, UN Syria mediator Staffan de Mistura said that while opposition forces used equally indiscriminate "canons of hell" — improvised mortar bombs made of cooking gas canisters — barrel bombs were "more atrociously effective in killing civilians." "They are dropped by helicopters and the only ones who have helicopters is the government," de Mistura said. In February last year, the Security Council demanded that the warring parties cease attacks against civilians, including the use of barrel bombs. It threatened to take further steps in

the case of non-compliance.

But Russia, backed by China, has shielded its ally Syria from any threats of council action during the four-year war. Russian diplomat Andrey Listov told the council on Friday that any moves by the council should not "undermine attempts by the Syrian government to legitimately fight terrorism."

US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said the words of the council were being mocked by the continued use of barrel bombs and that "governments that are supporting this regime are supporting this practice."

A Syrian government crackdown on a pro-democracy movement in 2011 led to an armed uprising. Islamic State militants have used the chaos to declare a caliphate in Syria and Iraq. The United Nations has said that some 220,000 people have been killed in Syria and 12.2 million people need help, including more than 5 million children. About 7.6 million are internally displaced and more than 4 million have fled Syria.—Reuters

UN chief says attacks only strengthen fight against extremists

UNITED NATIONS, 27 June — United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the UN Security Council condemned the attacks in Tunisia, Kuwait and France on Friday, called for justice and Ban said the world body's commitment to fight extremism had only been strengthened.

"Far from weakening the international community's resolve to fight the scourge of terrorism, these heinous attacks will only strengthen the commitment of the United Nations to help defeat those bent on murder, destruction and the annihilation of human development and culture," UN spokesman Farhan Haq said. Earlier on Friday in separate attacks, a gunman opened fire at a Tunisian hotel killing 28 people, including British, German and Belgian tourists, a decapitated body daubed with Arabic writing was found in France and a suicide bomber killed two dozen people at a mosque in Kuwait.

Reuters

Most Tunisia hotel attack victims were British — Tunisia premier

TUNIS, 27 June — Most of the 39 people killed by a gunman in the Tunisian beach hotel attack where British citizens, Tunisia's Prime Minister Habib Essid said.

Islamic State militants have claimed responsibility for Friday's assault on the Imperial Marhaba resort hotel in the town of Sousse.

"The dead are British,

German and Belgian, but most of them are British, without giving any figures," Essid told reporters on Friday night.

A Tunisian gunman disguised as a tourist opened fire with a rifle he had hidden in an umbrella, killing people as they lounged at the beach and at the pool. He was shot dead by police.

Reuters



Police officers try to control the crowd after a gunman opened fire at a beachside hotel in Sousse, Tunisia on 26 June, 2015.—REUTERS

Kurds secure Syria's Kobani after Islamic State attack

BEIRUT, 27 June — Kurdish fighters said they fully secured the Syrian border town of Kobani on Saturday and killed more than 60 Islamic State militants, two days after the hardline group attacked it with suicide bombers.

Redur Xelil, spokesman for the Syrian Kurdish YPG militia said around eight members of Islamic State had also escaped north towards the Turkish border after the Kurds pushed back.

"There are still search operations in neighbourhoods where they might be hiding. The town is quiet now," he said in an online message.

In Syria's northeast, Kurdish forces and the army

fought separate battles with Islamic State around Hasaka city overnight as the hardline group tried to capture more areas of the major urban centre near the Iraqi border, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said on Saturday.

In Kobani, the YPG blew up a school building used by Islamic State earlier on Saturday, the Observatory said, and plumes of smoke could be seen rising into the air from the Turkish side of the border.

Islamic State killed around 200 civilians in the town and surrounding areas in the attack which started on Thursday, the Observatory said, describing it as one of the worst massacres com-

mitted by the group in Syria.

Kobani was the site of one of the biggest battles against Islamic State last year. The Kurdish YPG force drove the militants back from the town with the help of US air strikes, after four months of fighting and siege. The YPG previously described the latest attack on Kobani as "a suicide mission" rather than an attempt to capture the town.

In the northeast, Islamic State does seem to be attempting to wrest Hasaka city from government control. Syrian state television said on Saturday the city was safe and under control, but the Observatory said fierce clashes continued in the southwest, south and southeast.

Hasaka is important to all sides fighting in an area that sits between Islamic State-held territory in Syria and Iraq and which reaches north up to the Turkish border.

The assault there will test the Syrian army's capacity to hold on to areas far from the major government-held cities in the west. The YPG's Xelil said the government forces appeared to be holding on to their positions by early on Saturday.

Islamic State launched an assault on government-held areas of Hasaka early on Thursday and the United Nations says the violence is estimated to have displaced up to 120,000 people. Islamic State said in statements on Saturday it attacked areas east of the city and in a video posted online claimed to have entered western areas. State television quoted the head of the police in Hasaka as saying its special forces had "eliminated Daesh terrorists" in the city, using an Arabic acronym for the group.

Hasaka is divided into areas run separately by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's government and Kurdish authorities and has a mixed population of Arabs, Kurds and Christians.

Islamic State has been back on the offensive after two weeks of defeats at the hands of Kurdish-led forces, supported by US-led air strikes. This week the Kurds advanced to within 50 km (30 miles) of Raqqa city, the group's de facto capital.

Late on Friday Syrian Information Minister Omran al-Zoubi appealed to residents to take up arms to defend Hasaka.

Reuters

Saudi-led jets bomb Yemen as Hadi government rejects new talks

SANAA, 27 June — Air strikes by Saudi-led forces hit military bases across Yemen on Friday, residents told Reuters, and the country's foreign minister was quoted as saying there was no need to convene another peace summit after the first round of talks failed.

Talks in Geneva last week ended without a resolution to the conflict, which has claimed more than 2,800 lives, as the Iran-allied Houthi movement and Saudi-backed President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi refused to back down.

Ten people were killed in air raids in Jawf, a northern province bordering Saudi Arabia, residents said. Fighter jets also struck the capital Sanaa, the Houthis' northern stronghold in Saada, as well as the provinces of Marib, Shabwa, Bayda and Aden in the centre and south of the country.

Hadi's foreign minister Reyad Yassin Abdulla said his government had no interest in organizing a new meeting in Geneva, Saudi newspaper Asharq al-Awsat reported on Friday, and would instead work with all

parties to implement United Nations Security Council resolution 2216.

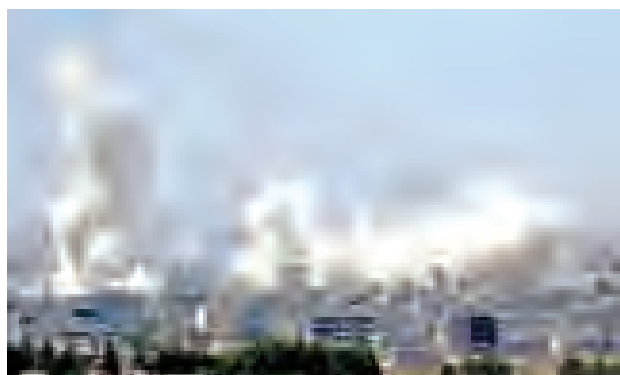
The Houthis reject that resolution, which calls for them to withdraw from cities under their control, return seized arms and allow Hadi to return from his Riyadh exile.

Three months after an Arab coalition began air raids in support of Hadi on 26 March, the Houthis and allied military units loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh remain the dominant force on the ground, and have stepped up attacks on Saudi border posts in recent weeks.

Houthi fighters fired artillery into Saudi Arabia on Thursday, killing three Saudi soldiers and one from the United Arab Emirates, a member of the coalition.

UN special envoy Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed will hold talks in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in the coming days on a draft peace proposal with the aim of reaching a preliminary agreement with Houthi fighters, a UN spokesman said on Friday.

Reuters



Smoke rises in the Syrian town of Kobani, as pictured from the Turkish side of the border near Suruc, Sanliurfa province, Turkey, on 27 June, 2015.

REUTERS



Sunday, 28 June, 2015

Professionalism, right skills essential for success

By Aung Khin

IN order to succeed in any role, professionalism and appropriate job skills are essential attributes. Having unprofessional people, or those who lack the necessary skills, in positions of responsibility is ultimately unsustainable.

In some schools in rural areas, voluntary workers with little training in educational methodology are taking teaching roles, as schools do not have enough teachers. Although this substitution is useful in the short term, it is not a long-term solution.

In remote areas, people without qualifications provide medical treatment for the sick. They cannot be as reliable as certified medical workers, and lives might be lost due to ill-advised treatment.

Unlicensed drivers are to blame for a number of highway accidents that have cost passengers their lives.

In many organizations, managers have insufficient knowledge and experience, meaning they

are unable to properly lead the firm and implement long-term strategies.

For a safe society, professionalism is needed across a wide range of roles. Putting unskilled people in positions for which they are not qualified cannot achieve good outcomes.

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Diplomacy, a delicate and yet a demanding mission, difficult to be accomplished

U Khin Maung (A retired diplomat)

The Oxford advanced learner's dictionary defines "diplomacy" as the activity of managing relations between different countries; the skill in doing this. Diplomacy, in another definition, is the art, science, or practice of conducting negotiations between nations. It is the business or art of the diplomatist. And according to Sir Ernest Satow, who had the experience of a long and distinguished career in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service of the United Kingdom, "diplomacy is the application of intelligence and tact to the conduct of official relations between the governments of independent states. In brief, he defined diplomacy as the conduct of business between states by peaceful means".

The very first and normal method of diplomacy is a general attitude of friendliness and persuasion; the way of polite argument of approach based on reason and interest. The second one is compromise. So, we can say that in diplomacy, there is a general attitude of friendliness and persuasion and polite argument but no confrontation at all. Thus, we can also mention that diplomacy should be taken as an endeavour, culminating in a win-win achievement. If there is a dispute between two states, only when all the utmost diplomatic efforts for peaceful settle-

ment of a dispute are exhausted, the use of force should be selected as the last resort. Therefore, since from time immemorial, diplomacy has been and is still universally accepted as the first line of defence. Till to this day, and in this technology age, I believe that there is not a single state which does not accept, nor agree to this long-cherished and well-preserved doctrine that diplomacy is the first line of defence.

Well, now, please permit me to present to you my knowledge and experience of diplomacy as I simply understand it. To be honest, I was not a career diplomat. I was a member of Burma Civil Service (B.C.S) serving under the Ministry of Home Affairs. Thanks to the blessings of His Excellency, the then Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, I was called to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, simply because of my legal knowledge and experience, as I was then serving as a special power magistrate and also as a legal advisor to some special criminal tribunals. After, serving for about three or four months in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I was called into H.E. Deputy Minister's office and he said, "U Khin Maung, you are the late comer to our ministry. You must go the extra-mile in improving your knowledge of law and your standard of English. So, while the career

diplomats study 2 hours a day, you must study at least three hours a day, with effect from today onwards." I obeyed H.E. the deputy minister's order and without question.

As advised and guided by my peers and patrons alike, I came to know that a good diplomat must have a negotiating skill. To achieve this skill, a diplomat must be a well-read and knowledgeable person. In this connection, may I quote Francis Bacon, an English scholar's words of wisdom, "Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man writing an exact man". And, I would also like to present to you the consistent policy and practice of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, adopted in regard to promotion prospects of its staff. The MOFA staff cannot hope and expect promotion just because of duration and length of service. A staff member has to prove his or her worth by presenting a thesis or a research paper in English, on a subject he or she chooses. So, we can say that promotion, in our Ministry, is awarded on merit. Merit is of vital importance in deciding staff promotion and foreign assignment. MOFA trains and encourages its staff to develop a learning habit or in other words, it trains its staff to become a keen learner and to become a man with a drive and determination to go on learning.

I have presented to you my understanding of

diplomacy as a means of peaceful settlement of disputes using art, science or tact and intelligence. Since from the recent years till today, the international media has mentioned one of the top news items every now and then. It is about the territorial dispute in the South China Sea. As regards the South China Sea, there are five rival claimants, or overlapping claimants re-claimed namely China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan. Asserting its sovereignty over the South China Sea, China has reclaimed 2,000 areas, more than all other claimants combined. Therefore, the United States of America has come to challenge China's reclamation and urged China to stop its unilateral action and solve the dispute according to law and through diplomacy. In this particular case, I

believe, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea is applicable.

Well, my dear reader, I am not in a position to render my service to help solve this issue nor have authority to give comments. But with malice towards none, with charity for all and with firmness in the right, many I humbly submit my opinions and views that if there be any dispute it should be settled by no other means than peaceful means, through diplomacy and in accordance with law well in time. Concerning justice I remember a legal maxim which reads, "He, who seeks justice, must do justice. Justice delayed is justice denied. Justice rush is justice crushed." Diplomacy, one point of view, is aimed at seeking justice.

As already known to you all, there is no good war and bad peace. Diplo-

macy is always for peace, it always stands for peace. Diplomacy is conducted or used in relation to international politics. In other words, diplomacy is used as a means to an end, and on this point we should take a great care and caution not to adopt the policy or concept: i.e. the end justifies the means. It is outdated especially in this day of globalized world. In short, diplomacy is a delicate mission that demands diligence.

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(To be continued)



ARTICLE

Emulation Drive For Democracy

Kyi Mun

* Not to go forward is to turn back;
And not to be gaining is to be losing.

—St. John

* Ever climbing, ever reaching. Ever striving, ever surpassing.

Ever gaining, ever accumulating. For Leaders these alone are the ways to attain.

—Lao-Tzu

* Emulation means : Trying to do something as well as somebody else because you admire them.

* Oxford Dictionary

As a matter of fact, emulation essentially means : The Bad should Emulate the Good, the Good should Emulate the Better, and the Better should Emulate the Best. In short, the Good should Emulate the Great.

Democracy is a national affair that must be undertaken by the whole nation as well as by the entire people. Democracy should be built as a WHOLE by the WHOLESOME people for the WHOLESOME PURPOSE. Democracy should be completely and fully whole in character and wholesome in quality. So, to establish a WHOLELY BUILT WHOLESOME Democracy, we should emulate each other in contributing to the nation building in WHOLESOME DEMOCRACY in the following manner.

E	for	Effectiveness in Building Democracy
M	for	Managing for Democratic Values
U	for	Unique Character of Our Beliefs & Culture
L	for	Live & Move & Have your Being FOR Democracy
A	for	Awareness of Drive, Strive, Thrive, Arrive & Revive for Democracy
T	for	Think & Grow Strong In Democratic Practices
I	for	Integrity in Building Genuine Democracy
O	for	Out-contribute to Fully Embracing Democracy
N	for	Never Give Up Building Democracy

* EFFECTIVENESS IN BUILDING DEMOCRACY

To be effective in building democracy, the following aspects will be essentially necessary:

- To be Dedicated
- To be Earnest
- To be Sincere
- To be Integrity-driven
- To be Responsible
- To be Efficient

The meanings of Effectiveness are :

- ✓ Doing the RIGHT things
- ✓ Being Fully aligned with Vision, Mission & Values
- ✓ Consistently & Continuously Advancing towards the Goal & Objective
- ✓ Being able to execute the Strategic Plan on

time & within Budget

- ✓ Being able to get Results, to add Value, to create Wealth & to spur Growth
- ✓ Results are the measure of effectiveness

* MANAGING FOR DEMOCRATIC CORE VALUES

In establishing democracy, it is very important to manage the maintenance and development of the democratic Core Values such as:

- Liberty, Equality, Fraternity
- Freedom of Assembly, Speech, Publication and Belief
- Human Rights
- Material, Mental & Moral Development for the Entire people
- Separation and Independence of Executive, Legislative & Judicial Spheres of Power
- National Unity in Diversity
- Development of Peace, Progress & Prosperity

* UNIQUE CHARACTER OF OUR BELIEFS & CULTURE

National traditions, customs, rites & rituals, ceremonies, cultures, arts and crafts are usually unique both in forms and contents. Just as there should be unity in diversity, there should be tolerance and understanding with regard to the differences in socio-cultures. Just as the features and properties of the multifarious flowers and fruits are different and unique by nature, disparities in various national cultures and arts must be understood and tolerated with perfect awareness of the natural and traditional differences. Even under the influence of the globalization, the uniqueness of the various national cultures must be heartily appreciated with real broadmindedness.

* LIVE & MOVE & HAVE YOUR BEING FOR DEMOCRACY

Just as we don't live to eat but we eat to live; so also, we should not live to be oppressed, but we should not be oppressed to live. Just as we should live and move and have or being in Dhamma or God, we should certainly live and move and have our being in democracy and for democracy, in the following manner:

- Where there is Hatred, we must sow Love,
- Where there is Injury, we must sow Pardon,
- Where there is Sadness, we must sow Joy,
- Where there is Despair, we must sow Hope,
- Where there is Doubt, we must sow Faith,
- Where there is Darkness, we must sow Light
- Where there is Oppression, we must sow Freedom,
- Where there is Dictatorship, we must sow Democracy.

* Awareness of Drive, Strive, Thrive, Arrive & Revive for Democracy

Broad-based movements should be strategically staged and mobilized with tremendous force and drive. Every nook and corner must be saturated with the blitz of mass movement for democracy and economic development and modernization. There is a saying that you would be able to keep the Precepts or Commandments, only if

and when your stomach is fairly full!

* THINK & GROW STRONG IN DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES

Democracy must not only be TALKED about. Democracy must, in fact, be WALKED about. Democracy should not be theoretical only, but democracy should be practical also. Theory must be combined with practice. Only when Pariyatti is wisely combined with Paripatti, there will result wholesome Pariveda. Theory is for clarity of the essence of the purpose only; but practice is to be conducted with due diligence as long as it is needed to go in for practice.

* INTEGRITY IN BUILDING GENUINE DEMOCRACY

In building democracy, honesty, integrity, probity, straightforwardness, simplicity, transparency, responsibility, commitment, dedication are imperative. Top priority must be given to serving the country and the people. Selfishness, egoism, self-serving practices, complacency, inconsistency, myopia, apathy, inertia, arrogance and greediness must be wiped out relentless and ruthlessly.

* OUT-CONTRIBUTE TO FULLY EMBRACE DEMOCRACY

In building democracy, people's participation and broad-based mass involvement are very important. Extremely passionate and vehement mobilization of the broad masses of the people must be continuously executed for the strenuous establishing of democracy in Myanmar. Bearing in mind the maxim of "One for all and all for one", everyone of us must go all-out for building democracy in Myanmar. We should emulate each other in serving the cause of developing democracy.

* NEVER GIVE UP BUILDING & DEVELOPING DEMOCRACY

In building a fully developed democratic country, the people at the vanguard of the great democratic movement must have:

- Positive Mental Attitude
- Proactive Mindset
- Can-Do-Spirit
- Habit of Going the Extra Mile
- Spirit of Doing Beyond Due Diligence
- Spirit of Doing Beyond the Call of Duty

We all must be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to win victories.

We all must have the burning desire:

**To dare nobly,
To will strongly, and
Never to falter in the path of duty.**

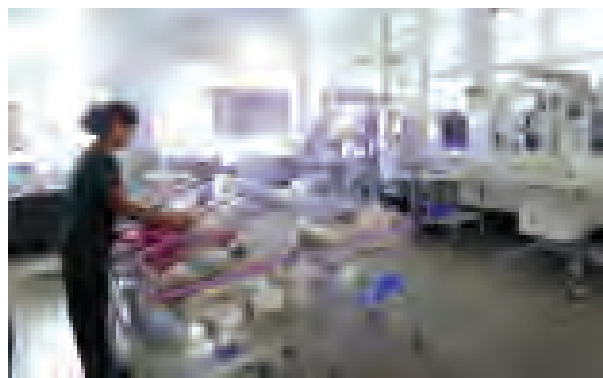
* CONCLUSION

In the emulation drive for democracy, choose your own hero, model or the exemplary figure and emulate him or her in somewhat like the following theme:

" This one thing I do. Forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press towards the MARK! "

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

GE donates equipment to hospitals for mothers, newborns



Neonatal Intensive-care Unit at Central Women's Hospital (Yangon) was established in mid-2014.

PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 27 June— With the aim of reducing maternal and child mortality rates in Myanmar, General Electric International Operations Co. on Saturday donated medical equipment to women's hospitals in Yangon.

The U.S. multinational, which makes a vast range of electrical products including medical equip-

ment, gave goods including incubators, ultrasound and LED phototherapy units to Central Women's Hospital, South Okkalapa Maternal and Children's Hospital, and Thanlyin District Hospital.

Prof Dr Daw Aye Aye Thein of Central Women's Hospital said the equipment is "essential for infants and will be used in the Neonatal Intensive-care Unit of the hospital which was estab-

lished in mid-2014."

"Most of the equipment being used in the unit is GE-brand," she said at a donation event at the Central Women's Hospital on that day.

Despite assistance from the government and NGOs, the Central Women's Hospital is in need of machines like ultrasound and cardiotocography (CTG), a hospital official said.

Currently, there are around 70 infants and 650 mothers at the hospital, which has provided a wide range of medicines free of charge since the government increased its funding two years ago.

GE was the first U.S. company to enter Myanmar after the U.S government eased sanctions in mid-2012, opening its office in Myanmar in 2013.—GNLM

KFC challenges Indian report on bacteria found in fried chicken



A worker cleans an exterior of a building next to a KFC restaurant in Beijing on 23 April, 2015. — REUTERS

MUMBAI, 27 June — The Indian unit of fast food chain KFC, owned by Yum Brands Inc (YUM.N), on Friday challenged the results of a test showing the presence of bacteria linked to food poisoning in a sample of its fried chicken, dismissing them as “false allegations”.

Food safety has hit headlines in India after government food safety inspectors found excess lead in packets of Nestle’s Maggi instant noodles.

The company disputes the test results and a subsequent recall order, but it has become India’s worst safety

scare involving packaged food in a decade.

On Friday, a children’s rights group in the southern state of Telangana said it had submitted samples of KFC’s fried chicken legs to the state food laboratory on 18 June. The laboratory report, which was seen by *Reuters*, detailed traces of bacteria such as Ecoli, which indicates the presence of sewage or animal waste, and salmonella.

In a statement, KFC said it had not heard from any authorities and was unclear about the circumstances in which the samples were obtained.

“There is no possibility of any microbial development in our food, which is freshly cooked at 170 degrees Celsius,” it added, vowing to seek a clarification from the concerned authorities.

Achyuta Rao, an official of APBHS, the group commissioning the tests, said it would submit a copy of the report to the office of the state’s chief minister later on Friday.

“This is a state laboratory report,” he added. “We are not against KFC or any brand. “We are a children’s rights organization.”

Reuters

Guinea, Sierra Leone impose new quarantine after new Ebola cases

CONAKRY, 27 June — Guinean authorities have launched a home confinement operation in localities affected by Ebola virus in the Basse-Guinea region.

Eleven new Ebola cases with six deaths were recorded on Thursday in Boke prefecture, some 100km from the capital Conakry, local sources have said. In Conakry, the authorities confirmed that one person

had died recently from the virus. The home confinement began on Tuesday and aims to limit the movement of population in and out of affected areas.

The national anti-Ebola agency said it would provide foodstuff to affected families during the confinement period.

Ebola-hit Sierra Leone also quarantined three doctors and 28 nurses after

a woman who had recently given birth tested positive for the deadly virus last Saturday. The Ebola epidemic, believed to be the worst on record, has killed more than 11,000 people in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia since last year.

Liberia was announced Ebola-free in May, but Sierra Leone and Guinea are still in flight with the virus.

Xinhua

Honda cuts FY 2014 net profit on additional air bag recall costs

TOKYO, 27 June — Honda Motor Co said on Friday that it has cut its net profit figure by 6% for the last fiscal year as it booked additional costs to replace inflators for air bags supplied by Takata Corp.

Japan’s third biggest automaker by volume after Toyota Motor Corp and Nissan Motor Co said it posted a group net profit of 493.01 billion (\$4.0 billion) yen in the fiscal year ended 31 March, smaller than the previously reported 522.76 billion yen.

The new figure represents a 14.1 percent drop from the previous year, big-

ger than the 8.9 percent fall in its earlier earnings report. The carmaker booked extra recall-related costs of 44.8 billion yen after agreeing in May with Takata — the world’s second-biggest air bag maker — and the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on a large scale recall of vehicles equipped with the air bags, a Honda spokeswoman said.

At least seven people driving Hondas were killed by faulty Takata air bags after inflators ruptured and hurled metal fragments inside the vehicles.

The deeper on-year

profit drop is the latest setback for the Japanese automaker which is also struggling following recent repeated recalls of its flagship compact Fit model in Japan. The maker of the Civic and Accord sedans had its first net profit fall in three years last fiscal year.

Honda said group operating profit dropped 19.1 percent to 606.88 billion yen in the fiscal year ended March, compared to a 13.1 percent decline to 651.68 billion yen in its previous earnings statement. Group sales were left unchanged at 12.65 trillion yen, up 6.8 percent. — *Kyodo News*

Online tools can help manage pain

SYDNEY, (Australia), 27 June — People with chronic pain may be able to use online tools to manage their symptoms, lessening the need for frequent doctor visits, an Australian study suggests.

Researchers tested a series of web-based pain management tutorials on a group of adults who had been suffering symptoms for more than six months. Regardless of how much contact the patients had with clinicians, they all experienced significant reductions in disability, anxiety and average pain levels at the end of the eight week experiment as well as three months down the line.

“While face-to-face pain management programmes are important, many adults with chronic pain can benefit from programmes delivered via the internet, and many of them do not need a lot of contact with a clinician in order to benefit,” lead study author Blake Dear, a psychology

researcher at Macquarie University in New South Wales, said by email.

Dear and colleagues recruited patients online, then whittled the group down to 490 adults who had seen a doctor to assess their pain within the past three months, had no psychotic illnesses or severe depression and had regular access to a computer and the internet.

Participants were divided into one of three treatment groups to receive the web-based tutorials along with regular contact with clinicians during the study, optional contact with providers or no contact.

A fourth control group was told they were wait-listed for the online programme and carried on their usual treatment with their doctors.

Patients in the regular contact group were required to have weekly phone or email conversations with clinicians trained in psychology, while people in



A customer uses a computer in an internet cafe at Changzhi, Shanxi Province on 25 Jan, 2010.

REUTERS

the optional contact group were told this was available if they wanted to do it and the non-contact group was told clinicians were only available if they had technical difficulties or a mental health emergency.

The regular contact group had an average of 68 minutes of contact with clinicians over the eight-week treatment period, compared with 13 minutes for the optional contact group and about 5 minutes for the group with only emergency contact.

During that time, people in the treatment groups also had five web-based

lessons that focused on pain management using cognitive behaviour therapy techniques.

At the end of the eight weeks, patients in the treatment groups had average reductions of at least 18 percent in disability, 32 percent for anxiety, 36 percent for depression and 12 percent in typical pain levels.

These improvements were sustained or even improved after three months, and there were no significant differences between the intervention groups based on how much contact people had with clinicians.

Reuters

Cafe Coffee Day files for \$181 million IPO

MUMBAI, 27 June — The firm behind Cafe Coffee Day, India’s biggest home-grown coffee chain, has filed a draft prospectus with regulators for an initial public offering (IPO) to raise as much as 11.5 billion rupees (\$181 million). Kotak Mahindra Bank, Morgan Stanley and Citigroup are among the underwriters for the IPO, the draft prospectus said.

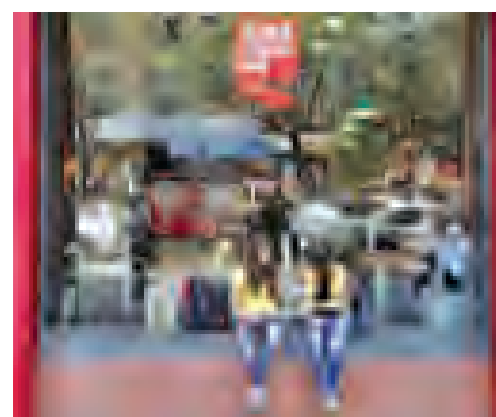
India’s biggest cafe operator opened its first shop in 1996 and has grown to more than 1,500 outlets as more young, urban consumers opt for cappuccino over tea and seek out spaces to socialize in overcrowded, traffic-con-

gested cities. The application process with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) could take two to three months, two bankers told *Reuters*, adding they expected the coffee chain to list within one to two months after that approval.

The bankers declined to be identified as they are not authorized to speak to the media. Coffee Day Enterprises had consolidated debt of 28.64 billion rupees as of December 31, according to the draft prospectus. Of the IPO proceeds, the chain plans to use 6.33 billion rupees towards the repayment of debt, it said. — *Reuters*

Girls sit at the window of a Cafe Coffee Day outlet in Mumbai, on 25 Feb, 2015.

REUTERS



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Facebook staff diversity little changed over past year

SAN FRANCISCO, 27 June — Facebook Inc (FB.O) released new diversity data on Friday that showed the number of women and minorities has remained little changed over the past year.

The number of women increased only 1 percent-

age point, from 31 percent to 32 percent. The number of black people, Hispanics and people of two or more races remained unchanged at 2 percent, 4 percent and 3 percent, respectively.

Diversity among the social network's tech workers was far less even, with 84 percent men and 16 percent women. Among non-tech workers, 48 percent are men and 52 percent women.

Facebook's senior leadership is still overwhelmingly white and male. Women comprise only 23 percent of the senior leadership while men comprise 77 percent, unchanged from last year.

More Asian people made up senior leadership with 21 percent this year, compared to 19 percent last year, but the number of senior-level Hispanics decreased from 4 percent to 3 percent.

In a blog post, Facebook listed several initiatives to increase its diversity. They included a Facebook University training programme, which invites college freshmen from underrepresented groups to spend a summer working alongside Facebook mentors, and a training course geared toward conversations about stereotypes and bias.

Reuters

Panasonic releases new LED lighting product "TOLSO"



A woman poses for photos with Japanese electronics giant Panasonic's new LED lighting product "TOLSO" in Tokyo, Japan, on 26 June, 2015. Panasonic has put the "TOLSO" series on the market with the price from 12,800 to 39,800 JPY, putting the sales goals at 3 billion JPY.

XINHUA

Aratana's experimental appetite stimulator succeeds in study on dogs

NEW YORK, 27 June — Animal health drugmaker Aratana Therapeutics Inc said its experimental appetite-stimulating drug was found effective in dogs in a pivotal study.

Aratana shares jumped 21 percent in extended trading on Friday.

The study showed that an oral 3 mg/kg dose of the drug, AT-002, given daily for four days significantly increased appetite in dogs, compared with those on placebo.

The company said it plans to submit the results to the US Food and Drug Administration as it seeks marketing approval, and expects to start commercializing the drug in 2016.

The company's pipeline includes a string of experimental drugs for pets with serious medical illness such as cancer, viral diseases and allergies.

The Kansas City-based company's shares were trading at \$16.25 after the bell.—Reuters

OneWeb sets record launch plan after \$500 million funding

MUMBAI / CAPE CANAVERAL, 27 June — Privately owned OneWeb announced what it called the world's largest commercial rocket deal on Thursday after raising \$500 million from a group of global investors to support its plans to bring broadband to billions of people via satellite.

The fund-raising attracted backing from Richard Branson's Virgin Group and Europe's Airbus Group, which will also build 900 "micro-satellites" designed to extend the reach of the Internet to remote corners of the world.

OneWeb plans to put a network of 648 small

satellites into orbit to provide global broadband and mobile telephone services. The rest of the satellites will be kept on the ground as spares.

The company, based in Britain's Channel Islands, plans over 65 launches including 39 from Virgin's spaceflight company, Virgin Galactic, and 21 from Europe's Arianespace using Russian-made Soyuz rockets.

It has estimated the cost of the project at between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion.

Other backers in the \$500 million funding include Indian billionaire Sunil Mittal's Bharti En-

terprises, Qualcomm, Coca-Cola Co, Mexico's Grupo Salinas, Hughes Network Systems [HGC-MH.UL], a unit of EchoStar and Intelsat.

Virgin Galactic expects to be able to fly two or three of OneWeb's satellites at a time on its small LauncherOne rocket, Chief Executive George Whitesides said.

LauncherOne flies on a carrier jet aircraft called WhiteKnightTwo, which serves as a high-altitude launch platform.

Terms of the contract were not disclosed. Virgin has said LauncherOne will cost less than \$10 million per flight.

OneWeb, which plans to start launching satellites from 2017 and aims to start services in 2019, must put its proposed network of low Earth orbit, geosynchronous satellites into space before 2020, or risk losing licenses awarded by international radio spectrum regulators.

Airbus Space and Defence has formed a joint venture with OneWeb to build a high-volume satellite production factory.

OneWeb's goal is to provide affordable broadband Internet services to rural and under-served regions, enabling voice and data communications via user terminals on the

ground.

Before starting OneWeb, Greg Wyler co-founded satellite venture O3b Networks and briefly worked at Google Inc on another project to beam Internet access from space.

Wyler left Google in 2014 to work on his own satellite project, named WorldVu, which later became OneWeb.

Google, along with Fidelity, invested \$1 billion earlier this year in another Internet-via-satellite project being developed by California-based SpaceX, which was founded by Tesla Motors Chief Executive Elon Musk.—Reuters

Two rival self-driving cars have close call in California

MOUNTAIN VIEW, (California), 27 June — Two self-driving prototype cars, one operated by Google Inc and the other by Delphi Automotive Plc, had a close call on a Silicon Valley street earlier this week, a Delphi executive told Reuters on Thursday.

It was believed to be the first such incident involving two vehicles specially equipped for automated driving.

The incident occurred

Tuesday on San Antonio Road in Palo Alto, said John Absmeier, director of Delphi's Silicon Valley lab and global business director for the company's automated driving programme, who was a passenger in one of the cars.

No collision took place.

Google declined to comment.

Absmeier was a passenger in a prototype Audi Q5 crossover vehicle equipped with lasers,

radar, cameras and special computer software designed to enable the vehicle to drive itself, with a person at the wheel as a backup.

As the Delphi vehicle prepared to change lanes, a Google self-driving prototype — a Lexus RX400h crossover fitted with similar hardware and software — cut off the Audi, forcing it to abort the lane change, Absmeier said.

The Delphi car "took appropriate action," ac-

cording to Absmeier.

Delphi's Silicon Valley lab is based in Mountain View, not far from Google headquarters. While Delphi is running two Audi prototypes in California, Google has been testing more than 20 Lexus prototypes.

On Thursday, Google started testing self-driving vehicle prototypes of its own design on local streets. The latest prototypes use the same software as the Lexus vehi-

cles.

Both companies previously have reported minor collisions of self-driving cars with vehicles piloted by people. In most of those cases, the self-driving car was stopped, typically at an intersection, and was rear-ended by another vehicle.

In all cases, the self-driving prototype was not at fault, according to the California Department of Motor Vehicles and the companies.—Reuters

China's Beidou navigation system more resistant to jamming

BEIJING, 27 June — China has made breakthroughs in the anti-jamming capability of its Beidou satellite navigation system (BDS), the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Daily said on Thurs-

day. The new technology, developed by Wang Feixue and his team from the National University of Defence Technology, has made the satellites 1,000 times more secure, the newspaper said.

In March, China launched the 17th BDS satellite, the first step in expanding the regional system to a global one.

The first BDS satellite was launched in 2000 to provide an alternative

to foreign satellite navigation systems. In December 2012, the system began to provide positioning, navigation, timing and short message services to China and some parts of the Asia Pacific.

The BDS global network will have 35 satellites, five of which will be in geostationary orbit. The complete network should be installed by 2020.

Xinhua

Obama delivers 'Amazing Grace' at funeral of slain pastor

CHARLESTON, (SC), 27 June — An impassioned President Barack Obama led thousands of mourners in singing "Amazing Grace" on Friday at the funeral of a slain pastor in Charleston and urged Americans to eliminate symbols of oppression and racism, including the Confederate battle flag. In a speech likely to be considered one of the most memorable of his presidency, Obama paid an emotional tribute to the nine people shot to death at the church and pleaded for Americans to use the tragedy as a way to bridge racial divide.

The shootings last week sparked an intense dialogue over the legacy of slavery and its symbols after photos of the white man charged in the shooting surfaced showing him posing with the Confederate flag on a website that also displayed a racist manifesto.

Politicians and businesses quickly scrambled to distance themselves from the Civil War-era battle flag of the Confederacy amid calls for the flag to be lowered from the grounds of South Carolina's State House.

Obama called the flag "a reminder of systemic oppression and racial subjugation." "For too long we were blind to the pain that the Confederate flag stirred in too many of our citizens," Obama said in his eulogy for Reverend Clementa Pinckney, 41, of Charleston's



US President Barack Obama speaks in front of the casket of Rev. Clementa Pinckney during funeral services for Pinckney in Charleston, South Carolina on 26 June, 2015.—REUTERS

Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal church.

At the end of his speech, Obama launched into a rendition of the 18th century hymn, written by a former slave trader after his conversion to Christianity and often associated with African-American struggles. It was a poignant scene for America's first black president who has often been reluctant to play up his racial heritage. For a moment, he was alone on stage intoning the hymn before purple-clad ministers beside him smiled, stood up and joined him. Then a church organ kicked in and the mostly African-American crowd of about 5,500 people added their voices.

After the hymn, Obama called out the names of the Charleston shooting victims into the microphone. The crowd responded "Yes," to

every name. The cadence of his speech was more like that of a sermon than an address.

Obama made frequent reference to God's grace and the failure of the Charleston alleged killer Dylann Roof, 21, to sow bitterness, as witnessed by the forgiveness shown by the victims' families. "It was a powerful, powerful speech," said David Rivers, 68, a health professor who was in the crowd. "He had a little reverend in him too. Sounded like Reverend Obama," he added.

Reuters

Pakistan heat wave eases after more than 1,150 die

KARACHI, 27 June — Sea breezes brought lower temperatures on Friday to ease a heat wave that killed more than 1,150 people around Pakistan's teeming port city of Karachi during the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. Mass funerals were held for 50 unidentified victims on Friday before their bodies were hastily buried. The extreme heat of up to 44 degrees Celsius (111 Fahrenheit) — the hottest since 1981 — coincided with power failures and triggered sharp criticism of the government's response in the city of 20 million people.

On Friday, the daily high temperature was about 36 degree Celsius (97 Fahrenheit), according to Dr Mohammad Hanif of the Director National Weather Forecasting Centre.

The power outages left many without fans, water or light at the beginning of Ramadan, when many Muslims do not eat or drink during daylight hours.

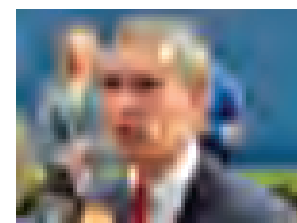
"By Friday, at least 1,150 people have died in the government-run hospitals," said Anwar Kazmi of the Edhi Foundation, a private charity that runs a network of ambulances and morgues. The stench of rot-

ting corpses pervaded one of those morgues on Friday as workers offered funeral prayers for 50 victims. Afterwards, workers removed the bodies from a hallway so full it was hard to walk through and then piled them into ambulances to be taken to a graveyard. "We waited for three days for any claimants to come forward, and now we are going to bury the 50 bodies," Edhi's Amanullah Khan told Reuters, adding that some of the victims appeared to be homeless.

NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg joined the 28 EU leaders to talk about "the new threats facing Europe at a time of hybrid warfare, global terrorism and cyber attacks," Tusk said.

"Europeans must invest in their own defence to deal with a dramatically changed security environment," he told a news conference after the summit. Underlining his point, Islamic State claimed responsibility for a suicide

bombing that killed 25 people at a mosque in Kuwait, 37 people were killed in a shooting at a Tunisian hotel, and a decapitated body was found after an explosion in France. Many European countries have slashed defence spending since the 2008 financial crisis. That has raised concern in the United States and NATO about Europe's declining military capabilities, especially at a time of heightened



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg

tension with Russia over Ukraine. The spending fall has hit orders for European defence companies, leading them to slash money for research, and raising concerns that this will erode their future competitiveness. In a significant change in EU policy, the leaders gave the green light for a pilot scheme that could pave the way for

the bloc to help fund defence research projects. Until now, EU research funding has been limited to civilian projects. Stoltenberg's presence symbolized how NATO and the EU are working more closely together to counter so-called "hybrid" warfare.

The term covers unconventional techniques such as Russia's use of soldiers without military insignia in Crimea, as well as cyber attacks, economic pressure, propaganda and the use of social media by Islamist militants to recruit supporters. As part of the work, the EU is studying how to counter what it says is deliberate misinformation coordinated by the Kremlin over Moscow's role and aims in Ukraine and elsewhere in Europe. Russia denies sending soldiers and weapons to fan the separatist conflict in its former Soviet neighbour. The EU launches its own military missions, ranging from training soldiers in Somalia to a new initiative to counter migrant-smuggling from Libya, but it believes it does not gain enough recognition for its efforts.—Reuters

UN urges EU states to make 'concrete commitments' on refugees

GENEVA, 27 June — The United Nations refugee agency said on Friday that the European Union's decisions on the migrant crisis would need to be followed by "concrete commitments" from member states to ease the pressure on Italy and Greece.

European leaders argued into the early hours of Friday over how to handle the crisis in the Mediterranean, agreeing a plan to share out the care of desperate people fleeing war and poverty in North Africa and the Middle East.

They eventually agreed a voluntary scheme aimed at taking in 60,000 people and granted an exclusion for Hungary, which had earlier described the plan as absurd, and Bulgaria, one of the EU's poorest countries.

"This clearly is an important step along the way to finding answers to this crisis but clearly much more will have to be done, including addressing the root causes," Adrian Edwards of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), told a news briefing.

With agreement to relocate 40,000 asylum seekers now in Italy and Greece who are in need of international protection, "the participation of all member states will be key to success", he said.

In all, 153,000 migrants have entered Europe by land, air and sea this year, a jump of 149 per cent compared to the same period last year, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said.

Reuters

ing corpses pervaded one of those morgues on Friday as workers offered funeral prayers for 50 victims. Afterwards, workers removed the bodies from a hallway so full it was hard to walk through and then piled them into ambulances to be taken to a graveyard. "We waited for three days for any claimants to come forward, and now we are going to bury the 50 bodies," Edhi's Amanullah Khan told Reuters, adding that some of the victims appeared to be homeless.

"Before we bury them, we take photographs and issue tag numbers in case any claimants turn up later and can identify the body." The crisis — following a heat wave in India last month that killed about 2,500 people — illustrates how ill-prepared many developing nations are for the extreme weather conditions that scientists say will accompany global climate change in coming decades. "These type of events are taking place across the world ... we need to prepare

ourselves and develop our strategy," said Qamar uz Zaman Chaudhry, the Islamabad-based special adviser for Asia to the UN-World Meteorological Organization. "It's time to learn lessons, instead of getting into the blame game."

Pakistan's national and local political parties have blamed one another for the crisis, while much of the relief was provided by the powerful military and private charities such as the Edhi Foundation.—Reuters



People are seen bathing while others cool off from the heat as they are sprayed with water jetting out from a leaking water pipeline in Karachi, Pakistan, on 25 June, 2015.—REUTERS

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1517)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1517) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2015 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**

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV VEGA FYNEN VOY NO (1523)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA FYNEN VOY NO (1523) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANTRA BHUM VOY NO (958N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANTRA BHUM VOY NO (958N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2015 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (055N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (055N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2015 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 WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ASIATIC GLORY VOY NO (005N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC GLORY VOY NO (005N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 28.6.2015 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 INTERASIA LINES**

Phone No: 2301185

**INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER
(TENDER NO. 3(T)MPE/ LBO(2)/2015-2016)**

1. Open Tender is invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of Lube Base Oils & Additives (220.11 Metric Tons).
2. Tender Closing Date : 22 . 7 . 2015 at (12:00) noon.
3. Tender Opening Date : 22 . 7 . 2015 at (13:00) hrs.
4. Delivery Time : Up to End of December 2015
5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 29. 6 . 2015 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.
6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director

Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

Contact Phone no, 067-411108/411193

**Dolphin show at new aquarium
in northeastern Japan**

A dolphin show is staged at a soon-to-be-opened aquarium in Sendai, northeastern Japan, on 23 June, 2015. The Sendai Umino-Mori Aquarium was presented to the press prior to its public opening scheduled for 1 July.
KYODO NEWS

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is vigorous in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 28th June, 2015: Rain will be fairly widespread in Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and isolated heavy falls in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Occasional squalls with rough sea will be experienced off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (45) m.p.h.

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Charleston church gunman wanted AR-15 firearm, police report says

CHARLESTON, (South Carolina), 27 June — The man accused of killing nine people at a historic black church in Charleston, South Carolina, last week told police that he wanted to purchase an AR-15 when they stopped him earlier this year and found ammunition and a part for such a weapon in his car. Dylann Roof was stopped in March for suspi-

cious activity after he was seen loitering in his car at a park, according to an newly released report from police in Columbia.

During a search of his vehicle, police found a firearm part - the handgrip area under the barrel - for an AR-15 weapon and six 40-round magazines, the report said. The AR-15 is sometimes referred to as an assault

weapon, although within the firearms industry it is considered a modern sporting rifle.

Roof told officers that he wanted to purchase an AR-15 to take to a shooting range but did not have enough money to do so, the report said. The search of Roof's car did not turn up any illegal contraband, according to the field interview, which also noted that

Roof recently had been arrested for illegally possessing narcotics. About a month after this encounter, Roof reportedly bought a semi-automatic pistol, with which he is accused of killing nine black men and women at the historic Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church last Wednesday evening during a Bible study class.

Reuters

Iran, Venezuela to expand economic cooperation

CARACAS, 27 June — Venezuela and Iran agreed on Friday to expand economic, financial, industrial and technological cooperation by inking six new agreements and opening a 500-million-US-dollar credit line from Teheran to Caracas.

In a ceremony at the presidential palace, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said that both countries should raise economic cooperation to a higher level and ensure that all signed agreements are complied with.

"Iran and Venezuela are an example of an alliance between two brother nations.

These are six agreements of major importance for the economy of our countries," he said. Among the deals there was a memorandum to transfer political expertise and methodologies to address what the Venezuelan government called an "economic war."

Moreover, both parties signed a health accord to develop a joint programme in nanoscience and nanotechnology. The accord also stipulated the sale of drugs, medical and surgical equipment from Iran to Venezuela. "Today we have mutual trust in our relations and we work together with results. Working with Iran has gone

well and our cooperation has been a great success since (former President) Hugo Chavez began a strategic alliance and brotherhood with Iran," Maduro said.

Maduro also said that with the signing of the commercial and technical agreements, the credit line of 500 million dollars that he had agreed on with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani during his visit to Teheran in January was realized.

The two countries have cooperated in housing construction and to date, more than 3,000 housing units have been built, while this year 700 more are expected to be completed.—Xinhua

**Flooding leaves 99
dead, 20 missing
in China
in January - June**

BEIJING, 27 June — Flooding has killed 99 people and left 20 missing this year, the least since 2000, according to the State Flood Control and Drought Relief Headquarters.

Rainstorms have inundated 41 cities and towns, forcing about 1 million people to relocate. The disasters affected 20.4 million people and destroyed 42,000 homes.

The total dead and missing is 64 percent less than the average in the same period since 2000. —Xinhua

“STAR TREK 3” starts filming in Canada

LOS ANGELES, 27 June — The third installment of “Star Trek” movie series has reportedly begun production at the Squamish Boulders, near Vancouver, Canada.

“Star Trek” has begun filming since Thursday, 25 June, under the working title “Washington”, reported Ace Showbiz.

Stars Zachary Quinto and Zoe Saldana took to Instagram to share some images teasing the filming of the movie.

Quinto uploaded a

photo showing off his character’s iconic hair style. “someone is preparing to emerge,” he captioned the photo.

The actor also posted a very close-up photo of his eyebrow which is appropriately trimmed to fit his role.

Meanwhile, Saldana shared a picture of herself sitting in a makeup chair while reading a magazine.

“Trailer time #startrek,” she captioned the photo. She also posted a funny dubs mash video which she captioned,

“#boredatwork.”

Although the production has been underway, many details of the movie, like the title, have not been confirmed yet.

In April, rumours surfaced that the movie would be called “Star Trek Beyond”. As for plot details, they are being kept under wraps but the story is said to involve the Enterprise going on their five-year mission.

Justin Lin is directing from a script penned by Simon Pegg and Doug Jung. Saldana and Quinto are joined by the likes of Pegg, Chris Pine, Karl Urban, John Cho, Anton Yelchin, Sofia Boutella and Idris Elba.

JJ Abrams, who directed the previous two films, is producing the third film. It is slated for a release in US theatres on 8 July, 2016.—PTI



Male strippers return for one last show in ‘Magic Mike XXL’

LOS ANGELES, 27 June — The world of male stripping returns to the silver screen in “Magic Mike XXL” with the performers back in the spotlight for one last show.

Picking up the story three years on from 2012’s “Magic Mike”, the sequel sees the cast reunite in the stripper saga, which was loosely based on producer and actor Channing Tatum’s experiences early in his career.

“The first movie was a bit of an expose

into the darkness of this lifestyle and this was a celebration,” actor Adam Rodriguez said at the film’s premiere on Thursday night.

“This is why these guys are friends, why they managed to live this life for as long as they have together and it’s their farewell to it.”

The sequel has expanded the cast and also aims to leave audiences, particularly men, with a positive message, actor Joe Manganiello said.—PTI

Jimmy Fallon injures hand, cancels ‘Tonight Show’ taping



Jimmy Fallon poses with his wax figures at Madame Tussauds museum in the Manhattan borough of New York.
REUTERS

NEW YORK, 27 June — Jimmy Fallon, host of NBC’s “Tonight Show,” had minor surgery after injuring his hand in his New York apartment, his representative said, forcing the cancellation of Friday’s taping of the show.

The 40-year-old comedian is expected to make a full recovery.

“Hey guys, unfortunately tonight’s taping has

been canceled,” NBC said on Twitter. “He’s totally fine, but we’ll be airing a repeat.”

The network said fans with tickets for the taping would be contacted about rescheduling.

Fallon replaced Jay Leno as host of the Comcast Corp.-owned network’s flagship late-night talk show last year.

Reuters



Delsia La Chatte performs as Josephine Baker in “Speakeasy Dollhouse: Ziegfeld’s Midnight Frolic” at the Liberty Theater in New York, in this undated handout photo provided by Matt Ross Public Relations.—REUTERS

Come to the theater, ride a chandelier, play a role in show

NEW YORK, 27 June — Aerialists descend in a giant chandelier and lift a guest back up with them, a showgirl leads an audience member back in time to a 1920s Parisian nightclub and actors single out guests for a mysterious experience yet to come.

Immersive theater productions such as “Sleep No More,” an adaptation of “Macbeth” that has been running in New York since 2011, have brought audiences into the performance.

But simply putting on a mask to follow the action through vast, rambling warehouses or old hotels is not enough for some audiences. The latest immersive theater lures them in by giving them roles and responsibilities.

“It is a necessary step in the evolution of the form,” said Noah J Nelson, editor of the immersive and

interactive theater guide No Proscenium. “Somebody had to try this and there is a real chance it could take off.”

Cynthia von Buhler, the creator of “Speakeasy Dollhouse: Ziegfeld’s Midnight Frolic” which is playing in New York, believes directors and producers are just touching the surface of what is possible in immersive theater.

In her show based on the death of Ziegfeld Follies showgirl and actress Olive Thomas in 1920, guests are transported back to Prohibition-era New York and the Ritz hotel in Paris, where Thomas died.

Audience members, many dressed in period costumes, enter a hidden theater in New York’s Times Square for a show within a show. Guests are given roles and some create their own, blurring the

lines between the audience and actors.

“I want to keep pushing it further, like how immersive can you get?” said von Buhler.

A few blocks away, American playwright and producer Randy Weiner has transformed the former 1940s Diamond Horseshoe nightclub in the basement of the Paramount Hotel for his show, “Queen of the Night,” based on Mozart’s opera “The Magic Flute.”

Costumed performers escort guests into the club. Some are whisked away for private meetings or given markers, signifying a role in the show that includes circus acts, dance and a sumptuous feast.

Reuters

Harry Potter play to hit London stage next year, says Rowling

LONDON, 27 June — Harry Potter, the world’s most famous boy wizard, is set to make his debut on the London stage next year in a new play called the Cursed Child which has been created in collaboration with author JK Rowling.

Rowling said on her Twitter feed that the new play was the result of a collaboration between herself and writer Jack Thorne and director John Tiffany.

“I don’t want to say too much more, because I don’t want to spoil what I know will be a real treat for fans,” she said on Twitter. “However, I can say that it is not a prequel!”

One of the world’s best-selling authors, Rowling said she had countless offers to extend the “Harry Potter” story over the years, but felt the play was the only proper medium for a new story.

Tickets for the play, which will open next summer at the Palace Theatre, will go on sale in the autumn. Further details on tickets will be announced on the play’s

official website in late July.

The author had previously announced plans for a theatrical production in 2013, exploring the untold story of Harry’s early years as an outcast and orphan.

Her seven “Harry Potter” novels have sold more than 450 million copies around the world, and spawned an eight-part film franchise that grossed more than \$7 billion at the worldwide box office.

Rowling is also set to make her screenwriting debut with “Harry Potter” spin-off movie “Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them”, which will see Oscar-winning actor Eddie Redmayne play the lead character of magizoologist Newt Scamander.—Reuters



British writer JK Rowling

GENERAL

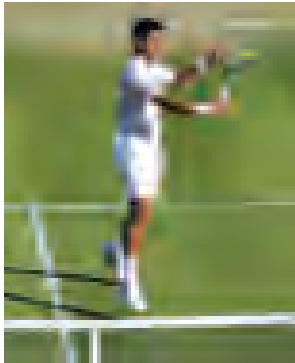
Back to the future as moribund tactic is revived

LONDON, 27 June — The yellowing obituaries are looking premature as serve-and-volley tennis creeps, with a few tweaks, towards a renaissance of sorts.

A number of top men are leading the charge and, in a curious twist, the same blend of technology and lung-busting fitness blamed for all-but killing off this style of play is behind its resurgence.

As players hit harder shots, miss fewer balls and run for hour upon hour, competitors need a ploy to shorten points.

Introducing... the serve-and-volley. It is an old-school move which, used selectively, might just become the newest potent



Novak Djokovic of Serbia hits a volley to Jeremy Chardy of France in their men's singles tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London in this 29 June, 2013 file photo.
REUTERS

weapon in the armoury of modern players. "At the

moment you see the guys winning the slams from the baseline," former tour pro and leading coach and tennis analyst Darren Cahill told *Reuters*.

"But then you see the great players of today working on their net games because they know it saves them physically because they have to work so hard to win points.

"Over the course of a grand slam, seven matches, best of five, they are looking at ways to shorten points to save as much energy as they can. "I think Novak, Rafa and Roger are coming in way more than they were four or five years ago," Cahill said of Djokovic, Nadal and Federer. Time was that

unless you knew the dark arts of serve-and-volley, you could forget about winning Wimbledon.

Even baseliner Bjorn Borg would roll his rounded shoulders into the ball and race to the net at the All England Club, punching his wooden racket through the white ball.

Not as frequently as John McEnroe, of course, who elevated serve-volley to a higher art form — nor the likes of Pat Cash, Boris Becker and Pete Sampras who followed him.

But, all the same, Borg knew his way around the net — a fact mostly overlooked because his baseline play was so preternatural.

Reuters

Former champion Radwanska reaches Eastbourne final



Poland's Agnieszka Radwanska celebrates winning her semi final match during Aegon International at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne on 26 June, 2015.
REUTERS

LONDON, 27 June — Agnieszka Radwanska continued her pre-Wimbledon tune-up by reaching the final of Eastbourne grass-court tournament with a 6-1, 6-7(3), 6-2 win over America's Sloane Stephens on Friday.

Radwanska, a Wimbledon runner-up in 2012, will face Belinda Bencic in the final. The 18-year-old Swiss advanced after second-seed Caroline Wozniacki retired

while trailing 3-0 in the first set. Radwanska, who won at Eastbourne in 2008, lost to Serena Williams in the Wimbledon final in 2012.

In the men's event in Nottingham, 12th seed Sam Querrey beat Ukraine's Alexandr Dolgoplov 4-6, 6-3, 7-5 to set up a final against Uzbekistan's Denis Istomin, who beat Marcos Baghdatis when the Cypriot retired early in the first set.

Reuters

FIFA President Blatter says has not resigned

ZURICH, 27 June — Sepp Blatter has added to speculation he may try to stay on as head of world soccer's governing body but a source told *Reuters* on Friday the 79-year old still intends to stand down as FIFA president.

Blatter's comments to Swiss newspaper *Blick* — in which he said he had not resigned — seemed to be less final than on 2 June when he said he would step down as FIFA president and call a leadership election in the wake of a corruption scandal.

However, a FIFA source close to the story told *Reuters* on Friday that Blatter's stance has not changed.

"He is going," the source said. "He did not use the word resign on 2 June but he did say he was laying down his mandate and that is exactly what he intends to do." *Blick* said Blatter was speaking on Thursday in his first public appearance since the 2 June news conference.

"I have not resigned, rather I am offering my mandate at an extraordinary congress," Blatter was quoted as saying in the article published on Friday.

A FIFA spokesman said

by email: "We can confirm the quotes in *Blick* are accurate. They are in line with the speech of the President on 2 June."

A former Blatter adviser had said previously that the long-serving FIFA president could go back on his promise to stand down from his role.

FIFA said at the time that Klaus Stöckli, who advised Blatter during this year's FIFA election campaign, was no longer working with Blatter.

Fuelling scepticism

over Blatter's departure was his decision to stand for re-election in 2015 after pledging not to run again in the run-up to his 2011 victory. Blatter, who was re-elected in May, is under pressure to leave sooner rather than later as US and Swiss authorities investigate suspected bribery and corruption at FIFA. Blatter has not been charged with any wrongdoing.

Domenico Scala, the official overseeing the choice of a new president, has said

Blatter's departure is an "indispensable" part of planned reforms to soccer's governing body.

Blatter spoke at an event for workers building the planned FIFA museum in Zurich, *Blick* reported.

Also on Friday, one of seven soccer officials arrested in Zurich last month on suspicion of racketeering following a US extradition request had a request for bail rejected, with a Swiss court saying he posed a "risk of flight".—*Reuters*



FIFA President Sepp Blatter (2R) poses with workers during an event for workers building the planned FIFA museum in Zurich on 25 June, 2015. —REUTERS

mitv Myanmar International

(28-6-2015 07:00 am~ 29-6-2015 07:00 am) MST

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MRTV News Channel in Brief

(28-6-2015, Sunday)

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|--|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:35 pm |
| • Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw | • Myanmar Movies (Part-2) |
| 6:25 am | 3:00 pm |
| • Physical Exercise | • News / International News |
| 7:00 am | 4:35 pm |
| • News / Weather Report | • Documentary |
| 7:35 am | 5:00 pm |
| • Business News | • News / Weather Report |
| 8:35 am | 5:35 pm |
| • Teleplay | • Documentary |
| 9:35 am | 6:30 pm |
| • Weekly Entertainment | • Head Line News |
| 10:35 am | 7:00 pm |
| • Documentary | • News |
| 11:00 am | 7:35 pm |
| • News | • Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society) |
| 11:35 am | 8:00 pm |
| • Amazing World | • News / International News / Weather Report |
| 12:00 noon | 8:35 pm |
| • News / International News / Weather Report | • Documentary |
| 12:35 pm | 9:00 pm |
| • Round up of The Week's International News | • News |
| 12:50 pm | • Tasty Trip |
| • Myanmar Movies (Part-1) | • Sing & Enjoy |

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(28-6-2015, Sunday)

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|---|---------------------|
| 6:00 am | 8:25 am |
| • Alinka Wutyi Music Troupe | • Musical Programme |
| 6:20 am | 8:45 am |
| • (2015) Women Associated Fashion Show (Part-2) | • Game for Children |
| 7:00 am | 9:15 am |
| • Myanmar Video | • Pyi Thu Ni Ti |
| | 9:40 am |
| | • Sing & Enjoy |
| | 10:10 am |
| | • Myanmar Movie |

Tevez holds nerve as Argentina reach Copa America last four



Argentina's players celebrate the victory at the end of the Quarterfinals match of the Copa America Chile 2015, against Colombia, held in the El Sausalito Stadium, in Vina del Mar city, Chile, on 26 June, 2015. Argentina won 5-4 on penalties.—XINHUA

VINA DEL MAR, 27 June — Carlos Tevez scored the decisive spot-kick as Argentina secured a berth in the Copa America semifinals on Friday by defeating Colombia 5-4 in a dramatic penalty shootout.

Colombia's Luis Muriel and Jason Murillo sent their attempts flying over the bar before Juan Zuniga's shot was saved by Argentina goalkeeper Sergio Romero.

Lucas Biglia and Marcos Rojo missed the target for Argentina but Tevez, a 73rd-minute replacement for Sergio Aguero, held his nerve to fire into the bottom corner.

The result at Estadio Sausalito means Argentina will meet either Brazil or Paraguay in Concepcion on Tuesday for a place in the final.

Argentina dominated the match but were unable to find a way past Colombia keeper David Ospina, who ensured a 0-0 scoreline at the end of normal time.

Colombia's intention to sit back was evident from the first minute as Argentina enjoyed long periods of possession the Cafeteros' half.

Ospina was called into action in the sixth minute, keeping out a Javier Pastore shot after Lionel Messi's low delivery to the near post.

Argentina were unlucky not to be awarded a penalty when Aguero was brought down by Santiago Arias with a sliding tackle from behind.

Ospina then produced two stunning reflex saves to deny Aguero and Messi in

quick succession.

The Arsenal keeper dived low to parry clear Aguero's drive and somehow bounced straight back to his feet to palm away Messi's header from the rebound.

Colombia remained under siege as Cristian Zapata almost deflected Angel Di Maria's cross into his own net before Ospina again came to the rescue.

Ospina's inspired form continued in the second half. Just minutes after the restart he charged out of the box to punch the ball clear of an onrushing Di Maria after Messi's deft through ball.

Colombia had a rare chance to score just after the hour but their counterattack was brought undone when James Rodriguez directed a feeble header straight at Romero.

Argentina's Ever Banega replaced Pastore in the 77th minute and he almost made an immediate impact, sending a rasping shot just over the bar after Messi's layoff.

Ospina then took the sting out of a Nicolas Otamendi volley before the ball was cleared off the line.

The Albiceleste continued to pressure Colombia's defence but there was no way through. Murillo made a lunging clearance off the line following Zapata's fraught attempt to chip the ball backwards with Ospina nowhere in sight.

Messi had one last chance to put his team ahead late in injury time but his downward header from a corner bounced over the bar.—Xinhua

US beat China 1-0 to face Germany in World Cup semis

OTTAWA, 27 June — The United States set up an early clash with Germany after beating China 1-0 here on Friday in the quarter-final of the 2015 Canada Women's World Cup.

Carli Lloyd scored the winner with a header in the 51st minute for the Americans, while Germany edged off France 6-5 in penalty shootouts as their game ended 1-1 after extra time.

Friday's matchup between China and the US reminded fans a lot about the 1999 World Cup finals between the two sides, which was the milestone of the women's football history when the US won by penalty shootouts.

China, which missed the 2011 Germany version, are unexpected qualifiers for the last eight round, while the US, which were depleted with starting midfielders Lauren Holiday and Megan Rapinoe, are not at their peak any more.

Facing one of the best defensive teams in the tournament, the US found it hard to break the blocks with only Alex Morgan at front. With Abby Wambach, Rapinoe and Holiday on the bench, the US had to settle

with a scoreless first half.

But the US did not wait long for the scoring as Lloyd jumped high in the air to catch a through ball from Julie Johnston and sent the ball into the left corner with her head six minutes after the break.

Lloyd said, "This is the moment I'm waiting for, and preparing for mentally and physically. It was not myself at the beginning, but later I felt freedom to create chances. This win is huge for us on confidence to go into the semis. Everybody feels so happy for the win."

China put up some attacks after that but did not have clear chances to score against the solid back of the US, which conceded only one goal so far in the tournament.

US head coach Jill Ellis said, "China are noble opponents. We moved ball very well. We made very good choices, good rhythm, and good decisions. The team stepped up at the big moment. Everybody was ready to be pitched in and just did a great job."

Chinese head coach Hao Wei said he was not happy with himself, but satisfied with the players.

"It's all my fault for the loss. The players were doing great, prefect. I think the US team is not the one we can-



United States midfielder Carli Lloyd celebrates her goal with teammates against China during the second half in the quarterfinals of the FIFA 2015 Women's World Cup at Lansdowne Stadium.—REUTERS

not catch up. We have done our best in the tournament, hopefully you could see these players four years later," he said.—Xinhua

Singapore seeks deferment of Quah's service until after Rio

SINGAPORE, 27 June — Singapore can forget about a relay medal at next month's swimming world championships unless multiple Southeast Asian medallist Quah Zheng Wen is allowed to defer his mandatory national service, the team's head coach said.

The 18-year-old picked up 12 medals at the SEA Games earlier this month, including seven golds, to become the most decorated athlete at the 28th edition of the biennial event.

The next stop should be the world championships which begin on 24 July in Kazan, Russia, but Quah is scheduled to begin two years of full time service within a fortnight, leaving head coach Sergio Lopez in the dark.

"The strategy for the men's (medley) relay team is uncertain," Lopez told local media at the ongoing national championships.

"Hopefully, we will get a deferment. If we don't, we will have to forget about the relays. It is as simple as that."

Singapore media said talks were ongoing between local Swimming Association officials and the Ministry of Defence to defer Quah's service until after the Rio de Janeiro Games next year.

Local media said the ministry could defer service in "exceptional circumstances" for athletes who are capable of winning Olympic medals.

Quah, who won the 100 metre backstroke and butterfly at the national championships on Friday, has already clocked the Olympic qualifying time for the 200m butterfly.

In 2013, Quah's team mate Joseph Schooling was granted a deferment from national service until after the Rio Games.

The 20-year-old, who qualified for the 2012 Olympics, won nine golds at his home SEA Games earlier this month after taking Asian Games gold in the 100m butterfly last year. Like Quah, he has already achieved Olympic qualifying times for the Rio Games.—Reuters



Singapore's Quah Zheng Wen celebrates with his gold medal on the podium during 28th SEA Games Singapore 2015 at OCBC Aquatic Centre, Singapore on 11 June, 2015.—REUTERS