

Myanmar, Japan focus on development of Thilawa, Dawei SEZs

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Union Government announces cancellation of development projects near Shwedagon Pagoda

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July
—The Union Government issued an announcement on Tuesday, cancelling the development projects at former National Defence College and No.1 Motor Transport Battalion in Dagon Township in Yangon.

The Ministry of Defence had invited tenders for development projects at these sites to make Yangon a modern city, according to the announcement.

The tenders were won by Shwetaung Development Company, Adventure Myanmar Tours and Incentives Co Ltd, Thukha Yadana Company and Marga Landmark Development Co Ltd, and Myanmar Investment Commission also permitted the projects in accordance with the law.

As the sites are located near to the
(See page 2)



The government cancels Dagon City Project near the Shwedagon Pagoda.—PHOTO:MYANMARPROPERTYINSIDER.COM

Ministry to speed up application process for industrial power access

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 7 July — The Ministry of Electric Power announced Tuesday it is introducing a rapid application process for electrification of private industrial sites, with requests to be processed within five days.

The ministry is introducing the new procedures in order to boost industrial enterprises across the country, and will set up one-stop service offices to handle the entire process of connecting businesses to the grid, according to the ministry.

It will assign a permanent representative to each one-stop service office to directly liaise between

industrial enterprises and power supply boards in respective regions and states.

Currently, the ministry is generating around 43,500 kilowatt hours daily from 39 power plants, including 25 hydropower stations, 13-gas fired power plants and one coal plant, with total installed capacity of 4839.9 megawatts.

The ministry has set a target of supplying power to the entire country by 2030, but faces challenges in the form of ageing transmission lines, lack of capital investment and technology, and public opposition to implementing major hydro and coal projects.

A coal-fired power

plant in Shan State built in 2005 is currently generating 120 megawatts, and a feasibility study has been made on a further 11 coal-fired plants.

The ministry and private investors have signed a memorandum of understanding on the construction of a 300-megawatt power plant in Yangon Region and a 50-megawatt power station in Taninthayi Region.

In addition, foreign firms have agreed to invest in nine coal-fired power plants with capacities ranging from 270 to 2,640 megawatts across the country.

On completion, these plants are expected to generate more than 9,000 megawatts.—GNLM

Record number of child victims involved in human trafficking

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 7 July—Authorities in Myanmar investigated human trafficking cases involving a record six child victims in June, police said Tuesday.

“This is a record number, compared to previous months,” Police Captain Min Naing of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Division of MPF told *The Global New Light of Myanmar*.

Three of the victims were “females aged between 13 and 16, from Yangon, Mandalay and Sagaing regions, as well as Kayin and Kachin states” who were trafficked overseas for marriage or labour. The other three were forced to work as

prostitutes in Myanmar.

Police were able to rescue all of the victims except one girl who was sold as a bride in China, Police Capt Min Naing said.

Under Section 24 of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law enacted in 2005, trafficking in persons, especially women, children and youths, shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend from a minimum of 10 years to a maximum of life.

The authorities last month uncovered 10 cases, rescuing 12 of 17 victims and arresting 20 traffickers, the majority of them women. According to the police,

66 trafficking cases have been recorded between January and June this year. Sixteen cases occurred in Shan State, while Mandalay, Yangon and Kachin were the next highest.

Other regions, except for the capital Nay Pyi Taw, Taninthayi Region and Rakhine State, accounted for less than seven cases.

The police arrested 113 traffickers in the first half of the year, but 59 suspects remain at large.

A total of 1,189 trafficking cases have been investigated nationwide between 2006 and June this year, with police rescuing more than 2,000 victims and arrested 2,144 traffickers, according to the official figures.—GNLM

Joint committee submit bills to Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July — The Joint Bill Committee on Tuesday submitted reports and findings on bills to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, including those containing remarks from President U Thein Sein.

Members of the committee read out the boiler bill, the amendment bill on the law of the Union Election Commission and the bill on the reservoir law.

MPs are invited to discuss these bills in the current session of parliament.

U Saw Hla Tun, secretary of the Joint Bill Committee, and members then sought parliamentary approval of the budget bill.

Daw Khin Waing Kyi, MP of Yangon region constituency 1, said the interfaith marriage bill would be able to pass into law soon despite international criticism, adding the law would be beneficial for Myanmar women.

MPs from Shwepyitha, Yangon Region, and Mahlaing, Mandalay Region, supported the government plan to operate the Yangon City Development Committee and the Mandalay City Development Committee as state-owned enterprises without using the union budget.

The Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw told parliament to seek approval from MPs on the consti-



tutional amendment bill of provision 436 (b).

MNA

Representatives debate interfaith marriage at Tuesday's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

Staff shortages, technical faults caused voter list problems: officials



Volunteers compile voter lists at election sub-commission office.—Po HTAUNG

YANGON, 7 July — Yangon Region electoral officials on Tuesday said human error, technical faults and a shortage of staff were to be blamed for problems with voter lists for the upcoming general election.

Individuals and political parties have voiced doubts about the motives and reliability of electoral sub-commissions after the

revelation of errors such as failure to collect voter list information door to door, dead people remaining on lists, and scores of incorrectly listed names and birthdates.

Township electoral officials said voter lists were compiled by pensioners and civil service staff who took part as volunteers, with insufficient numbers to properly carry out the

work. They also said some family members did not inform immigration officers about dead relatives remaining on family lists.

An election sub-commission chairman in Yangon West District said some eligible voters did not know their birthdates, with 30 June commonly listed in such cases, in line with the international norm.

However, authorities of electoral sub-commissions said eligible voters could cast their ballots in the election, scheduled for late October or early November, even if there were minor errors in their details.

The voters can also ask for correction of their names with the authority of polling station officers on election day, the officials said.

Ye Khaung Nyunt, Myat Thanda Maung



Two local people check their names in voter list. Po HTAUNG

Yangon chief minister urges strict security measures for Martyrs' Day

YANGON, 7 July — A work coordination meeting was held at Yangon Region Government Office on Tuesday for the success of the 68th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day.

Present at the meeting

were Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, region ministers, chairmen and members of organizing sub-committees and officials.

At the meeting, the chief minister said that

celling the project.

The government also does not want to damage the religious edifices and cultural heritages including the Shwedagon Pagoda for development and held negotiations with the companies to cancel the projects.

As the companies also gave their consent to the cancellation of the projects in Dagon Township in Yangon, the government issued the announcement on cancellation of project on Tuesday.

MNA

working committees have been founded since 26 June and urged the committee members to take security measures for the mausoleum.

Then, committee members reported to the chief minister on preparations at Bogoyoke Aung San Museum and other tasks being carried out for the Martyrs' Day.

MNA

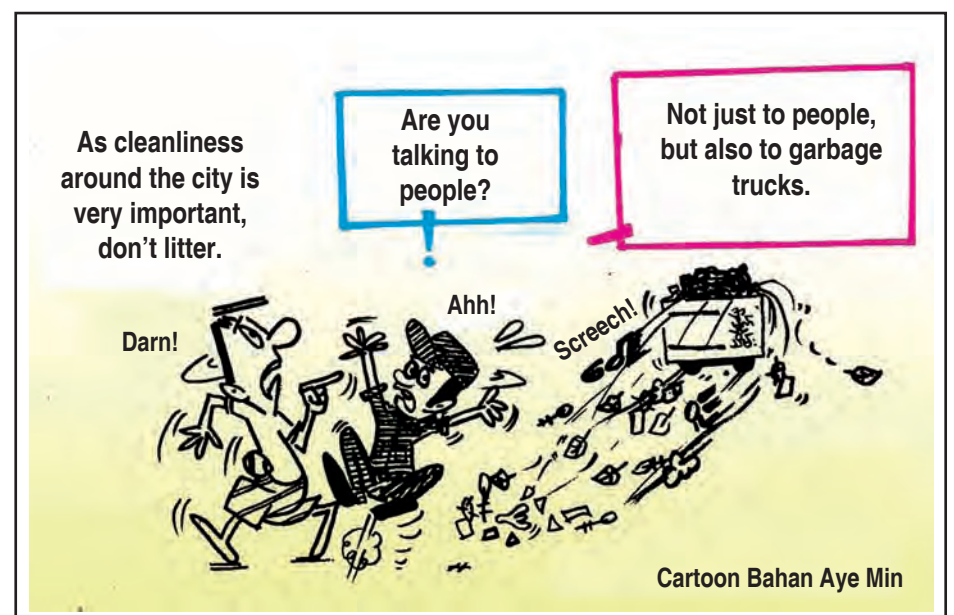
Union Government announces cancellation of development...

(from page 1)

Shwedagon Pagoda, the public are concerned about the pagoda and people and experts sent petitions to the president to halt the development projects while Myanmar Investment Commission and the Ministry of Defence recommended can-

Correction

Please read 944.01 million euro instead of 949 million euro in the headline and 6th line of first column in the news under the headline "Gems emporium concludes with 949 million euro worth of gems and jade sales" on page 2 of this daily issued on 7-7-2015.—MNA



Cartoon Bahan Aye Min

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Japan focus on development of Thilawa, Dawei SEZs

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—President U Thein Sein received a delegation led by Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar, at the hall of the Presidential Palace, here, Tuesday.

The president and Mr Sasakawa, who is Chairman of the Nippon Foundation and Sasakawa Foundation, discussed improvement of education and human resources, development of the Thilawa and Dawei Special

Economic Zones, development of border regions and the peacemaking process.

Also present at the talks were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, U Soe Thane, Dr Daw Khin San Yi and Dr Than Aung, deputy minister U Thant Kyaw and officials.

The Japanese delegation was accompanied by Admiral Dennis Blair, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Sasakawa-USA and former U.S. Director

of National Intelligence, and former general Shigeru Iwasaki, special adviser to the Japanese Ministry of Defence.—MNA

President U Thein Sein cordially greets Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of Government of Japan and Chairman of the Nippon Foundation and Sasakawa Foundation.—MNA



Vice President visits state high schools in Lashio

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan visited state high schools in Lashio, northern Shan state, on Tuesday.

During the visits to six high schools, accompanied by deputy ministers and departmental heads, the vice president gave K 5 million to each school for education funds.

Dr Sai Mauk Kham said the government is providing more funds year by year to support the education sector, adding that the local community should inform parliamentarians and local authorities of their needs.

Teachers and school board trustees explained development programmes and areas for which funding is needed.

The vice president said the government's core objectives in the education sector include supporting teachers and students to

promote their qualities. He also urged the teachers to nurture outstanding students for the country.

MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets basic education students in Lashio.—MNA

Union Defence Minister meets delegation of Australian National University

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin received Professor Andrew Walker of South Asian Studies and party of College of Asia and the Pacific of Austral-

ian National University at the ministry on Monday.

They exchanged views on progress in peace talks with armed ethnic group, national reconciliation, signing of nationwide

ceasefire agreement, and human rights matters.

Also present the meeting were Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Kyaw Nyunt and officials.

MNA

U Soe Nwe presents Credentials to His Majesty of Cambodia

NAY PYI TAW, 8 July—U Soe Nwe, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Cambodia,

presented his Credentials to His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni, King of Cambodia on 1 July 2015, in Phnom Penh.—MNA

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Japan special envoy

NAY PYI TAW, 7 July—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on Tuesday met Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for National Reconciliation in Myanmar, at his office here to discuss promoting relations between the armed forces of the two countries.

At the meeting, they also discussed sending Myanmar cadets to the National Defence Academy of Japan, development of sports such as judo by exchanging coaches, and cooperation between the United States and Myanmar.

Present at the call were Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and senior military officers from the office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army).

Mr Sasakawa, who is also chairman of the Nippon Foundation, was accompanied by Admiral Dennis Blair, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Sasakawa-USA and former U.S. Director of National Intelligence, and former general Shigeru Iwasaki, special adviser to the Japanese Ministry of Defence.—Myawady

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing poses for documentary photo with Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Special Envoy of Government of Japan.—MYAWADY



Farmers hire agricultural machinery in Yinmabin District

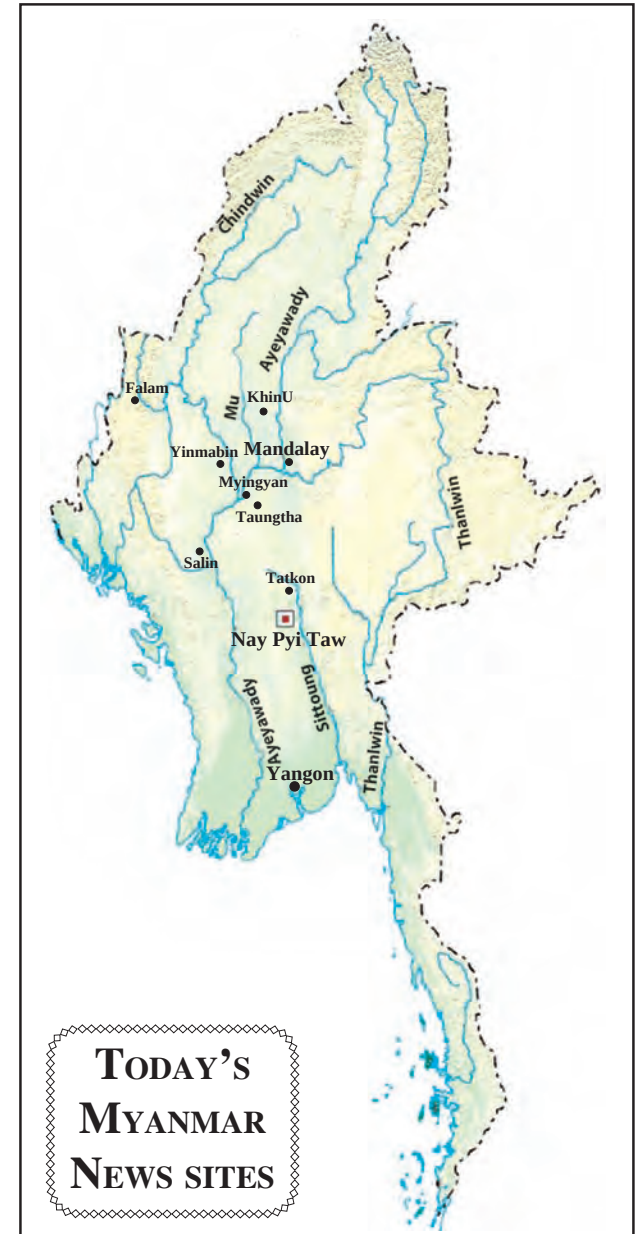


YINMABIN, 7 July — Yinmabin Township Agricultural Mechanization Department has opened branches throughout Yinmabin District to assist local farmers.

Farmers in Pale Township hired combine harvesters to harvest 100 acres of summer paddy. The department charges K30,000 per acre for harvesting.

“Our department opened branches to help with cultivation and harvesting of paddy in the townships as of 25 June,” the head of Yinmabin Township Agricultural Mechanization Department said. “Mainly, we work at ploughing, harvesting and winnowing tasks. Local farmers use the agricultural machinery to save time and money.”

Po Chan (Monywa)



Villagers evacuate landslide-hit areas

SALIN, 7 July — Flooding from the Ayeyawady River recently caused landslides in Salin Township, Minbu District.

Local authorities evacuated 17 households from four villages in the landslide-hit areas, according to the Minbu District police

force. Villagers and officials moved six households from Thayetkon village, two from Thanatkon village, four from Ngwethoung village and five from North Achinpyit village to areas safe from landslides.

Kywa Zeya (Magway)

Tatkon Township upgrades 40 basic education schools

TATKON, 7 July — A ceremony to upgrade a basic education high school branch to a full-fledged BEHS was held in Magyibin village, Tatkon Township, on 6 July.

Established as a primary school in 1941, the school was initially upgraded to a basic education high school branch in 2013 before becoming a BEHS this year. At present, the school located on a 4.64-acre plot admits 1,072 students from 22 villages. Officials of Nay Pyi Taw Council also attended a ceremony to open an upgraded BEHS branch in Htonbo village.

Local authorities and



Ministry of Education have upgraded dozens of schools

throughout the township, according to the Township

Education Department.

Tin Soe Lwin (Tatkon)

Taungtha Tsp honours outstanding students, teachers

TAUNGTHA, 7 July — The basic education high school in Taungtha held a ceremony at its hall recently to honour outstanding students.

Officials presented prizes to outstanding matriculation student Maung Myat Min Khaing and 50 needy university students.

Mandalay Region Hluttaw speaker U Win Maung presented headmaster U Aung Htay with gifts for outstanding teachers and school heads, before presenting prizes to students who passed

the 2015 matriculation examination with flying colours.

Mandalay Region Minister for Planning and Economy U Aung Zan and officials also presented prizes to distinction winners from 23 basic education middle and high schools.

At the 20th prize presentation ceremony, 781 outstanding students and teachers received a total of K4.066 million in cash awards.

Kyaw Myo Naing (Taungtha)

MANDALAY, 7 July — One village in each of 23 Mandalay Region townships will receive farming plots under a pilot land management project, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint announced at a meeting at the region government office on 6 July.

The chief minister urged officials to carry out land management and issuance of certificates for plots in line with the rules and regulations.

Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Myint Than discussed procedures for issuance of land plot certificates.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Mandalay Region to issue land plots to pilot project villages



REGIONAL

Defence personnel's data feared leaked after cyberattack



Photo taken on 6 July, 2015 shows Hotel Grand Hill Ichigaya (front) and the Defence Ministry headquarters (behind) in Tokyo. Information about defence personnel may have been leaked after a computer at the hotel, mainly used by Defence Ministry officials and runs by the mutual aid society for the ministry's employees, suffered a cyberattack in May.

KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 7 July — Some information about defence personnel may have been leaked after a Tokyo hotel mainly used by Defence Ministry officials and Self-Defence Forces members suffered a cyberattack in May, sources close to the matter said on Tuesday.

A computer at Hotel Grand Hill Ichigaya, run by the mutual aid society for the ministry's employees, began sending irregular transmissions after an employee clicked a file attached to an email that month, the sources said. It

is apparently the first case in Japan in which a computer at a Defence Ministry-related organization has been hacked.

The hotel, however, said there was no leak of confidential information as the ministry's system is different from that of the hotel.

The hotel has isolated all its computers from the Internet and "is investigating if any information on guests has been sent out."

Defence Minister Gen Nakatani told a Press conference that the hotel's

computer system is not connected to that of the ministry and mutual aid society, emphasizing the breach "will not affect the Defence Ministry."

According to the sources, the Defence Ministry notified the hotel on 11 June of the irregular transmissions having been made with an outer server.

It was then found that one computer was infected with a virus after an employee opened an attached file received on 22 May and titled "The announcement of a meeting," the sources said.

Fumiaki Yamasaki, a cyber security expert and adjunct professor at University of Aizu, said the Defence Ministry "needs to strengthen its crisis management," warning that if addresses, numbers and information on family members were leaked the data could be misused. Figures from the National Center of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity show that approximately 5.08 million cyberattacks occurred against the Japanese government and related organization in fiscal 2013.—Kyodo News



Var Kimhong (L, front), Cambodian senior minister in charge of Border Affairs, holds a special meeting with Ho Xuan Son (R, front), Vietnamese deputy foreign minister in charge of Border Affairs, in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 7 July, 2015. Cambodian and Vietnamese border chiefs convened a special meeting here on Tuesday to discuss border issues following recent incidents along the border line.—XINHUA

India's Mahindra Group, British firm to jointly produce underwater warfare equipment for Navy

NEW DELHI, 7 July — India's automobile major Mahindra Group on Tuesday said it had tied up with British firm Ultra Electronics to produce underwater warfare equipment for the Indian Navy, in what is seen as a major push to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Make in India" initiative.

"The two companies have come together to build

and supply new generation advanced systems like the torpedo defence system, integrated anti-submarine warfare defence suite and mine counter measure equipment," Mahindra Defence, a subsidiary of the group, said in a statement.

It added "Their offerings will also include anti-submarine warfare vessels, submarine safety

equipment and sono-buoys, among others."

The Indian Navy has so far been importing a major part of underwater war-fighting equipment from other countries.

The Mahindra Group last week joined hands with European major Airbus Helicopters to make defence choppers for the country's military.

Xinhua

China holds ceremony to commemorate start of war with Japan in 1937

BEIJING, 7 July — China on Tuesday held a ceremony to mark the 78th anniversary of an incident widely seen as having triggered the start of major hostilities with Japan.

The ceremony to commemorate the 1937 Lugou Bridge Incident, also known as the Marco Polo Bridge Incident, is the start for a raft of activities being held this year in China to commemorate the 70th

anniversary of the end of World War II.

Participated in by Liu Yunshan, the Communist Party's fifth-ranked leader, it was held at the Museum of the War of Chinese People's Resistance Against Japanese Aggression near the bridge on the outskirts of Beijing.

Unlike last year, however, Chinese President Xi Jinping did not attend the ceremony.

Although the Chinese government is ramping up its denunciations of Japan's past militarism, Beijing's relations with Tokyo have markedly improved from a year ago, with increased high-level political contacts taking place in recent months following Xi's two meetings with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

A skirmish between Japanese and Chinese

troops near the bridge on 7 July, 1937 developed into a full-scale warfare that lasted until Japan's surrender to the Allied Powers in 1945.

Last year, Xi became the first Chinese president to attend an official ceremony to mark the anniversary of the incident, delivering a speech saying that China will fight any attempt to sanitize the history of Japan's aggression

during the war in apparent criticism of Abe.

The highlight of China's 70th anniversary activities will be a major military parade to be held on 3 September in Tiananmen Square, with the attendance of Xi. The date is regarded by China as its victory day of what Beijing calls the eight-year war of resistance against Japanese aggression.

Kyodo News



Liu Yunshan, the Chinese Communist Party's fifth-ranked leader

Thai military court releases 14 student protesters



A woman posts a message to show support for 14 students who have been arrested, on a board near the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre (BACC) in Bangkok, Thailand, on 3 July, 2015.—REUTERS

BANGKOK, 7 July — A Thai military court on Tuesday released 14 students held for almost two weeks for holding anti-coup protests in defiance of a ban on public gatherings, but the charges against them have not been dropped.

There had been growing calls for their release, including from the United Nations and the European Union, and public shows of support for the 14 have taken place across Thailand and among the Thai diaspora over the past few days.

Thailand's military overthrew the previous democratic government last year after months of political unrest. The junta has since stifled dissent, barring political gatherings and debate.

"Police asked to extend the students' detention but today the court threw out that request," said Kisdang Nutjarat, a lawyer for the students.

"They have released the kids from prison today. There are no conditions and there was no bail," he said, adding that charges

against the students had not been dropped.

The students, part of a coalition of university groups from around Thailand, held street demonstrations across Bangkok against the ruling junta, known as the National Council for Peace and Order. They were arrested last month and charged with sedition.

Scores gathered outside a military court in Bangkok on Tuesday, shouting slogans and holding signs, to show their support for the students as

150 police officers stood guard nearby.

The 2014 coup ousted the government of Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra, Thailand's first female prime minister and a scion of the Shinawatra political family.

Thailand has been bitterly divided for a decade between supporters of Yingluck and her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was himself ousted by the army in 2006, and the traditional establishment in the capital and the south.—Reuters

Iran demands end to UN missile sanctions, West refuses

VIENNA, 7 July — A dispute over UN sanctions on Iran's ballistic missile programme and a broader arms embargo were among issues holding up a nuclear deal between Teheran and six world powers on Monday, the day before their latest self-imposed deadline.

"The Iranians want the ballistic missile sanctions lifted. They say there is no reason to connect it with the nuclear issue, a view that is difficult to accept," one Western official told Reuters. "There's no appetite for that on our part."

Iranian and other Western officials confirmed this view. The foreign ministers of the six powers — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — met on Monday with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif — and were expected to meet again soon — to try to strike a deal by Tuesday night.

"The Western side insists that not only should it (Iran's ballistic missile programme) remain under sanctions, but that Iran should suspend its programme as well," an Iranian official said.

"But Iran is insisting on its rights and says all the sanctions, including on the ballistic missiles, should be lifted when the UN sanctions are lifted."

Separately, a senior Iranian official told reporters in Vienna on condition of anonymity that Teheran wanted a United Nations arms embargo terminated as well. A senior Western diplomat said a removal was "out of the question".

The deal under discussion is aimed at curbing Teheran's most sensitive nuclear work for a decade



US Secretary of State John Kerry, British Foreign minister Philip Hammond (not seen), Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, German Minister for Foreign Affairs Frank-Walter Steinmeier, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi, EU Deputy Secretary General for the External Action Service Helga Schmid, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini, Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Iran's ambassador to IAEA Ali Akbar Salehi wait for photographers during a meeting at the hotel where the Iran nuclear talks are being held in Vienna, Austria on 6 July, 2015.—REUTERS

or more, in exchange for relief from sanctions that have slashed Iran's oil exports and crippled its economy.

The United States and its allies fear Iran is using its civilian nuclear programme as a cover to develop a nuclear weapons capability. Iran says its programme is peaceful. An agreement would be the most important milestone in decades towards easing hostility between the United States and Iran, enemies since Iranian revolutionaries captured 52 hostages in the US embassy in Teheran in 1979.

An Iranian official told the semi-official *Tasnim* news agency that the talks could continue until 9 July, echoing some Western diplomats. A White House spokesman in Washington said it was "certainly possible" the deadline could slip.

A deal could reduce the chance of any military strike against Iran's nuclear facilities,

something Washington has refused to rule out, and the possibility of a wider war in the Middle East, where conflicts already rage in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Iranian leaders have warned that Iran would respond to any attack by targeting US interests and Israel.

"Israel is a fake temporary state. It's a foreign object in the body of a nation and it will be erased soon," the state news agency *IRNA* quoted former president Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as saying.

Iran refuses to recognise Israel, which is widely believed to be the Middle East's only nuclear power and has repeatedly described Iran's nuclear programme as a threat to its existence.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the deal would "pave Iran's path to a nuclear arsenal".

"It will give them a

jackpot of hundreds of billions of dollars with which to continue to fund their aggression and terror — aggression in the region, terror throughout the world," he told reporters in Jerusalem.

If there is a nuclear deal, it will include a draft UN Security Council resolution that, once adopted, would terminate all UN nuclear-related sanctions while simultaneously re-imposing other existing restrictions on Iran.

The six powers argue that removing those measures could further destabilise the region.

"Intense work is going on to try and conclude by the deadline," a senior Western diplomat said, referring to Tuesday.

A German diplomat, however, said "failure is not ruled out." Iranian state news agency *IRNA* quoted an Iranian official saying that "serious differences" remained after the ministerial meeting.

US President Barack Obama must submit the deal to Congress by 9 July in order to get an accelerated 30-day review. If it is submitted later, the Republican-led Congress would have 60 days to review it, providing more time for the deal to unravel.

In parallel with the powers' talks, delegates from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) were due to hold talks with Iranian officials in Teheran on Monday, following a visit from IAEA chief Yukiya Amano last week.

The powers want Iran to grant more access to IAEA inspectors and to answer its questions about previous nuclear work that may have had military purposes.

Reuters

Brazilian media highlights new US espionage scandal

RIO DE JANEIRO, 7 July — New leaked information has confirmed that Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff and even her cabinet members had been spied on by the US government, which drew extensive attention of the Brazilian media over the weekend.

On Saturday, WikiLeaks published a list of phone lines that were reportedly tapped by the US government, including Rousseff's numbers at her office, the numbers of her assistants and secretary, of several ministers (including a general responsible for the president's personal security) and even Rousseff's line on the presidential plane, daily *O Estado de Sao Paulo* reported.

The home numbers of several diplomats, Brazilian embassies and lines at the central bank were monitored as well.

According to WikiLeaks, the espionage was carried out at the beginning of the Rousseff administration in 2011. Rousseff was re-elected in late 2014 for a second four-year term.

News portal G1 said that the news of espionage was again leaked close to a trip of Rousseff to the United States.

In 2013, she was a few months from a trip to the US, but canceled it when the US government did not respond accordingly to Brazil's demands for a guarantee the espionage would stop.

This time, the information was leaked a few

days after Rousseff finished a trip to Washington, the first trip since she canceled the 2013 one.

G1 mentioned WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange's statement that if President Rousseff wants more US investments in Brazil, as evidenced by her trip to Washington, she should ensure that US companies are not given any undue advantages over local businesses, such as advanced information obtained through illegal monitoring of phone and email activities.

O Estado de Sao Paulo also pointed out WikiLeaks' stance that the information proves that the United States was carrying out an active campaign of economic espionage against Brazil. Meanwhile, local press also underlined Brazilian and US government's response on the matter. Economic daily *Valor* recalled that, during her trip to the US, Rousseff said that the episode had been over when asked about the issue.

After the new espionage information was leaked, the Presidency's Social Communication Secretariat released an official statement saying that President Rousseff trusts US President Barack Obama and that the matter was indeed over. BBC Brazil reported that, according to the Secretariat, Obama reassured Rousseff that the monitoring was over and that there would be no more spying on the Brazilian government and companies.

Xinhua

Opposition to submit counterproposals on security bills

TOKYO, 7 July — The opposition Japan Innovation Party said on Tuesday it will submit its counterproposals on security legislation to the House of Representatives the following day, in a bid to challenge the controversial bills that would expand the overseas operations of the Self-Defence Forces.

Yorihisa Matsuno, the party's leader, took aim at moves by the government and ruling bloc to rush toward voting on the bills in the lower house next week.

"We will not accept a vote" on the ruling parties'

bills if they seek a vote only after brief deliberations on counterproposals, Matsuno said during a meeting with party executives.

Last week, Sadakazu Tanigaki and Yoshihisa Inoue, the secretaries general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and its coalition partner Komeito, met to confirm their push for the bills' lower house passage on 16 July, according to lawmakers.

The ruling camp is keen to pass the bills in the House of Councillors and enact them into law by the end of

the extended Diet session on 27 September.

But Osaka Mayor Toru Hashimoto, also supreme adviser of the Japan Innovation Party, has said he is not in favour of a vote on the bills next week unless there is sufficient parliamentary debate on the counterproposals.

Opposition parties have remained critical about an early vote on the bills in the lower house in light of strong public concerns about them.

Efforts by the administration of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who heads the

LDP, to push for Diet passage of the bills have also hit a snag after legal experts called into question the constitutionality of the security bills during a parliamentary committee session and a furor caused by anti-media remarks by LDP's junior lawmakers.

In a meeting last month, these lawmakers close to Abe lambasted media critical of the government's security policies. The security legislation would enable Japan to exercise the right to collective self-defence, or coming to



Japan Innovation Party leader Yorihisa Matsuno (standing) addresses a board meeting of the opposition party in Tokyo on 7 July, 2015.—KYODO NEWS

the aid of the United States and other friendly nations under armed attack even when Japan itself is not at-

tacked, and also engage in more peacekeeping operations abroad.

Kyodo News

Greece faces last chance to stay in euro as cash runs out

BRUSSELS / ATHENS, 7 July — Greece faces a last chance to stay in the euro zone on Tuesday when Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras puts proposals to an emergency euro zone summit after Greek voters resoundingly rejected the austerity terms of a defunct bailout.

With Greek banks rapidly running out of cash and the European Central Bank slowly tightening the noose on their funding, Tsipras must persuade the bloc's other 18 leaders, many of whom are exasperated after five years of Greek crisis, to open rapid negotiations for a major new loan to rescue his country.

The leaders of Germany and France, the currency area's two main powers, said after conferring on Monday that the door was still open to a deal to save Greece from plunging into economic turmoil and ditching the euro.

But Chancellor Angela Merkel, facing rising pressure in Germany to cut Greece loose, made clear it was up to Tsipras to come up with convincing proposals after Athens spurned the tax rises, spending cuts and pension and labour reforms that were on the table before its bailout expired last week.

From the Greek side, the key to making any deal politically acceptable will be to win a stronger commitment from Merkel and other lenders to reschedule Greece's giant debt



Members of the European Parliament hold posters with the word 'No' (Oxi in Greek) during a debate at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France on 6 July, 2015.—REUTERS

burden, which the International Monetary Fund says is unsustainable.

Without some firmer pledge of debt relief, neither Greece nor the IMF are likely to accept a deal. But that may be more than Germany and its northern allies can swallow.

"The door is open to negotiations, but there isn't much time left and the situation is urgent both for Greece and for Europe," French President Francois Hollande said in a joint media appearance with Merkel in Paris.

At stake at the emergency summit beginning at 6 pm (1600 GMT) in Brussels is more than just the future of Greece, a nation of 11 million that makes up just 2 percent of the euro zone's economic output and population.

If Greek banks run out of

money and the country has to print its own currency, it could lead to a state leaving the euro for the first time since it was launched in 1999, creating a precedent and raising doubts about the long-term viability of an incomplete European monetary union.

"Even if it did not trigger a short-term domino effect, the integrity of the euro zone would come under fresh threat with each episode of political uncertainty within member countries," said Thibault Mercier, an analyst at BNP Paribas.

Strengthened by the overwhelming 61.3 percent 'No' vote in Sunday's referendum, the leftist Tsipras won the unprecedented support of all other Greek party leaders on Monday and replaced his abrasive Finance Minister Yanis Varou-

fakis with the soft-spoken negotiator Euclid Tsakalotos.

In an intensive round of telephone diplomacy, he called the heads of the ECB, the IMF and the European Commission, as well as Merkel and Russian President Vladimir Putin.

But he gave little public clue of what reform concessions he would make to try to convince deeply sceptical Europeans to lend Athens more money after five months of acrimonious and fruitless negotiations.

His proposals were not expected to go much beyond a letter he sent to euro zone partners last week, accepting most of the terms of a creditors' offer that was no longer on the table, but still seeking some loopholes for social or coalition reasons.

Greek newspapers dramatised the make-or-break nature of the Brussels showdown.

Centrist daily Ethnos headlined: "Time has run out for a solution before catastrophe," while the centre-right Eleftheros Typos said: "Tsipras' games finish at today's council: Time of crisis: deal or Grexit."

Greek newspapers said the proposals would be based on ideas that Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker put forward at the end of June with a few tweaks and would not differ much from the last plans presented by Athens itself last week. Euro zone national officials were irritated that Juncker had gone beyond the agreed negotiating mandate of the three

creditor institutions in his last-ditch diplomacy, and it is not clear that they will be more receptive to his ideas now.

A clear majority of Greece's 18 partners favour a hard line at the summit, arguing that they too are democracies and that Greeks should not get easier money because they had rejected the austerity terms, casting further doubt on whether they would implement any reforms agreed now.

The ECB left unchanged its emergency liquidity lifeline for Greek banks but raised the discount it charges on collateral they have to present for funds — a measure banking sources said was largely symbolic since the total they could borrow was capped.

A bank closure in force since the talks collapsed was prolonged until Thursday at least, and cash withdrawals remain limited to 60 euros a day, with 20 euro notes running out.

Even with the country was on the brink of economic collapse, Greek newspapers reported the government was still seeking exceptions from its reform pledges for special interests.

Athens wants to keep a 30 percent discount on value added tax on Greek islands and protect defence spending from cuts, which rightist junior coalition partners the Independent Greeks have called "red lines".

Reuters

Britain remembers 7/7 victims 10 years after London bombings

LONDON, 7 July — Britain will fall silent on Tuesday to commemorate the 10th anniversary of attacks targeting London public transport which killed 56 people, the first suicide bombings by Islamist militants in western Europe.

Relatives of the victims, survivors, royalty and senior politicians will gather to remember those killed in the 7 July 2005 bombings with emotions still raw after a massacre in Tunisia last month, Britain's worst loss in an incident involving militants since the London attacks.

"Today the country comes together to remember the victims of one of the deadliest terrorist atrocities on mainland Britain," Prime Minister David Cameron said in a statement.

"Ten years on from the 7/7 London attacks, the threat from terrorism continues to be as real as it is deadly — the murder of 30 innocent Britons whilst holidaying in Tunisia is a brutal reminder of that fact. But we will never be cowed by terrorism."

In the early hours of 7 July a decade ago, four young British Muslims travelled down to London



Passers-by look at a memorial plaque attached to railings in Tavistock Square, in memory of those who lost their lives on a number 30 double-decker bus during the 7/7 attack in 2005, in London, Britain on 6 July, 2015.—REUTERS

where they detonated homemade bombs hidden in rucksacks on three underground trains and a bus during the morning rush-hour.

Inspired by al-Qaeda, they killed themselves and 52 other people and wounded around 700 others. Citizens from Poland, Israel, Australia, France, Italy, Afghanistan, Nigeria, New Zealand and a Vietnamese-American were among the victims.

Cameron will lay a wreath

at the 7/7 memorial in Hyde Park before joining other senior figures, relatives of the victims, survivors and members of the emergency services caught up in the bombings for a service of remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral. This will include a national minute of silence, which comes just four days after Britain paid a similar tribute to those killed when an Islamist gunman opened fire at the Tunisian resort of Sousse.

Reuters

Cuba ranks US blockade top obstacle to ties

HAVANA, 7 July — Since Washington and Havana announced their decision to restore diplomatic ties on Wednesday, the Cuban government and people have strongly and repeatedly demanded that the United States lift its almost half-a-century-old embargo against the island nation.

The Cuban government puts the US blockade on top of its list of obstacles to the normalization of bilateral ties due to the huge losses it has inflicted on many sectors of the Cuban society.

Tourism is among the sectors that are most vulnerable to the blockade, according to Cuba's official daily *Granma*.

Agriculture has also been hit hard because of the difficulties in importing supplies, additional freight expenses, and not being able to use the US dollar in financial transactions.

The losses caused by the blockade from May 2013 to April 2014 reached 307 million dollars, according to the Cuban Ministry

of Agriculture.

In addition to the economy, education in the island nation has also been severely affected.

Cuban access to primary materials, supplies, new technologies, equipment and tools for education, especially in the field of special education field, has been impeded, according to *Granma*.

The blockade has barred over 22,000 students with needs for special education from having access to adequate resources.

Humberto Montalvo, an audio technician in his 50s, said that the US treatment of the Cuban people is "criminal" as the blockade has affected every aspect of the Cuban society and people's life.

Although US President Barack Obama is currently trying to lift the blockade against the Caribbean island, the chance is remote as he lacks enough support from the Congress, which is dominated by conservative Republicans.

Xinhua

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 8 July, 2015

Myanmar needs reforms to compete with neighbours

By Aung Khin

AS capital inflows from abroad are integral to the country's economic development, it is important that official policy focuses on encouraging foreign investment by putting in place the right infrastructure and attractive tax arrangements.

Neighbouring countries competing for foreign investment look to other developing nations to learn from their examples. Some have been quite successful, recording sharp increases in gross domestic product and per

capita income.

Before investing in Myanmar, foreign firms must consider the potential impact of the country's electricity supply, road networks and logistics on their businesses. In making their investment decisions, they will often make comparisons with the infrastructure of neighbouring countries. If Myanmar cannot fulfil the fundamentals for manufacturing activities of foreign firms, it will not be seen as an attractive destination.

Many of Myanmar's skilled workers ply their trades in developing countries, both within the region and further abroad. Incentives should be provided for those with in-demand skills to repatriate. High-tech companies will recognize their abilities and experience working in developing countries. These highly skilled workers can share their knowledge with locals who have limited exposure to international environments.

Establishment of deep seaports and special economic zones are not enough to turn Myanmar

into a wealthy country. By and large, these projects are more beneficial to the investor countries.

Economic reform requires the transformation of many sectors. Laws should be amended for the prosperity of the country and people. Public wealth is more important than the prosperity of individuals. Myanmar should not hesitate to institute genuine and effective economic reforms in order to make the country a strong competitor in the region.

Write for us

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

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

Commitment To Democracy

Kyi Mun

Why should we all be wholeheartedly committed to establishing democracy in Myanmar? The answer is: We all should be passionately committed to building democracy in Myanmar because democracy has proved in the whole history of the world to be the best available and feasible form of political system. It has been undisputably proved that man is the most intelligent being in the whole wide world. In fact, man is endowed not only with the best form of intelligence; man is also endowed with compassion of the highest kind. Man possesses insight as well as loving kindness. So, man is fully entitled to live and move and has his or her being in liberty, equality, fraternity, justice, peace, progress and prosperity. Democracy has proved to be the fairest, the most pragmatic system of governance that delivers the best form of justice. So, most of the countries of the world have opted for the democratic form of government of the people, by the people, for the people.

Now, let's explore how we can nurture, cultivate and establish democracy with courageous commitment in the following manner:

C for Courage to Stand for Democracy

O for Objectives

M for Motherland First

M for Mission

I for Integrity-driven

T for Total Democracy Leadership

M for Mobilizing the People for Democracy

E for Endeavoring To Cultivate Democracy

N for Never Wavering In Establishing Democracy

T for Total Commitment To Democracy

❖ **COURAGE TO STAND FOR DEMOCRACY**

The fight for democracy has a long and arduous history. Myanmar has the history of fighting against the British colonialism, Japanese Fascism, the struggle for national independence and many kinds of internal conflicts. But, Myanmar has a unique history of standing for fairness, justice, the rule of law, human rights and freedom. Myanmar has a unique culture of Wisdom & Compassion. So, all of us, the true Myanmar citizens, must resolutely stand for establishing democracy in Myanmar with all our minds, with all our hearts, with all our strengths.

❖ **OBJECTIVES**

Objectives for establishing democracy in Myanmar should be:

- Freedom, Sovereignty, Independence
- Liberty, Equality, Fraternity
- Human Rights, Justice, the Rule of Law
- Separation & Independence of (The Executive) Government, Legislation and Judiciary

- Economic Development & Modernization
- Scientific & Technological Advancement & Modernization
- Educational Advancement & All-round Development
- Socio-cultural Development and Refinement
- National Defense Capabilities Development & Modernization
- Ecological Protection & Renewal

❖ **MOTHERLAND FIRST**

In establishing democracy in Myanmar, all of us must put the Motherland First & Foremost. Racial, factional, sectarian and partisan interests must give preference to the interests of the Motherland. As we all love our biological mother, we all should love our Motherland with all our minds, our hearts, with all our souls and with all our strengths.

❖ **MISSION**

Our MISSION is TO BUILD DEMOCRACY IN MYANMAR NOW. Democracy building must be our HIGHER PURPOSE. Our definite AIM & OBJECT is ESTABLISHING DEMOCRACY in MYANMAR NOW and For Ever. In other words, OUR MISSION IS THE PURSUIT OF DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES AND TOTAL COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES. We all love democracy, only democracy, nothing but democracy.

❖ **INTEGRITY-DRIVEN**

Establishing democracy is a good thing, a noble aspiration and practically necessary condition for the people of Myanmar. Myanmar is a predominantly Buddhist (Theravada) country. Theravada Buddhism proudly professes to genuinely practice Loving-kindness, Compassion, Sympathetic Joy and Equanimity. There is no room for Egoism, Selfishness, Self-serving practices in Buddhism. In Buddhism, honesty, austerity, charity, service (Veyāvicca) and friendliness always come first. So, democracy building in Myanmar should proudly be integrity-driven.

❖ **TOTAL DEMOCRACY LEADERSHIP**

Democracy cultivation in Myanmar should be characterized in the following manner:

- People-focus
 - Mass-Participation
 - Integrity-orientation
 - Continuous Quality Improvement In Democracy
- The Total Democracy Leadership must see to the Total Quality Development of :
- Personal Democracy Practices
 - Interpersonal Democracy Practices
 - Managerial Democracy Practices
 - Organizational Democracy Practices
 - People's Democracy Practices

- National Democracy Practices

❖ **MOBILIZING THE PEOPLE FOR DEMOCRACY**

Democracy is a national and people affair. Establishment of democracy must encompass the entire people and the whole country. People must be empowered in:

- Political Advancement
- Economic Advancement
- Educational Advancement
- Socio-cultural Advancement
- Technological Advancement
- Environmental Advancement

The broad masses of the people have got to have the awareness of their rights and responsibilities in the forward march to democracy.

❖ **ENDEAVORING TO CULTIVATE DEMOCRACY**

The entire history of the whole world has been the history of the people's struggle for democracy. Just as a cathedral has to be built by human ingenuity, expertise and labor, so also democracy must be built by the vision, mission, core values, goal, objectives and strategy of the people. If we are united in this Endeavour, we and the next generations will be able to enjoy the fruits of democracy, which we and the future generations really deserve.

❖ **NEVER WAVERING IN ESTABLISHING DEMOCRACY**

We all must embrace democracy dearly.

We all must build democracy clearly.

We all must enjoy democracy cheerily.

We must never waver or falter in our struggle for democracy. There is a popular saying in Myanmar to the effect that : "It is better to die than to be enslaved". So, we must have:

- **Passionate Purpose**
- **Purposeful Patience**
- **Proactive Pursuit**
- **Positive Practice**

in building democracy.

❖ **TOTAL COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY**

Come one, come all! We must be totally committed to establishing democracy in Myanmar, with all our minds, with all our hearts, with all our souls and with all our strengths.

We must be :

- ✓ Bold, Brave & Brilliant
- ✓ Proud, Patient & Purposeful
- ✓ Strong, Serene & Successful

In our forward and upward struggle for democracy!

❖ **CONCLUSION**

All ends well that ends well.

Long live democracy!

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

LOCAL NEWS

Entrepreneurs focus on longevity of oil mills



MANDALAY, 7 July—Mandalay Region Oil Mill Entrepreneurs Association and Yoma Bank organized a workshop on development of oil mills at the Victory Hotel in Aungmyethazan Township on 5 July.

Director U Myo Thu of the Trade Promotion and Consumer Department spoke on the occasion while deputy director U Swe Tint Kyu explained consumer protection.

Oil millers in Yangon, Mandalay, Sagaing, Mag-

way and Bago regions discussed development of oil mills in Myanmar. Ngwe Thazin Oil Mill owner U Aung Shwe noted the longevity of small-and medium-scale local oil mills.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Fisheries Department releases fingerlings to rural lakes

MYINGYAN, 7 July—Myingyan District Fisheries Department in Mandalay Region released fingerlings into village lakes recently.

Head of District Fisheries Department U Thaw Tun Oo and staff released 25,000 fingerlings to lakes in Myingyan and Ngazun townships with the aim of developing the fishery sector and promoting fish production. They distributed pamphlets on conservation of fish species and breeding to local people.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



Company officials, staff donate cash, notebooks to needy students

MANDALAY, 7 July — The Ngweyi Pale Group of Companies, producers of Crown brand cement and Hsinshweli sugar, recently donated stationery and cash to orphanages and training schools under the Social Welfare Department.

Managing Director U Thein Myint, officials and

staff donated meals, stationery and more than K2 million to 189 students and teachers of Ngasohtaik orphanage in Chanayethazan Township, as well as lunch, stationery, uniforms and K988,400 to the school for girls of Social Welfare Department in the same township. They also donated lunch and K668,000

to the Youth Training School on 12th Street in Aungmyethazan Township.

They also donated notebooks for more than 3,500 students of monastic education schools, basic education schools and orphanages in Mandalay in the last week of June.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Rural Development Department set to sink tube-wells, build water tank

KHINU, 7 July — The Rural Development Department has sunk a tube-well in Yeayekon Village in KhinU Township, Sagaing Region.

The department is scheduled to sink three tube-wells and three tanks in villages in the township in this fiscal year.

A tank is being constructed by the department to supply water to local people through a 1,400-foot-long pipeline.

Head of KhinU Township Rural Development Department Daw Cho Cho Nwe estimated that



the department will spend K9.95 million on laying the water pipelines.

KhinU Soe Wai

Education officials discuss draft laws

FALAM, 7 July — Falam District education officials recently gathered for a seminar to discuss draft education laws at the Falam No 2 basic education high school.

Falam Township Education Officer U Thein Swe Myint discussed the draft basic education law and National Education Law while Tiddim Education Officer U Ngo Soon explained the draft technical

and vocational education law. Tunzang Township Education Officer Daw Cein Lam Nyaung spoke about the draft private education law.

The Falam township education officer said, "The seminar sought discussions on the draft laws to be submitted to the Ministry of Education so that we can contribute to implementation of the national education law."—District IPRD

Bodybuilders, physical culture competitors take to stage

MANDALAY, 7 July — Mandalay Region Bodybuilding and Physical Culture Subcommittee held its bodybuilding con-

test and pageant at the city hall, here, on 5 July.

Arkar Hein (Black Pearl Gym) came first in the junior bodybuilding contest, followed by first runners-up Khin Maung Tun (Bahtoo) and Ko Ko Maung (Hercules). Sai Chit Ngwe (Mogok) took the open first prize ahead of Nyi Nyi Phyu (Black Pearl Gym) and Arkar

Hein (Black Pearl Gym). Arkar Hein and Sai Chit Ngwe respectively secured the Mr Shwe Mann awards in junior and senior classes.

Ma Hsu Myint Win (Hercules) and Ma Nay Chi Tint Win (Bahtoo Club) respectively won the junior and senior physical culture contests.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Body builders show their postures in bodybuilding contest.

Islamic State target Iraq's Haditha town with vehicle bombs



Iraqi security forces and people stand outside houses that were damaged after an Iraqi Sukhoi jet accidentally dropped a bomb in Ni'iriya district in Baghdad on 6 July, 2015.
REUTERS

BAGHDAD, 7 July — An Islamic State militant blew up an explosive-laden bulldozer near Haditha, killing seven Iraqi soldiers in one of a wave of bomb attacks on the northwestern town on Monday, a police source said.

Haditha and its nearby dam lie in one of the few parts of the huge western province of Anbar still under the control of Iraq's Shi'ite-led government forces, which were driven out of the provincial capital Ramadi in May.

Security services said they fired on and destroyed four other vehicles believed to be rigged with explosives near the town, before they

could reach their targets. The coordinated assault reflected an escalation of Islamic State operations in the final days of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

In a statement two weeks ago, Islamic State spokesman Abu Mohammad Adnani called for increased attacks during Ramadan, and specifically mentioned Haditha.

A car bomb also exploded on Monday in the town of Jubba, about 30 km (20 miles) southeast of Haditha, close to the Ain al-Asad air base where US forces have been training Sunni Muslim fighters from Anbar to take on Islamic State.

A police source said seven soldiers were killed.

The Sunni Muslim province of Anbar is a stronghold of the Islamic State militants who control swathes of Iraq and Syria, including the northern Iraqi city of Mosul and the Syrian city of Raqqa, capital of their self-declared caliphate.

In Iraq, the Islamist militants have been driven out of the city of Tikrit and eastern province of Diyala, but have launched repeated strikes to retake lost ground in the refinery town of Baiji, north of Tikrit.

Army troops and fighters from the mainly Shi'ite Muslim Hashd Shaabi mi-

litias — backed by a US-led air campaign — have stepped up their counter-offensive in Anbar, cutting off a northern supply route to Islamic State-held Falluja as they tighten an attempted siege of the city, just 40 km (25 miles) west of Baghdad.

A security source in Anbar said security forces recaptured a bridge north of Ramadi on Monday in an attack which killed 14 Islamic State fighters.

In northeast Iraq, Islamic State fighters launched an attack early on Monday against Kurdish peshmerga forces in the village of Murah, near the city of Kirkuk. A Kurdish police officer said peshmerga fighters, backed by air strikes, repelled the attack at around dawn after five hours of fighting.

A statement issued in the name Islamic State said the Islamists had taken one peshmerga fighter prisoner, showing a photograph of a man with blood spattered on his shirt and face.

Kurdish forces later drove around with the bodies of dead militants splayed on the bonnets of their armoured vehicles.

Reuters

Brothers arrested over links to Islamic State bombing in Kuwait — Saudi media

DUBAI, 7 July — Three brothers have been arrested by Saudi and Kuwaiti authorities for involvement in a suicide bombing by a Saudi man on a Shi'ite Muslim mosque in neighbouring Kuwait last month, Saudi state news agency SPA reported on Tuesday.

The ultra-radical Sunni Islamic State group said it carried out the attack, which killed 27 people and appeared aimed at stoking sectarian hatred in the energy-rich Gulf.

The three Saudi brothers, who were not identified, were "parties to the crime of the sinful terrorist bombing that targeted the Imam al-Sadeq mosque in Kuwait", SPA quoted a security spokesman for the interior ministry as saying.

One was arrested in Kuwait and will be extradited to the kingdom, another was arrested in the western Saudi city of Taif and a third was taken into custody after a shootout at a house near the Kuwaiti border that wounded two policemen.

A fourth brother lives

in Syria and is a member of Islamic State, the security spokesman added.

The bombing was Kuwait's deadliest militant attack, and the most lethal in any of the six hereditary-ruled Gulf Arab states since a campaign of al-Qaeda bombings was stamped out in Saudi Arabia a decade ago.

The attack has raised concerns about the number of young Saudi men willing to travel to attack Shi'ites in smaller Gulf Arab states and so make good on a threat by Islamic State to step up violence in the holy fasting month of Ramadan.

The group claimed two suicide bombings carried out on 22 May and 29 May on Shi'ite mosques in eastern Saudi Arabia, where the bulk of Saudi Arabia's Shi'ite minority lives.

The Saudi branch of the militant group has said it wants to clear the Arabian Peninsula of Shi'ites and urged young men in the kingdom to join its cause.

Reuters

Air strikes kill nearly 100 in Yemen, cast shadow on truce talks

DUBAI / ADEN, 7 July — Nearly 100 people were killed on Monday in air strikes across Yemen, the Houthi-run state news agency reported, as a Saudi-led coalition stepped up attacks that are likely to weigh on efforts to broker a humanitarian truce.

The United Nations has been pushing for a halt to the air strikes and fighting that have killed nearly 3,000 people in Yemen since March when the Saudi-led coalition intervened against the Iranian-backed Houthi forces to try to restore exiled President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi.

The Houthi-run Saba news agency said 54 people had been killed in a series of raids in the Amran Province, north of the capital Sanaa, including 40 who had been shopping at a market in an area called Lower Joub in the Eyal Ya-zeed district.

It said a number of women and children were among the dead.

Saba said Saudi-led

war planes had also killed more than 40 people in a raid on a livestock market in the town of al-Foyoush in southern Yemen.

Local residents also reported 30 deaths in a raid they said apparently targeted a Houthi checkpoint on the main road between Aden and Lahj. They said 10 of the dead were Houthi fighters.

A spokesman for the Saudi-led coalition could not immediately be reached for comment. But a spokesman has previously said the coalition does not target civilians.

UN special envoy to Yemen Ismail Ould Cheikh Ahmed held talks with officials from the dominant Houthi group to try to broker a ceasefire to allow aid supplies to be delivered.

The Yemeni government, exiled in Riyadh, said consultations were being held on implementing an April UN resolution calling for the Houthis to quit cities seized since September and for aid supplies



Guards walk on the rubble of the house of Brigadier Khaled al-Anduli, an army commander loyal to the Houthi movement, after it was hit by Saudi-led air strikes in Yemen's capital Sanaa on 6 July, 2015.
REUTERS

to be sent to stricken Yemeni civilians.

"We are now in consultations for guarantees to ensure the success of the truce," Hadi spokesman Rajeh Badi told Reuters.

"The mechanism we presented to implement (the UN resolution) demanded real guarantees to ensure aid is delivered to those who need it," he said, noting that talks were underway to "lift the delib-

erate siege on Aden, Taiz, Lahj and Dhalea".

Major cities in central and southern Yemen have been racked by heavy fighting between the Houthis and a patchwork of military, regional and tribal forces allied with Hadi.

Badi said a sought-after "humanitarian pause" would last till the end of the three-day Eid, expected to start on 17 July.

The Houthis have also

signalled readiness to honour a truce.

The intensive diplomacy came amid a growing outcry over the deteriorating humanitarian situation after more than three months of air strikes on the impoverished country prompted by the Houthi advance south on an area controlled by Hadi's government.

Saudi Arabia sees the Houthis as proxies for arch-rival Iran, which they accuse of trying to expand its influence in Riyadh's immediate backyard.

The United Nations last week designated the war in Yemen as a Level 3 humanitarian crisis, its most severe category, and the United States and the European Union have endorsed calls for a humanitarian suspension of hostilities.

Residents in Aden said mortar shells fired from areas of the city held by the Houthis on Monday set a gas pipeline and empty oil storage tanks in the al-Bu-

raiqah area on fire.

Overnight on Sunday, Saudi-led military planes destroyed the main headquarters of former president Ali Abdullah Saleh's General People's Congress party in Sanaa, residents said.

Saleh is an ally of the Houthi group and still enjoys the loyalty of much of the armed forces more than four years after being forced to step down by mass 'Arab Spring' protests.

Aid agency Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said on Monday medical facilities had received hundreds of people wounded in air strikes and ground shelling across Yemen in recent days.

"It is unacceptable that airstrikes take place in highly concentrated civilian areas where people are gathering and going about their daily lives, especially at a time such as Ramadan," said MSF head of mission in Yemen, Colette Gadenne.—Reuters

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Samsung Electronics posts 6.1 bln USD in Q2 operating profit



SEOUL, 7 July — Samsung Electronics posted 6.9 trillion won (6.1 billion US dollars) in operating profit for the second quarter, a regulatory filing showed on Tuesday.

The 6.9 trillion-won profit was up 15.38 percent from the previous quarter,

but was down 4.03 percent from a year earlier.

Samsung's operating profit got back on a recovery track in the past three quarters after bottoming at 4.06 trillion won in the third quarter of last year.

The profit was 5.29 trillion won in the fourth

quarter of last year, before recording 5.98 trillion won in the first quarter and 6.9 trillion won in the second quarter.

Preliminary figure for the second quarter revenue was 48 trillion won, up 1.87 percent from the previous quarter but down 8.31 percent from a year ago.

The company did not unveil its estimates for net profit and a breakdown of each business when announcing the preliminary figures. The final results will be made known later this month after an external audit.

Xinhua

Malaysian senior official: SBSR industry to provide 55,000 jobs by 2020

BEIJING, 7 July — Dato' Mah Siew Keong, the minister in charge of the Malaysia Industry Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT), said that the Ship Building Ship Repair (SBSR) industry has been identified as

one of the new growth industry under the 11th Malaysian Plan.

The SBSR industry is expected to generate RM6.35 billion (about 1.67 billion US dollars) in Gross National Income (GNI) and provide 55,000 jobs by

2020, he added.

According to a latest MIGHT report, the revenue generated for the past four years by the SBSR industry has remained at the range of RM7 to 8 billion (about 1.84 to 2.10 billion US dollars) annually.—Xinhua

UK Mortgages eyes home loan investment spree after raising \$505 million

LONDON, 7 July — UK Mortgages UKML.L, an investment fund focused on Britain's residential mortgage market, said on Tuesday it had raised gross proceeds of 250 million pounds to build a portfolio of loans that offer stable income streams in volatile financial markets.

The fundraising was executed via a placing and open offer of ordinary shares at an issue price of 100 pence per share and attracted demand in excess of 325 mil-

lion pounds (\$505.28 million), the company said.

Headquartered in Guernsey, UK Mortgages is run by TwentyFour Asset Management and targets a net total return of 7-10 percent a year.

UK Mortgages Chairman Chris Waldron said the funds were raised in a "significantly oversubscribed fundraising," adding that "the demand for the product is testament to the asset class' potential returns."

"The income potential

and historically low correlation to other asset classes has clearly appealed to investors," said TwentyFour Chief Executive Mark Holman.

UK Mortgages aims to pay a dividend of 3 pence per ordinary share for the financial year ending 30 June 2016 with a first interim dividend to be paid in April 2016. Numis Securities Limited acted as UK Mortgages' broker and financial adviser and will continue working with the company.—Reuters



A row of houses are seen in London, Britain on 3 June, 2015.—REUTERS

After coal, can better health save West Virginia? Eat mushrooms to avoid brittle bones:

Australian researchers

WILLIAMSON, (WV), 7 July — With coal trains chugging past in the distance, Jack Perry watches as his wife, Margie, plants row upon row of Hungarian pepper seedlings in the community garden that residents of this West Virginia coal town call the "Garden of Eatin'."

"The peppers they sell at the stores don't taste anything like this," says Perry, a retired coal worker. His grandfather brought over the original batch of seeds in the early 1900s when he arrived from Hungary to work in southern West Virginia's mines.

The coal industry that sustained those generations is on life support in Williamson and surrounding Mingo County, battered by exhausted mines and competition from natural gas. Williamson's faded sign welcoming drivers to "the heart of the billion dollar coal field" now competes with billboards for weight loss and pain clinics, and the main street is lined with empty storefronts and pawn shops.

Unlike their neighbours in Kentucky, where there have been state-sponsored economic transition efforts,

West Virginians have been largely left on their own to respond to coal's decline. The state's politicians have focused on fighting federal emissions regulations in Congress and in court, blaming the Obama administration for imposing what they say are crippling costs on the industry.

But many people here argue that hope rides less on the outcome of court challenges and more on things as humble as Margie Perry's peppers. She sells her produce at a locally funded farmers' market in this town of 3,000, part of a community movement called "Sustainable Williamson."

The project is the brainchild of Dr Dino Beckett, a Williamson native who left home to attend medical school but returned a dozen years ago. Now 45, with two children of his own, Beckett is determined to help restore the town to the thriving place his parents knew.

"Our approach to the transition away from coal is holistic community development," says Beckett, sitting in the Williamson Health and Wellness Centre that serves as headquarters of Sustainable Williamson.

He sees a local-foods movement as a way to help some of the least-fit people in America get healthier, while laying the foundation for eventual large-scale agriculture and economic development on coalfields once flattened for mining.

"A lot of people don't associate health with entrepreneurship," Beckett said. "But if we help people get healthy, the workforce is going to get healthy and they are going to want to work and participate in activities that help their families."

Mingo County is located in what the US Agriculture Department labels a food desert: an area lacking access to affordable, healthy food. The county places near the top of almost every poverty-associated ranking — number 3 of West Virginia's 55 counties in drug overdoses; second in chronic pulmonary disease — and has one of the worst life expectancy rates in the country, according to the National Center for Health Statistics.

Leasha Johnson, head of the Mingo County Economic Development Authority, said Mingo's land use plan envisions convert-

ing former mine sites into a variety of uses, from cattle grazing to hog and chicken farms, air transportation and wood products.

One small company — Freedom Seed and Feed — is piloting a project on a reclaimed mountaintop coal mine in Williamson to grow industrial hemp. The company has been promoting the use of hemp in fibers, milk, and building materials like cement and concrete.

Shelley Moore Capito, West Virginia's Republican senator, echoed that need to remake old mine sites for farming and small manufacturing. But Capito, a leading voice against the Obama administration's regulations limiting carbon emissions from coal plants, has been reluctant to match Kentucky's interventionist approach.

"My solution would be to bridge the skills gap, such as coal to gas training," she says, referring to opportunities in the state's new lucrative extractive industry — natural gas drilling. "You have to give people a sense of hope that they have the tools to be able to diversify and stay in the community where they wish to live."

Reuters

Eat mushrooms to avoid brittle bones:

Australian researchers

SYDNEY, 7 July — Australians should be heaping mushrooms onto plates during winter to avoid becoming vitamin D deficient, new findings released by the Australian Mushroom Growers Association suggests.

The research, which has been vetted by Foods Standards Australia New Zealand — the bi-national food safety authority — shows one serve of mushrooms bought in store can provide 20 percent of an adult's daily vitamin D needs.

Mushrooms that have been exposed to one or two seconds of UV light, a single serve can provide 100 percent of an adult's daily vitamin D needs.

Local media reported on Tuesday Australian nutritionists have long claimed mushrooms are a great source of vitamin D when people aren't getting enough from the sun, however this is the first time such research has been

conducted.

Dietician Glenn Cardwell said mushrooms, like humans generate vitamin D in response to UV-light.

"We now know that mushrooms are the only food to provide 100 percent of vitamin D in one serve," Cardwell said.

Though present in only very few foods, Vitamin D is important to maintain strong bones, helping the body absorb calcium.

People who get too little Vitamin D risk developing soft, thin, and brittle bones.

Over Australia's winter period, six in ten women and four in ten men who are likely to be vitamin D deficient.

Those most at risk of being Vitamin D deficient are people who work indoors or who work night shifts, the elderly and housebound, naturally dark skinned people, and those who cover their bodies for cultural or religious reasons.—Xinhua

Tokyo university food festival under pressure over hygiene concerns

Mito, (Japan), 7 July — An annual food festival at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies has come under pressure after health authorities found that some of the planned dishes to be served fail to meet sanitary regulations, university officials said on Tuesday.

The “Gaigosai” festival held every November is known for its wide range of dishes from foreign countries cooked by freshmen at the university, which boasts 27 foreign language courses including Chinese, French and Laotian.

“We want to do our best (to enable students) to serve as many dishes as possible by addressing the problems,” said Kayoko Hayashi, a vice president of the university.

Health authorities overseeing the western To-

kyo area where the university is located found a large number of dishes scheduled to be served do not satisfy the hygiene regulations of the Tokyo metropolitan government.

Last year, a woman and her 2-year-old child complained of diarrhea and stomachache after eating curry at the festival. The local health centre looked into the case but failed to identify the cause, prompting the university to judge it was not a food poisoning case.

But in the process of the survey it was revealed that some of the dishes, including the curry in question, were not cleared with the health centre in advance.

The centre decided to strictly impose relevant regulations in overseeing

the festival, which dates back over 90 years, making it impossible this year for dishes requiring rice to be cooked and noodles boiled to be served, due to the lack of appropriate water supplying and discharging equipment.

In response to the decision, some students have decided to modify their recipes. The Vietnam restaurant will use instant noodles in traditional “pho” noodle soup and Thai curry is expected to be provided with bread instead of rice.

After the modification the university submitted roughly 150 recipes to the health center in late May, but it judged that around 70 percent of them do not meet the regulations.

Serving a variety of food “takes much time to prepare and there are fears



Supplied photo taken in 2013 shows a scene from the “Gaigosai” annual food festival at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in the city of Fuchu, Tokyo. University officials said on 7 July, 2015, that health authorities found that some of the planned dishes to be served at the festival failed to meet sanitary regulations.

KYODO NEWS

of bacterial contamination,” said a health official.

“Some restaurants

won’t be able to serve their principle food, which would reduce the number

of customers,” said a female student in her junior year.—Kyodo News

World’s oldest man Sakari Momoi of Japan dies at 112

SAITAMA, (Japan), 7 July — Sakari Momoi, a Japanese man recognized by *Guinness World Records* as the world’s oldest living male, died of chronic kidney failure at the age of 112 at a hospital in Tokyo on Sunday, the municipal office said. Momoi, formerly a teacher who lived in the city of Saitama, near Tokyo, was recognized by Guinness as the oldest man in August 2014 after a man born in Poland, who was then the world’s oldest, died in June 2014 at the age of 111 in the United States.

Momoi taught agri-

cultural chemistry and was a principal at public high schools in Saitama and Fukushima prefectures.

When the Saitama mayor visited him at a rest home in Tokyo in September 2013, Momoi recited Chinese poetry by heart in a resonant voice and appeared to be doing well, eating three meals a day, local officials said.

Following his death, Yasutaro Koide, a 112-year-old man in Nagoya, has become the oldest man in Japan, the Health, Labour and Welfare Ministry said.—Kyodo News



File photo taken in August 2014 shows Sakari Momoi holding a Guinness World Records certificate that recognizes him as the world’s oldest living male. Momoi died of chronic kidney failure at the age of 112 at a hospital in Tokyo on 5 July, 2015.

KYODO NEWS

Pacific trade ministers to gather in Hawaii from 28 July

TOKYO, 7 July — Pacific Rim countries pursuing a free trade initiative are arranging to hold ministerial talks from 28 July in Hawaii with the aim of reaching a broad agreement there, Japanese Economic and Fiscal Policy Minister Akira Amari said on Tuesday.

The United States, Japan and 10 other countries came up with the plan amid growing hopes for an early signing of the Trans-Pacific Partnership after US President Barack Obama was granted the power last week to seek congressional approval for trade deals with limited interference by lawmakers. One negotiation source said the ministerial meeting will take place for two days through 29 July, but Amari said it is undecided how long the negotiations will last. Amari told a Press conference that Japan is willing to “play the last card” at the planned ministerial meeting to end the prolonged TPP negotiations,

and urged other members of the initiative to do so as well.

The talks among ministerial-level officials from the 12 countries will follow “several days of meetings there between chief negotiators” for the TPP, according to a report by the *Inside US Trade* magazine. It remains uncertain whether the negotiations will conclude through the planned ministerial meeting, the report said, noting the talks will take place even if the chief negotiators fail to make progress. The ministers involved in the TPP negotiations last met in November on the sidelines of an international conference in Beijing.

Besides Japan and the United States, the other countries involved in the pact are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. They cover some 40 percent of the global economy. China is not involved.

The uncertainty about

the progress in the ministerial talks “is largely because some TPP countries lack information about the status of bilateral talks between other parties,” the report said, quoting one of the negotiation sources. The United States and Japan, which are still at odds over some issues, will resume their talks on Thursday in Tokyo to settle disputes over Japan’s exceptional tariffs on some agricultural products and what the United States calls nontariff barriers in the Japanese automotive industry. Wendy Cutler, acting deputy US trade representative, and Hiroshi Oe, deputy TPP chief negotiator of Japan, will take part in the bilateral talks, according to both governments. The United States, Australia, Brunei, Chile, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam launched negotiations over the TPP in 2010, with Malaysia, Mexico, Canada and Japan joining the dialogue later.

Kyodo News

Taiwan private school explores mainland market

NANJING, 7 July — Taiwan school operator Tsai Hsing has signed an agreement to purchase a kindergarten in Kunshan City in eastern province of Jiangsu, paving the way to introduce Taiwan private education to the Chinese mainland.

The purchase was confirmed by the Kunshan municipal government on Tuesday. The new school Tsai Hsing Xingkong Kindergarten will start recruitment in September.

Hai Yen Hau, chairman of the Tsai Hsing Global Education Investments Limited, said Tsai Hsing plans to set up another kindergarten in Kunshan and will found a primary school, a junior high school and a senior high school in the city.

“Kunshan has a large number Taiwanese-founded enterprises. The city has provided a sound environment for overseas investors,” Hau said when explaining why Tsai Hsing made the city its first step in the mainland.—Xinhua



Photo taken on 6 July, 2015 shows the Forth Bridge in South Queensferry at Firth of Forth, Scotland. The Forth Bridge in Scotland in northern Britain was officially inscribed as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) World Heritage site, it was announced on Sunday.

XINHUA

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The Global New Light of Myanmar သတင်းစာတိုက်

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 8th July, 2015: Rain will be scattered in Kayah State, fairly widespread in Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, Kachin State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of regionally heavy falls in Rakhine State and isolated heavy falls in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).
STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough seas are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (40) m.p.h.
OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Increase of rain in the Central Myanmar areas.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ASIATIC GLORY VOY NO (006N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIATIC GLORY VOY NO (006N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J035R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J035R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.7.2015 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.

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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

Inquest into Australian girl's death for swallowing lithium battery to start next week

SYDNEY, 7 July — An inquest will begin next week to examine whether an Australian hospital could have done more to prevent the death of a young girl who swallowed a lithium battery.

Summer Steer was four years old when she ingested a 2cm lithium button battery.

She was twice taken to Noosa Hospital in Queensland suffering symptoms including a sore stomach, temperature and black

bowel movements, local media reported.

But she was sent home both times before she began vomiting blood at home.

The third time she was taken to the hospital doctors finally x-rayed her and spotted the battery.

But Summer died two hours later.

The inquest will examine why she was not x-rayed sooner, among other procedural issues.

Xinhua

Malaysian investigators freeze accounts in probe related to PM

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 July — Malaysian authorities said on Tuesday that several bank accounts were frozen in an investigation into allegation of funds channelling into Prime Minister Najib Razak's personal accounts.

A special task force has frozen six accounts believed to be related to the case, a statement said.

The special task force has also obtained documents on 17 accounts in two banks, as well as seizing several documents related to non-compliance of the central bank's rules and procedures, it said.

The statement was jointly issued by Malaysia's Attorney-General Abdul Gani Patail, central bank governor Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Police Chief Khalid Abu Bakar and Anti-Corruption Commission chief Abu Kassim Mohamed, signaling a joint investigation effort.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that some 700 million US dollars has been transferred to Najib's personal accounts, some via the debt-ridden state investment fund 1Malaysia Development Bhd, or 1MDB.

The prime minister's office and 1MDB have since

denied the reports. Najib has denied any wrongdoings, saying he was weighing on legal actions against Wall Street Journal.

Najib said Malaysia's longest serving prime minister and his former mentor, Mahathir Mohamad, was behind the latest "malicious accusation". Mahathir has openly called for Najib to step down.

In a latest blog post on Tuesday, Mahathir continued his criticism on Najib, saying such allegations went unanswered was unprecedented in the country.

Xinhua

Whale stranded in Australia's Great Barrier Reef

SYDNEY, 7 July — Australian marine experts are desperately trying to save a whale stranded in a Great Barrier Reef lagoon off Northern Queensland.

The stranded Dwarf Minke whale, estimated to be six to eight metres long, was first reported to the au-

thorities on Friday. However, it is believed to have been stranded inside the Elford reef, approximately 100 kilometres offshore of Cairns for three weeks.

On Tuesday, Australian wildlife officers are attempting to coax it out through the maze of reefs separating the

lagoon from the open water.

The Australian authorities believe the whale swam into the lagoon through a narrow passage, becoming disorientated.

The Australian authorities say the whale is in good health.

Xinhua

“Gun culture” in Australia's Victoria leaving police at risk

MELBOURNE, 7 July — Australia's Victorian police have again issued a warning about Melbourne's growing “gun culture” after a police officer was shot on Tuesday while attempting to pull over a car.

Victorian Police association secretary Ron Iddles said the proliferation of illegally owned guns in Melbourne made policing an increasingly dangerous occupation.

His comments came after a rogue gunman in Melbourne's northwest shot a police officer in the back of the head with a shotgun at around 3.40 am local time on Tuesday.

The injured constable, 31, was transported to Royal Melbourne Hospital in a serious but stable condition, and is reportedly conscious despite the ordeal.

The incident occurred when the officer and his

partner began to tail a Ford Escape.

After attempting to intercept the suspicious vehicle, the occupant fired a single shot from a 12-gauge shotgun as he fled the scene.

The shot hit the officer through the driver's side window.

The shooter is yet to be apprehended. “The environment of policing has changed,” Iddles told 3AW radio on Tuesday morning. “There's more firearms out there, and it's dangerous for our (police) members every time they go out to work.”

It is the second time in a month that Iddles has spoken out about Melbourne's insidious gun culture which has increased dramatically in the past decade and is often putting his members at risk.

In response to a Crime Statistics Report on 18 June, which dubbed the

Melbourne's northwest as the city's “red zone” for illegal gun confiscation, Iddles said: “It is concerning that every second day a firearm is being located in a car, and about every six days there is a firearm incident.”

“Either a drive by shooting (will occur) or a shooting of someone that is not fatal.”

Figures suggested an unregistered firearm was being found in a car every second day.

Iddles said on Tuesday the officers were just trying to do their job. “When these two officers put on a uniform last night, they didn't expect to be a target they went out there to serve the community,” he said. “The gunman had a total disregard for human life, and in particular the life of police officers.”

Xinhua

Lady Gaga and Tony Bennett “cheek-to-cheek” at Montreux jazz fest



Members of a US student band perform during the 49th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland, on 6 July, 2015. The festival runs from 4 July to 18 July.—XINHUA



Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga perform together at the 49th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland, on 6 July, 2015, in this handout courtesy of the Montreux Jazz Festival. REUTERS

MONTREUX, (Switzerland), 7 July — Pop star Lady Gaga and crooner Tony Bennett brought a mix of Cole Porter, Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra and even Edith Piaf to a sell-out crowd spanning generations at the Montreux Jazz Festival on Monday night.

Legendary producer Quincy Jones introduced the odd American couple, praising Gaga as a singer who had “blown his mind.” He also recalled working on the musical arrangement for Bennett’s

1966 hit “Girl Talk.”

“This would be Claude’s definite dream,” Jones said, referring to Claude Nobs, the late founder of one of Europe’s most prestigious summer music festivals, now in its 49th edition.

Bennett, the only person in the famed Stravinsky Auditorium wearing a jacket and tie, and the blond Gaga, appearing first in a long shiny silver dress with plunging neckline, opened with “Anything Goes,” a Cole Porter tune of the 1930s.

The pair of New Yorkers then sang “Cheek to Cheek” by Irving Berlin, the title track from their 2014 album of jazz standards for which they won a Grammy Award in February.

Bennett, just weeks shy of his 89th birthday, and Gaga, already a six-time Grammy winner at age 29, delivered 30 songs during their 100-minute non-stop show, backed by nine musicians.

“We’re selling our album around the world, please buy it. She really

needs the money,” Bennett quipped.

Gaga, born Stefani Joanne Angelina Germanotta, is better known for her hits “Paparazzi” and “Poker Face.”

Gaga hit the high notes in Montreux in half a dozen eye-popping outfits, changing backstage during Bennett’s solos. During love ballads, she gave him hugs or kisses on the cheeks.

For their “I Won’t Dance” duet, she wore a black dress and long gloves, with glittering eyebrows.

In “I Can’t Give You Anything But Love,” Gaga played the vamp in a red feathered dress with transparent top. For “Let’s Face the Music and Dance” her silver dress with chain belt gave her the allure of the swinging 60s.

She sat back-to-back with pianist Michael Renzi cabaret style for “Everytime We Say Goodbye,” another Cole Porter hit.

Reuters

‘Terminator Genisys’ shouldn’t use James Cameron name: Arnold Schwarzenegger

LONDON, 7 July — Superstar Arnold Schwarzenegger has revealed that he doesn’t like the fact that Paramount has been heavily using James Cameron, the original creator of the “Terminator” series, to market the new film. Schwarzenegger, 67, said “Genisys” is good enough to stand on its own without relying on Cameron, who had no creative involvement in the sci-fi blockbuster, reported Digital Spy.

The studio earlier this month premiered a promotional video in which Cameron told fans, “You’re gonna love this movie”, and said he considers it the true third film in the series. Schwarzenegger said, “I do not like the idea that the studio went out and used it as a promotional material for the movie because I always felt that if you do that, it looks kind of like you need James Cameron to say something good about the movie. “Which we don’t, because the movie is a straight 10, it’s a fantastic movie.”

However, Schwarzenegger admitted that he was grateful for Cameron for taking the time to watch the latest Terminator and share with him his views. “I think that it was a great kind of a experience in a way to have James Cameron call me and say, ‘I just saw the movie’, because I had no idea he was going to go and see the movie,” he said.—PTI

Taylor Swift’s ‘Blank Space’ video fastest to reach 1 billion views

LOS ANGELES, 7 July — Taylor Swift’s “Blank Space” video, which was released online via Vevo last November, has hit one million views and become the fastest to do so.

The former country star took to Twitter to share her excitement after hearing the news. “The Blank Space video just became the fastest to hit 1 billion views on @vevo,” she told her 60 million followers. “(And) Bad Blood is #1 at pop radio for a 3rd week. THANKS GUYS!!!,” the 25-year-old singer added.

“Blank Space” was released late last year as the second single off Swift’s massively successful fifth studio album 1989. Its cinematic music video was directed by Joseph Kahn and was made available on Vevo last November. Swift is currently in the North American leg of her 1989 world tour to support her first pop effort. The tour opened last May and is scheduled to finish in December.—PTI



Disney seeks continued tax exemption from Anaheim, California

LOS ANGELES, 7 July — The “happiest place on Earth” will keep a special tax exemption in Anaheim, California, for 30 more years if the City Council approves the Walt Disney Co’s plan for a \$1 billion-plus expansion of its theme park complex in the city.

The five-member council is expected to vote on Tuesday on the company’s proposal to go ahead with its Disneyland Resort makeover in exchange for a continued waiver of any future admission tax the city might impose on entertainment venues.

The resort’s current exemption was granted by

the city in 1996 and is due to expire on 30 June, 2016.

No entertainment gate tax has ever been levied by the city of Anaheim, but an extension of Disney’s special waiver would reimburse the company for any such taxes imposed during the next three decades, municipal spokeswoman Ruth Ruiz said.

Disney and its supporters say the exemption is merited because of the huge economic benefit Anaheim derives from the resort, which is the largest employer in the city and Orange County as a whole, accounting for 28,000 local jobs.

“Anaheim has been

an economic success story thanks to its policies and initiatives that allow businesses to invest and thrive,” Disneyland Resort President Michael Colglazier said in a statement.

But Mayor Tom Tait, a City Council member who backed the original tax exemption, has gone on record opposing the plan to renew it, citing an estimated \$500 million in unfunded pension obligations now faced by the city.

“Chaining the hands of future residents on their ability to impose taxes will jeopardize the city’s financial health,” he was quoted as saying in the Orange County Register.

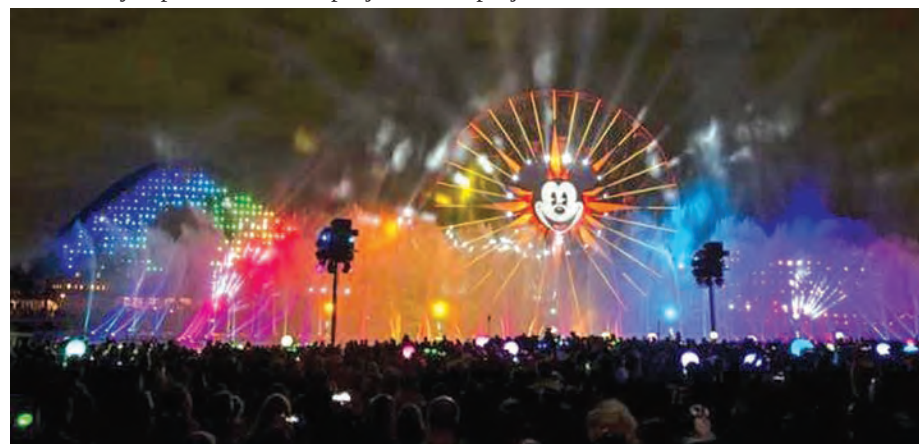
Two other council members support an extension, while two others have said they are undecided.

Disney’s plan calls for

breaking ground by the end of 2017 and finishing construction by 2024. A study commissioned by Disney projected the project would

support an average of 2,600 local jobs a year, and lead to creation of 2,100 permanent jobs.

Reuters



People watch “World of Colour — Celebrate! The Wonderful World of Walt Disney” during Disneyland Diamond Celebration in Anaheim, California on 22 May, 2015.—REUTERS

GENERAL

Record 25.4 million watch Women's World Cup final on US TV

NEW YORK, 7 July — A record 25.4 million TV viewers in the United States watched the United States beat Japan 5-2 in the final of the FIFA Women's World Cup, a new high for any soccer match televised in the country, according to Nielsen ratings data on Monday.

Sunday's contest in Vancouver, Canada, was broadcast live by Fox Sports and was by far the most-watched TV broadcast of the night, Nielsen figures showed.

The number of viewers shattered the average 18.2 million audience that tuned in for the men's USA v Portugal match on cable channel ESPN in the early rounds of the World Cup in Brazil in 2014.

Sunday's audience also crushed the 13.5 million who watched the American



United States goalkeeper Hope Solo (1) hoists the FIFA Women's World Cup trophy as she and her teammates pose with their medals after defeating Japan in the final of the FIFA 2015 Women's World Cup in Vancouver on 5 July, 2015.—REUTERS

women take on, and lose against, Japan in the 2011 World Cup final.

The two-hour-long telecast handily beat entertainment shows such as "Big

Brother" on rival CBS and "Celebrity Family Feud" on ABC.

Fox's post-match live discussion drew a whopping 14.6 million people, accord-

ing to Nielsen.

Fox is a unit of Twenty-First Century Fox Inc, ABC is a unit of the Walt Disney Co and CBS is a unit of CBS Corp.—Reuters

World's oldest person celebrates 116th birthday in New York City

NEW YORK, 7 July — The world's oldest living person, the daughter of sharecroppers and granddaughter of slaves, celebrated her 116th birthday on Monday in New York.

Susannah Mushatt Jones marked the occasion privately with family but a public celebration is planned for Tuesday, according to the Gerontology Research Group.



Susannah Mushatt Jones (2nd L) celebrates her 115th birthday at Vandalia Senior Center in New York in this 8 July, 2014 handout photo obtained by Reuters on 6 July, 2015, alongside Executive Director Paul Curiale (2nd R), Councilwoman Inez Barron and former Councilman Charles.—REUTERS

Jones was born in Alabama in 1899 and after graduating from high school moved north in 1922 to New Jersey and then New York, where she worked as a housekeeper and childcare provider, according to the Guinness World Records and the Vandalia Senior Centre in the New York City borough of Brooklyn, where she lives.

Jones, who retired in 1965, says lots of sleep is the secret to her longevity, Guinness said in confirming her status as the oldest living person. She also said she never smoked or drank, according to Senior Centre officials.

Jones has lost her eyesight and has difficulties hearing, said Robert Young, director of the Los Angeles-based Gerontology Research Group's Supercentenarian Research and Database Division.

She was the third of 11 children born to sharecroppers, and her grandparents were slaves, according to a book written about her by a

family member, Young said.

The book, "Susannah Our Incredible 114-Year-Old Aunt," said she is mostly African-American with some Native American ancestry, he said.

She never had children but has more than 100 nieces and nephews.

Of her husband, according to the nursing home, she says: "I don't know what happened to him."

Jones inherited the title of world's oldest living person after the 17 June death of Jeralean Talley, who was 116, in Michigan.

She is the third consecutive American to hold the title of world's oldest person, Young said.

The world's second oldest person is Emma Morano-Martinuzzi, a 115-year-old woman living in Italy, according to the Gerontology Research Group.

The oldest verified person was Jeanne Calment of France, who died in 1997 at 122 years and 164 days, Young said.—Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(8-7-2015 07:00 am~ 9-7-2015 07:00 am) MST

- * News
- * Jeyyanandi (A Day in the Life of a Nun)
- * Kambawzathardi Golden Palace — A Treasured Legacy of Golden Days
- * News
- * Lucrative Myanma Rattan Industry
- * Gardener: Rose Plantation
- * Wet Markets in Yangon: Thirimingalar Market
- * News
- * Diary of a Fisherman
- * SHWE SETTAW (Minbu)
- * News
- * Herbal Medicine By Thurein (Aloe Vera)
- * Culture Shows: Theatrical Art
- * News
- * To The Land of Countless Temples — Bagan Trip (EP-1)
- * Sagaing: Gold Leaf
- * News
- * Myanmar Traditional Identity (EP- 2)
- * Myanmar Chinthe (Myanmar Lion)
- * A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-1)
- * Youth Filmmaker: Lwin Ko Ko Oo
- * News
- * Insight Myanmar: Women & Election
- * Image of The Monks
- * Modifying Natural Thanakha Bark into Ready-Made Skin Care Product
- * News
- * Products of Myanmar — Power Ring
- * Sagaing: Guitar
- * News
- * Myanmar Performing Arts- Puppet
- * News
- * Family of Toys
- * A Nun's Creation in Fruit Carving
- * Kyaikhteyyoe: Bamboo Guns

MRTV News Channel in Brief

(8-7-2015, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
 - Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:20 am**
 - Physical Exercise
- 7:35 am**
 - Money Talk Myanmar
- 8:00 am**
 - News / International News
- 8:35 am**
 - People's Talks
- 9:30 am**
 - Head Line News
- 10:35 am**
 - Documentary
- 11:35 am**
 - MRTV's Youth Programme
- 12:00 noon**
 - News / International News / Weather Report
- 12:35 pm**
 - Hluttaw Image
- 12:50 pm**
 - TV Drama Series
- 1:40 pm**
 - Gatamahar
- 2:35 pm**
 - Traditional Boxing
- 3:30 pm**
 - Head Line News
- 4:35 pm**
 - University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) — Third Year (Geography)
- 5:00 pm**
 - News/Weather Report
- 5:50 pm**
 - Documentary
- 6:35 pm**
 - Science and Technology Programme
- 7:00 pm**
 - News
- 7:35 pm**
 - Documentary
- 8:00 pm**
 - News / International News / Weather Report
- 9:00 pm**
 - News
 - Hluttaw Image
 - Fine Arts-Bosom of Dramatic Performance

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(8-7-2015, Wednesday)

- 6:00 am**
 - Mono Classical Songs
- 6:20 am**
 - Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 6:40 am**
 - Fashion Show
- 6:55 am**
 - Teleplay
- 7:10 am**
 - TV Drama Series
- 7:55 am**
 - TV Drama Series
- 8:40 am**
 - Musical Programme
- 8:55 am**
 - Teleplay
- 9:25 am**
 - Musical Programme
- 9:35 am**
 - Pyi Thu Ni Ti
- 9:55 am**
 - Joint Performance by State Orchestra and Traditional Orchestra
- 10:25 am**
 - Myanmar Movie

United winger Nani signs three-year deal with Fenerbahce

ANKARA, 7 July — Portugal winger Nani has joined Fenerbahce from Manchester United for six million euros on a three-year deal, the Turkish league runners-up announced on Monday.

"I am delighted with the way fans reacted to my transfer, I can promise that I will give my heart to the club," Nani, 28, told a news conference at the club's Sukru Saracoglu stadium. "My main objective will be to help the team win titles. I had a great season, I am feeling great and my self confidence is really high at the moment," said Nani. He spent last season on loan at Sporting Lisbon, scoring 11 goals, having joined United in 2007 from the Portuguese club. He had been told he was not part of United manager Louis van Gaal's plans. Nani, who won four Premier League titles and the Champions League at United, signed a five-year deal with the Old Trafford club in September 2013.—Reuters

Djokovic recovers as match suspended, Serena wins

LONDON, 7 July — After three hours and two minutes of twilight combat, Novak Djokovic and Kevin Anderson were forced off court with their last 16 clash tantalisingly poised at two sets all and their Wimbledon audience begging for more.

The match was halted as dusk closed in after world number one and defending champion Djokovic had fought back from two sets down having been thoroughly outplayed by a fired up Anderson before rediscovering his A-game.

It was a remarkable conclusion to a day when a whiff of predictability had permeated the hectic schedule in men's and women's draws.

Serena had earlier ousted big sister Venus in the battle of the Williams siblings, while Roger Federer, Andy Murray and Stan Wawrinka had claimed comfortable victories.

In fact, the action elsewhere was remarkably tame in comparison to the ebb and flow of the drama on Court One.

Few had predicted Anderson would be able to mix it with Djokovic, except maybe the Serb himself who said the status-quo 2.03 metre South African was in the form of his life heading into the match.

He was not wrong.

Within a short time he was two sets down as Anderson served superbly and happily went toe-to-toe with Djokovic from the back of the court, a tactic with

day's box-office smash, but drama was in short supply and the ending all too predictable.

As has often been the case in the 25 matches

friend in the world," said Serena, whose next step en route to a 21st grand slam title will be against Victoria Azarenka in the quarter-finals.



Serena Williams of the USA embraces Venus Williams of the USA after winning their match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 6 July, 2015.—REUTERS



Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates after winning the second set during his match against Kevin Anderson of South Africa at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London on 6 July, 2015.—REUTERS



Maria Sharapova of Russia celebrates after winning her fourth round match against Zarina Diyas of Kazakhstan at the 2015 Wimbledon Championships in Wimbledon, southwest London, on 6 July, 2015. Sharapova won the game 2-0. XINHUA

which few succeed.

The first two sets ended with Anderson edging nervy tiebreaks, before Djokovic revved into gear storming through the third 6-1 and clinching the fourth 6-4 to leave the match in the balance and the crowd wanting more.

Sadly for them, the officials disagreed and boos rang around the arena as play was suspended until Tuesday.

The closeness of the encounter was in contrast to much of what had gone before.

The clash between the Williams sisters, who have won 10 Wimbledon singles titles, should have been the

between the siblings, the pre-game hype massively outdid the action on court, with Serena rattling through the opening eight points, and maintaining a stranglehold to wrap up the contest in 68 minutes.

She is now unbeaten in grand slams in 25 matches and edging closer to holding all four majors at the same time for the second time in her career — although given the sensitivity of the occasion, any excitement was kept under wraps.

"It's hard to feel excited about (beating) someone you root for all the time no matter what and you love so much and is your best

Federer was given the swiftest of workouts against 20th-seeded Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut, who became the latest player to exit in double quick time at the hands of the seven-time champion without making an impact on the Swiss's serve.

At one stage it looked like the Spaniard would struggle to finish the match as the trainer was called onto court to tend to an ankle injury, but he battled on in a 6-2, 6-2, 6-3 defeat.

The result extended a remarkable run of serving by Federer, who has not been broken in eight straight matches and 106 games, and set up a quar-

ter-final with French 12th seed Gilles Simon, who surprised former finalist Tomas Berdych 6-3, 6-3, 6-2.

Murray's bid for a second Wimbledon title continued largely untroubled, with the third seed emerging unscathed from the crosshairs of Ivo Karlovic.

The giant Croat fired down 29 aces and regularly tipped the speed gun over 130mph but Murray made the most of his chances and, bar a brief wobble when he lost the third set, claimed a comfortable 7-6(7), 6-4,

5-7, 6-4 victory.

There was no upset in sight as the fourth seeds in the men's and women's draw went through in straight sets as Wawrinka edged Belgium's David Goffin 7-6(3), 7-6(7), 6-4 and Maria Sharapova beat plucky Kazakh Zarina Diyas 6-4, 6-4.

The remaining days of the tournament are also likely to be quieter and less controversial after Australian hot-head Nick Kyrgios was beaten in four sets by Richard Gasquet.

Reuters

Mayweather stripped of title he won in Pacquiao fight



Floyd Mayweather Jr in attendance as the Houston Rockets play against the Los Angeles Clippers during the first half in game three of the second round of the NBA Playoffs at Staples Centre, Los Angeles, CA, USA on 8 May, 2015.—REUTERS

TORONTO, 7 July — Floyd Mayweather Jr has been stripped of the welterweight world title he won after beating Filipino Manny Pacquiao this year for failing to comply with rules, the World Boxing Organization said on Monday.

Mayweather, who improved to 48-0 by beating Pacquiao in May, missed a

deadline by which he had to pay a \$200,000 (£128,264) sanctioning fee from the fight and vacate the junior middleweight title he also held, the WBO said in a statement.

The WBO said it is against rules for boxers to hold world titles in multiple weight classes and that Mayweather had to indicate which weight division he

would retain.

Mayweather, who finished ahead on all three scorecards of what proved to be the top-grossing prize fight of all-time, had until 4:30 pm ET (2030 GMT) last Friday to advise the WBO of his position.

"The WBO World Championship Committee is allowed no other alternative but to cease to recognize Mr Floyd Mayweather, Jr as the WBO Welterweight Champion of the World and vacate his title, for failing to comply with our WBO Regulations of World Championship Contests," the WBO said in a statement.

Mayweather, who earned over \$200 million from the fight which generated a record pay-per-view revenue in the United States of \$400 million, has two weeks to launch an appeal.—Reuters

Barca agree to sign playmaker Arda from Atletico

BARCELONA, 7 July — Barcelona have added an extra creative option in midfield by agreeing to sign Turkey playmaker Arda Turan from La Liga rivals Atletico Madrid, the Spanish and European champions said on Monday.

Barca will pay 34 million euros (\$37.6 million) for Arda, plus another seven million in variables, and the 28-year-old's contract will be for five years, the club said on their website (www.fcbarcelona.es).

As things stand, however, he will not be able to play until January as Barca have been banned by FIFA from registering new signings until then, after they broke rules on the transfer of foreign under-18 players.

The deal to sign Arda was also complicated by the fact that the club are in the midst of a presidential election campaign and are being

administered by a special commission, which had to approve the transfer.

The commission included an unusual clause which means whoever wins the 18 July election has the option within two days of selling Arda back to Atletico less 10 percent of the fixed fee of 34 million euros.

Arda became a hugely popular figure with the Atletico fans in his four seasons in the Spanish capital after joining from Galatasaray.

With his ability to unlock stubborn defences with a killer pass, the stocky and heavily-bearded midfielder was a key figure in Atletico's charge to a first La Liga title in 18 years and their run to the Champions League final in 2013-14.

Arda made his debut for Turkey in 2006 and helped Fatih Terim's side reached the semi-finals of

Euro 2008, where they lost 3-2 to Germany.

He spoke about his role on the pitch in an interview published on FIFA.com in October.

"I take care of organizing the attack," he said.

"When we're under the cosh, I can hold up the ball to give my team mates a breather, maybe forcing someone into fouling me.

"Before kickoff my heart rate is off the scale but once the whistle blows, I'm completely calm.

"On the pitch I'm at ease, though I'm not sure why that happens. I'm probably a bit crazy."

Arda may struggle to get a regular starting spot in a Barca midfield which also features Andres Iniesta, Ivan Rakitic and Sergio Busquets but would be a useful player to bring off the bench in the second half.

Reuters