

Government pledges to do its very best to ensure 2015 general elections are clean, free, and fair

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—The following is the full text of the monthly radio address delivered by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.



My Fellow Citizens,

As I have done previously, I would like to give you the monthly update on the work of my government, and the developments that have taken place in our country.

Our country's greatest political needs are internal peace and national reconciliation. Therefore, since my government took office, and throughout the peace process, our efforts have been underlined by mutual respect,

equality, and a shared objective of achieving peace.

So far, we have achieved two significant successes in the peace process that are unprecedented. All sides have recognized first, that armed conflict is a political issue that must be settled through political means. Second, a Union based on federal principles must be built to ensure equality for all ethnic groups. These achievements are the result of numerous and time consuming negotiations between representatives of the government and ethnic armed groups.

For these reasons, the latest draft of the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) has gained more significance and will contribute those achievements more sustainable. Because the government respects the goodwill of all the leaders that have made these positive developments possible, we will continue with our efforts to conclude the signing of the agreement. I firmly believe conditions exist to bring about a positive outcome for the peace process.

Turning now to constitutional amendments, a constitution may be amended from time to time to reflect the changing times and political developments. The political dialogue stage of the peace process will involve constitutional amendments. I respect the current nascent efforts at amending the constitution since they represent a significant political movement in our country.

Political movements are now more intense and com-

petitive. However, since these movements are a feature of a democratic system, I believe they will not affect the country's stability. Major political parties have also announced their political stance that the electoral process is the right path to achieving their political objectives. The credible electoral process, and political leaders' vision will promote stability. As the first civilian government to hold office in many years, my government pledges to do its very best to ensure the 2015 general elections are clean, free, and fair.

In June, Myanmar hosted the high level strategic meeting of the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation in Nay Pyi Taw. We discussed important issues relating to improving economies, livelihoods, education, and health of the countries in the region. At the end of June, I visited Mongolia to discuss strengthening relations and cooperation.

I am committed to achieving internal peace, improving livelihoods, and ensuring better lives for future generations. By learning from past experiences, I firmly believe we will be able to sustain these processes, accomplish democratic reforms, and overcome the challenges facing our country. I conclude this month's radio address by reaffirming my pledge to work towards a better future for our country.

I wish you all good health and happiness.

Yangon Region Govt invites tenders for new town project

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 13 July — The Yangon Region Government has begun implementing a new town plan for the western outskirts of the commercial capital, inviting tenders from Myanmar national developers on Monday.

The government will sell tender forms for K50,000 per copy at its office until 21 July, the government said in an announcement.

The submitted tender forms will be opened at the Yangon Region Government on 18 August. More information will be available online at www.eyangon.gov.mm/news, according to the announcement.

The new town plan is one of seven modern housing projects of the Greater Yangon Development Strategic Plan 2040 designed by the region government and the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

The new town project, approved by parliament Monday, will be established on 11,716 acres between the Panhlaing River



and the Twantay-Yangon Canal and between the Hlaing River and Hline-thaya-Twantay Road in western Yangon.

The seven modern housing projects will be established on more than 100,000 acres of land on the outskirts of Yangon and accommodate more than 10 million people.—GNLM

Tender invited to implement new town plan in the western outskirts of Yangon City.—thaivisa.com

Myanmar navy rescues 102 Bengalis

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Myanmar navy boats have recently rescued a total of 102 Bengalis from an islet near Kawthoung Township in the southernmost region of Taninthayi, the government said Monday.

An investigation has found

all of the Bengali men, rescued between 30 June and 12 July, were from neighbouring Bangladesh. Some said they were forcibly taken from their country, while others reported having been enticed by human traffickers to work in Malaysia.

(See page 9)

INSIDE

Govt discusses relief measures for flood-hit Rakhine

PAGE-3

UEC issues guidelines for nomination of candidates

PAGE-3

Committee focuses on ways to rehabilitate Kokang Self-Administered Zone

PAGE-3

Corruption spans nations, business sectors

PAGE-8

Pyithu Hluttaw



Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung.

MNA



Kanpetlet Township constituency MP Thura U Aung Ko.

MNA

MP calls for halt to car manufacturing at local industrial zones

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Deputy Minister for Rail Transportation U Chan Maung on Monday said vehicle production will not be cancelled at local industrial zones so as to avoid creating unemployment.

Kanpetlet Township constituency MP Thura U Aung Ko suggested local industrial zones were losing money because cars

produced there were in low demand, and were primarily being used for the old car exchange programme which allows another automobile to be imported at a lower tax rate.

Local industrial zones have manufactured nearly 100,000 cars up to 2014-2015 fiscal year, but there was little demand for them in the domestic market, the

deputy minister said.

U Chan Maung also replied to the query of Launglon Township constituency's MP U Aung Soe. The deputy minister said the construction of the Dawei-Myeik railway network will be continued in the third five-year plan of the project from 2021 to 2016.

The Pyithu Hluttaw

Bill Committee tabled the bill on Intellectual Property Law of Industrial Designs submitted by the Ministry of Science and Technology. The Pyithu Hluttaw then approved the bill to withdraw the Pension Act submitted by the Ministry of Finance, and the Vehicle Bill submitted by the Ministry of Rail Transportation.—MNA

Police need reliable info to act on car thefts: deputy minister

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Police cannot take action over the alleged sale of stolen auto parts unless victims come forward and file reports with the authorities, Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein said Monday at the Amyotha Hluttaw.

The deputy minister

was responding to reports that 90 percent of auto parts for sale at a tax-free market in Tamway were stolen from ports.

The police and the Myanma Port Authority need victims to provide information before they can take action, the deputy minister said.

Port authorities and shipping lines must be accountable for loss of auto parts, while agents must only accept vehicles after matching them with inspection sheets, the deputy minister advised.

The deputy minister blamed some agents for auto part thefts, saying there

were a number who forgot vehicles outside ports.

The deputy minister said vehicle importers can apply to recoup their losses by providing firm evidence.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs is providing cash assistance to teachers at monastic education schools, but there is no plan

to increase the amount at the moment, Deputy Minister for Religious Affairs Dr Maung Maung Htay said at the Upper House session.

The ministry is providing K36,000 per month to primary school teachers, K41,000 per month to middle school teachers and K45,000 per month to high school teachers, according

to the deputy minister.

The government is spending K3.475 billion on 7,584 monastic education teachers this academic year, he said. The Amyotha Hluttaw session on Monday passed seven bills and approved one motion to reduce the amount of advertisements for liquor, cigarettes and beer.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

Action plan for protection of children affected by armed conflict discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin on Monday hosted a lunch to Ms Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Children and Armed Conflict, at Hotel Royal ACE here.

During the lunch, both sides discussed matters relating to strengthen cooperation between Myanmar and the United Nations, and the action plan contributing to overall protec-



tion of children affected by armed conflict in Myanmar.—MNA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin holds talks with Ms Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative of the UNSG on Children and Armed Conflict.—MNA

Dengue enters Chin State, with over 30 cases reported

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 13 July — Dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF) finally entered the country's mountainous region of Chin State in June, with more than 30 cases reported there but no fatalities, according to the Health Ministry.

Dr Khin Nan Lon of the ministry's disease control unit of the Public Health Department said: "No DHF cases have been reported before June this year in Chin State", adding the sudden outbreak of the

disease in the region may be linked to cargo trucks entering there from other regions.

According to the figures released by the ministry, nationwide the disease infected more than 16,000 people between January and the first week of July, resulting in 60 deaths.

"Yangon topped the number of fatal cases with 13 deaths in the first half of the year, with the high number attributed to late hospitalization," said Dr

Aye Mon Mon Kyaw, assistant director of Vector-borne Disease Control Unit.

"The most affected age group is children 5 to 9 years of age but the male to female ratio of DHF cases is the same," she added.

The delta region, Ayeawady, recorded the highest outbreak of DHF with more than 3,000 cases, followed by Mon State and the former capital Yangon.

"The health ministry has designated DHF prevention as a priority health task and has already set

aside funds, medicines and medical equipment," Dr Soe Lwin Nyein, director-general of the Department of Public Health, said at a press conference on Saturday.

The mosquito-infected viral disease is common in the rainy season but now DHF transmission occurs throughout the year, he added.

The ministry is carrying out preventive measures against DHF on an extensive scale, mainly in basic education schools where about 8.3 million students are enrolled, and plans to extend its awareness programme to university students by the end of this month, Dr Khin Nan Lon said.—GNLM

Union Farmer Force Party applies for registration as political party

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — The Union Election Commission has been scrutinizing and passing the applications for registration as a political party. Union Farmer Force Party applied for registration as a political party to the UEC on 13 July 2015.—MNA

Information for Public Remonstrance

1. Union Farmer Force Party headquartered at No 478, 1st Nandawgon street, Nandawya Ward, Bago, Bago Region, has submitted its application for the registration as a political party to the Union Election Commission on 13 July 2015 in accord with Section 5 of the Political Parties Registration Law, along with the following party's name, flag and emblem.
2. It is hereby announced that those who want to remonstrate with the UEC about the party's name, flag and emblem they may submit a complaint along with the strong evidences within seven days starting from issuance of this announcement in line with the Section 14 (d) of the Political Parties Registration Rules.

Union Election Commission

Flag of Union Farmer Force Party



Emblem of Union Farmer Force Party



President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to France

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent messages of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Francois Hollande, President of the French Republic, and His Excellency Mr. Manuel Valls, Prime Minister of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day (Bastille Day) of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2015.—MNA

Govt discusses relief measures for flood-hit Rakhine

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, union ministers and local government officials on Monday discussed relief programmes for parts of Rakhine State affected by severe flooding last month.

The vice president addressed the respective committees for relief and rehabilitation works for the flood victims in Ann, Buthidaung, Maungtaw, Thandwe and Taungup townships in the north of the western Myanmar state.

The state's Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn, as well as state and union ministers, also explained actions taken by the committees and their plans going forward.

According to official records, the floods affected five districts, killing six people and damaging hundreds of buildings.

The Union Government last week announced an assistance package worth K3.216 billion to resettle evacuees and repair damaged infrastructure.

The Ministry of Border Affairs has already provided K20.6 million worth of humanitarian aid.—MNA



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham addresses meeting on relief programmes for flood-hit parts of Rakhine State.—MNA

UEC issues guidelines for nomination of candidates

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July — The Union Election Commission issued a notification Monday outlining nomination procedures for prospective candidates in the 8 November general election.

Candidates may nominate themselves or have an

election agent file a nomination on their behalf, the UEC said.

Candidates must submit all required forms and

provide a bank receipt for a deposit of the K300,000 nomination fee paid to the appropriate sub-commission.

Forms must be signed in the presence of an official not lower in rank than a township judge. Individual candidates may also submit the logos they want to use in the general election. — MNA

Committee focuses on ways to rehabilitate Kokang Self-Administered Zone



Union Minister U Hla Tun delivers speech at meeting to rehabilitate Kokang Self-Administered Zone.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 13 July—The Kokang Self-Administered Zone rehabilitation supporting committee held meeting 3/2015 at the hall of the President Office, Monday.

Chairman of the committee Union Minister at the President Office U Hla Tun said that as soon as peace and stability have been restored in the zone, the committee must carry

out administrative tasks in cooperation with ministries concerned.

He stressed need to systematically put the donations, assistance and aid on records in undertaking the rehabilitation tasks. The union minister said that he has accepted offer from the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for providing assistance.

While Vice Chairman

of the committee Chief Minister of Shan State U Sao Aung Myat spoke about Kokang region and regional development, the committee secretary discussed resettlement of local residents in Kokang region.

Deputy ministers, the Shan State minister for social affairs and the adviser to the president participated in discussions on future tasks.—MNA

Union FM sends message of felicitations to French counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 14 July—U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of the French Republic, on the occasion of the National Day (Bastille Day) of the French Republic, which falls on 14 July 2015.—MNA

Preparations for holding 68th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day discussed

YANGON, 13 July—The Central Committee for Organizing the 68th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day 2015 held a coordination meeting at the office of Yangon Region government, here, Monday, with a speech by

Chairman of the central committee Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu.

Work Committee chairman Chief Minister of the region U Myint Swe and Secretary Mayor U Hla

Myint explained the purpose of marking the ceremony.

Participants of the meeting discussed preparations for holding the 68th anniversary of Martyrs' Day.—MNA



Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu discusses preparations for holding 68th Anniversary of Martyrs' Day 2015.—MNA

MCDC to dredge drains in Pyigyidagun Tsp



MANDALAY, 13 July — Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs and Mayor U Aung Mounng recently inspected the dredging of drains

aimed at improving the flow of water and reducing flood risk during heavy rains.

The mayor instructed the head of the Road

and Bridge Department to prevent inundation of low-lying urban wards in the rainy season.

The Mandalay City Development Committee

has a plan to dredge drains along 65th Street from Thayawady Mingyi Street and Colombo Drain.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Mandalay businessmen to showcase products at fairs

MANDALAY, 13 July — Businessmen in Mandalay Region held a meeting to showcase their products at the trade fairs at the office of Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Chanayethazan Township recently.

Vice Chairman of MRCCI U Kyaw Min spoke about participation of MRCCI members in the Bangkok Gems & Jewellery Fair to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 2 to 4 September and the 12th China-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, the People's Republic of China, from 18 to 21 September.

Members of the chambers participated in discussions on plans of displaying the products at the fairs.—*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

Myanmar archers aim for medals at Singapore Para Games



YANGON, 13 July — Myanmar will send seven archers to the 8th ASEAN Para Games in Singapore this December, with the marksmen and women currently undertaking two training sessions a day in their pursuit of medals.

The archers will

participate in the 70-m Recurved and 50-m Compound events.

The team includes archers who represented the country at the 7th ASEAN Para Games. They have been attending intensive training sessions since 1 May 2015, according to

one of their coaches.

“We hope to secure gold, silver and bronze medals at the coming Games to be held in Singapore. All archers have shown great improvement since last year,” the coach said.

Soe Win (SP)

Kachin State government sells development record



MOHNYIN, 13 July — Kachin State Chief Minister U Lajohn Ngan Hsai talked up the progress of infrastructure projects during his government's term Saturday at a meeting with residents in Mohnyin.

“Remarkable progress” can be seen in roads, bridges, communications, electricity, education and health sectors, despite tightened security measures, the chief minister told the audience at the Seinle

Yadana Hall.

Residents discussed maintenance of Nantyin Creek, construction of a new Chaungtu Bridge, also known as the Nawngsun Bridge, building of a new bus terminal and allotment of a new graveyard.

The chief minister also responded to queries about state government assistance for internally displaced persons and other issues.

GNLM-001

Mandalay Region Govt seeks greater cooperation with CSOs

MANDALAY, 13 July —The Mandalay Region government met with representatives of civil society organizations recently to discuss greater cooperation.

After representatives of the Myanmar People's Forum Work Group gave a report, Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint spoke about the government's efforts to promote peace, regional development and reform processes.

Also present at the

meeting were region ministers, Hanns Seidel Foundation programme manager Mr Michael Seigner and representatives of the Mandalay and Region People's Forum Work Groups.

The Myanmar People's Forum Work Group holds forums to promote the role of CSOs in the reform process. The previous forum in March drew 216 representatives from 68 CSOs in the region.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

TODAY'S
MYANMAR
NEWS SITES



REGIONAL

Asia-Pacific nations seek to agree on tariff elimination targets



Trade ministers and officials from Asia-Pacific countries pose for commemorative photos in Kuala Lumpur on 13 July, 2015. The gathering involving the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and six other countries including China, Japan and India marked a fresh round of talks on a free trade scheme known as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.—KYODO NEWS

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 July — Trade ministers and officials from sixteen Asia-Pacific countries on Monday kicked off a fresh round of free trade talks in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, seeking to agree on tariff elimination targets before entering into more detailed negotiations.

The 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and six other

countries including China, Japan and India are aiming to cut a deal on a massive regional free trade scheme, known as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, by the end of this year, but the outlook is uncertain due to remaining gaps.

As RCEP involves countries with various economic levels, they have been struggling to agree

on how much of their imports should be subject to tariff removal or reduction. While negotiating members such as New Zealand are pushing for aggressive market liberalization, India and others want a more cautious approach toward opening their markets, given the possible negative impact on the domestic industries, negotiation sources have said.

Efforts under RCEP have paralleled with more high-profile free trade talks known as the so-called Trans-Pacific Partnership led by the United States. A total of 12 TPP countries are set to hold a ministerial meeting later this month where they hope to reach a broad agreement.

An official at the Japanese trade ministry said recent progress in the TPP negotiations has “boosted momentum” for RCEP as well, with some countries such as China, which is an RCEP member but not involved in TPP, showing more flexibility in the negotiations.

TPP is seen as crucial for the United States to counter China’s growing influence in the Asia-Pacific region, while RCEP is one of the key platforms for China to strengthen its trade ties with other nations.

The RCEP involves the ASEAN members — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam — plus Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand. They will hold another ministerial meeting in August to further accelerate negotiations.

Kyodo News

Singapore electoral boundary review could point to early polls



Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong

SINGAPORE, 13 July — Singapore has launched a review of electoral constituency boundaries, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong told parliament on Monday, in an announcement likely to raise speculation of an early election.

The next general election must be held by January 2017, but there has been speculation in the media and political blogs that it could be held as early as late this year, after celebrations for the 50th anniversary of independence in August.

The People’s Action Party, founded by Lee’s father, the late Lee Kuan Yew, has ruled Singapore since independence but it won its lowest ever share of the vote in the last polls in 2011, with many people unhappy about the cost of living and immigration.

The prime minister said the government has formed an electoral boundaries review committee to redraw constituencies and said the publication of its findings would not deter-

mine the timing of the next election.

“The committee will publish its report and, to the maximum extent possible, we will make sure that ... enough time elapses so that everybody can read the report, understand it, and know where they stand before the elections are called,” he said.

“But I don’t think it is possible to say that we promise a certain minimum period, such as six months, because it depends very much on the exigencies of the situation, and depends on when elections become necessary.”

Analysts have speculated the government might want to take advantage of a feel-good factor over the 50th anniversary of independence on 9 August which will be marked with much fanfare.

The legacy of Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore’s first prime minister, who died on 23 March, is also fresh in the minds of voters.

Lee oversaw the city-state’s rapid rise from a British colonial backwater to a global trade and financial centre and his death triggered a flood of tributes.

In his lifetime, the elder Lee drew praise for his market-friendly policies, but also criticism at home and abroad for his strict controls over the press, public protest and political opponents.—Reuters

Ex-Thai police official not to be indicted over gun possession

CHIBA, (Japan), 13 July — Japanese prosecutors plan not to indict a former Thai police official who was arrested at Narita International Airport last month on suspicion of owning a loaded handgun, investigative sources said on Monday.

Comronwit Toopgrajank, 60, identified by the Thai Embassy in Tokyo as a former Bangkok police chief, is alleged to have had a revolver with five live bullets inside a suitcase at the airport near Tokyo on 22 June before boarding a flight back to Bangkok.

Comronwit told Japa-

nese police he is the owner of the revolver, which he said an American friend of his had previously given him, and he forgot that he had put the gun into the suitcase.

In their investigation, the police failed to identify from whom the suspect had obtained the gun or find evidence that he had had the gun with him on purpose, the sources said.

Comronwit has said he came to Japan to visit a waste incineration plant. He was among a group of people who arrived from Thailand on 19 June.

Kyodo News

Monsoon rain kills eight people in Philippines

MANILA, 13 July — Torrential monsoon rains killed at least eight people in the Philippines, the country’s disaster relief agency said on Monday, and the toll was expected to rise as two tropical storms battered northern Luzon, the main island in the archipelago.

The deluge over the past week forced the closure of government offices

and schools in Manila, and caused widespread flooding on major roads and landslides outside the capital.

About 40,000 people across Luzon were affected by the monsoon rain and nearly 4,000 were in temporary shelters due to floods and landslides.

Four fishermen were missing after strong winds and giant waves destroyed

their fishing boats and six smaller boats in Bolinao town on the north coast.

“Nine other fishermen were rescued by a passing ship,” Alexander Pama, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said.

Pama said six people drowned and two were crushed to death as flash floods swept them in swol-

len river, and rampaging waters caused walls to collapse.

A South Korean diver died and two others were hospitalised after they were swept by strong currents off Mactan Island in the central Philippines and were found hundreds of miles away near Camotes Island.

He said the agriculture ministry estimated initial losses in rice and corn crops at about 4 million pesos (\$90,000). Assessments on the damage to infrastructure damage, particularly on roads and bridges, were still being made.

An average of 20 typhoons pass through the Philippines every year. In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, the biggest-ever storm to make landfall, hit the central Philippines, killing more than 6,300 people and leaving 14 million people homeless.—Reuters



Residents ride on makeshift boats as they make their way in Artex Compound, the lowest point in the city which is prone to flooding during monsoon seasons, in Malabon, Metro Manila in the Philippines on 11 July, 2015.—REUTERS

Iran nuclear deal edges closer but success still not guaranteed

VIENNA, 13 July — Iran and six world powers were close to clinching an historic pact on Monday that would bring Iran sanctions relief in exchange for curbs on its nuclear programme, but an Iranian negotiator said he could not guarantee a deal was imminent.

"I cannot promise whether the remaining issues can be resolved tonight or tomorrow night. Some issues still remain unresolved and, until they are solved, we cannot say an agreement has been reached," Iran's *Tasnim* news agency quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi as saying in Vienna.

Diplomats close to the talks said there were contingency plans for an

announcement ceremony on Monday if the negotiators sealed an agreement, which would open the door to ending sanctions that have crippled Iran's economy in exchange for at least a decade of curbs on its nuclear programme.

The United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China have given themselves until the end of Monday to reach a deal with Iran. If they fail to get one by midnight, they will need to extend the terms of an interim nuclear deal with Teheran that has already been extended three times in two weeks.

Another option is to walk away from the negotiating table, something both the Americans and Iranians have said they are willing to do. They could also

suspend the talks for a few weeks or months, though Iran has said it opposes this.

US Secretary of State John Kerry has cautioned that "major issues" remain to be resolved, and comments from both senior Republican and Democrat Senators on Sunday suggested that any final deal would also face tough scrutiny in the US Congress.

"The parts of the deal are there," said a senior official from one of the six countries. "We still need to put the finishing touches together. All sides have to decide now. It's time to say 'Yes'."

A senior Iranian official said 99 percent of the issues had been resolved, adding: "With political will, we can finish the work



US Secretary of State John Kerry leaves Stephen's Cathedral after attending a mass in Vienna, Austria on 12 July, 2015. —REUTERS

late tonight and announce it tomorrow."

Among the biggest sticking points in the past week has been Iran's insistence that a United Nations Security Council arms embargo and ban on its ballistic missile programme dating from 2006 be lifted

immediately if an agreement is reached.

Russia, which sells weapons to Iran, has publicly supported Teheran on the issue.

Other problematic issues are access for inspectors to military sites in Iran, explanations from Teheran

of past activity, and the overall speed of sanctions relief.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's point-man on the Iranian talks, Energy Minister Yuval Steinitz, told Israel's Army Radio he was expecting an agreement on Monday or Tuesday. He reiterated Israel's opposition to the deal.

"What is being drafted, even if we managed to slightly improve it over the past year, is a bad agreement, full of loopholes," he said. "If we call it by its true name, they are selling the world's future for a questionable diplomatic achievement in the present."

Reuters

Abe yet to receive invitation letter from China for WWII ceremony



Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga speaks at a regular Press conference in Tokyo on 13 July, 2015. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has yet to receive an invitation letter from China for a 3 September ceremony in Beijing to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, Suga said. KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 13 July — Japan said on Monday that Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has yet to receive an invitation letter from China for a 3 September ceremony in Beijing to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Speaking at a news conference, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Japan "has not yet received an invitation letter at this point," and that "nothing has been decided at this point" as to whether Abe will attend the ceremony.

The top government spokesman made the comments after Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Cheng Guoping said on Friday that Beijing extended an official invitation to Abe to

attend the ceremony, but it has yet to receive the Japanese leader's response.

Suga, however, declined to comment when asked if the government has received a verbal invitation from China for Abe's attendance to the event marking its victory in what Beijing calls the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression.

He also said that nothing has been decided about whether Abe would visit China in the fall.

Regarding the recent detention and questioning by the Chinese government of more than 100 rights lawyers and activists in China, Suga said that if reports on the crackdown are true, "we cannot help but be worried" and that Tokyo will closely monitor

the situation.

"It is extremely important that universal values such as freedom, respect for basic human rights and the rule of law be guaranteed in China as well," he said.

The United States also expressed concern over the reported crackdown in China, saying that "the broad scope of the new National Security Law is being used as a legal facade to commit human rights abuses."

"We strongly urge China to respect the rights of all of its citizens and to release all those who have recently been detained for seeking to protect the rights of Chinese citizens," State Department spokesman John Kirby said in a statement.—Kyodo News

Strong earthquake shakes southern Japan, no tsunami risk



Officials of the southwestern Japanese city of Saiki, Oita Prefecture, are called up to work around 5 am on 13 July, 2015, after an earthquake registering a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 struck the Kyushu region. No tsunami was reported. KYODO NEWS

Tokyo, 13 July — An earthquake registering a preliminary magnitude of 5.7 struck Japan's southern main island of Kyushu early Monday morning, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. No tsunami was reported.

The 2:52 am temblor's epicentre was in southern Oita, one of the seven prefectures on the island, according to the agency. The focus was around 60 kilometres underground.

The Ikata nuclear power plant in Ehime Prefecture on Shikoku Island, across a strait from Oita, reported no anomalies from the quake, according

to Shikoku Electric Power Co. and Ehime prefectural officials.

Firefighters in Bepu, Oita Prefecture said a woman in her 70s fell from the bed at her home after the quake and sustained minor injuries in the right arm.

On the Japanese seismic scale of 7, intensity 5-upper was registered in southern Oita Prefecture, the agency said. It also marked 5 lower in western Shikoku island, which lies next to Kyushu, and in Kumamoto Prefecture on Kyushu. Ikata posted intensity 4.

Kyodo News

S Korea urges N Korea to accept repatriation of 2 fishermen

SEOUL, 13 July — South Korea on Monday urged North Korea to accept the repatriation of two North Korean fishermen who have expressed desire to return to their country after being rescued in South Korean waters earlier this month.

South Korea's head of the National Red Cross sent a letter to the effect to the North Korean counterpart on Monday, a spokesman

of the South's Unification Ministry said.

The South Korean move came after North Korea rejected a South Korean plan to send back two of the five detained North Korean fishermen, excluding three who wish to seek defection in the South. "We made it clear (in the letter) that the North's demand can never be accepted based on (the three fishermen's) wishes, free will and the interna-

tional norms regarding humanitarian matters," ministry spokesman Jeong Joon Hee said during a press briefing. Jeong said North Korea made a demand last Friday that the South provide personal details of the three fishermen and also arrange a meeting between the fishermen and their families in the North.

South Korea had sent a message to the North last Thursday, conveying

its plan to send back the two fishermen via the truce village of Panmunjeom on Friday and called on the North to take necessary measures toward that end. The North did not accept the South's offer.

The North Korean fishermen were rescued on 4 July by the South's coast guard while drifting on a vessel due to engine failure near the eastern island of Ulleung.—Kyodo News

Euro zone clinches deal with Greece after all-night haggle

BRUSSELS, 13 July — Euro zone leaders clinched a deal with Greece on Monday to negotiate a third bailout to keep the near-bankrupt country in the euro zone after a whole night of haggling at an emergency summit.

“Euro summit has unanimously reached agreement. All ready to go for ESM programme for Greece with serious reforms and financial support,” European Council President Donald Tusk announced on Twitter, referring to the European Stability Mechanism bailout fund.

However the tough conditions imposed by international lenders led by Germany could bring down Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras’ leftist government and cause an outcry in Greece. Even before the final terms were known, his labour minister went on state television to denounce the terms.

“We were able to keep the unity on keeping Greece inside the euro zone,” Slovenian Prime Minister Miro Cerar said on his Twitter account.

EU officials said Tsipras finally accepted a compromise on German-led demands for the sequestration of Greek state assets to be sold off to pay down debt. The terms of the agreement were not immediately known.

The Greek leader also dropped resistance to

a full role for the International Monetary Fund in a proposed 86 billion euro (\$95.78 billion) bailout, which German Chancellor Angela Merkel has declared essential to win parliamentary backing in Berlin.

However, in a sign of how hard it may be for Tsipras to convince his own Syriza party to accept the deal, Labour Minister Panos Skourletis said the terms were unviable and would lead to new elections this year.

As the hours ticked away overnight, most of the leaders were forced to cool their heels, playing computer games or taking a nap in their delegation offices while Tusk and the leaders of Germany, France and Greece met several times privately to try to cut through the final knots.

Tsipras will now have to rush swathes of legislation through parliament this week to convince his 18 partners to release bridging funds to avert a state bankruptcy and just to begin negotiations on a three-year loan.

If the summit had failed, Greece would have been staring into an economic abyss with its shuttered banks on the brink of collapse and the prospect of having to print a parallel currency and in time exit the European monetary union.

Six sweeping measures including spending cuts, tax



Dutch Finance Minister and Eurogroup President Jeroen Dijsselbloem addresses a news conference after an euro zone leaders summit in Brussels, Belgium, on 13 July, 2015.—REUTERS

hikes and pension reforms must be enacted by Wednesday night and the entire package endorsed by parliament before talks can start, the leaders decided.

In almost the only concession after imposing a tough set of terms on Tsipras, Germany dropped a proposal to make Greece take a “time-out” from the euro zone that many said resembled a forced ejection if it failed to meet the conditions.

Tsipras said on arrival in Brussels on Sunday he wanted “another honest compromise” to keep Europe united. Instead, he was subjected to a 15-hour humiliation by leaders furious that he had spurned their previous bailout offer on more favorable terms in June and held a referendum last week to reject it.

One senior EU official

calculated the cost to the Greek state of the last two weeks of political and economic turmoil at 25 to 30 billion euros.

Merkel, whose country is the biggest contributor to euro zone bailouts, warned from the start that she would drive a hard bargain against a backdrop of mounting opposition at home to more aid for Greece.

“The most important currency has been lost and that is trust,” she told reporters. “That means that we will have tough discussions and there will be no agreement at any price.”

If Greece meets the conditions, the German parliament would meet on Thursday to mandate Merkel and Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble to open the talks on a new loan. Then Eurogroup finance ministers

could formally launch the negotiations.

Perhaps the toughest condition for Tsipras to swallow was Germany’s insistence that Greek state assets worth up to 50 billion euros be placed in a trust fund beyond government reach to be sold off with proceeds going directly to pay down debt.

Berlin initially wanted to use a structure in Luxembourg managed by its own national development bank, KfW, but diplomats said it was flexible on the location.

EU and IMF experts evaluate Greek assets currently earmarked for privatization at just 7 billion euros.

One diplomat said that was tantamount to turning Greece into a “German protectorate”, stripping it of more sovereignty.

But Merkel declared the matter a “red line” for Germany.

For his part, Tsipras demanded a stronger commitment by the creditors to restructure Greek debt to make it sustainable in the medium-term. That could be his only hope of selling such a deeply unpalatable package to his own supporters and the public.

An EU official said several options were under consideration to give Greece bridging funds once it passed the laws, but no final decision was taken.

They included releas-

ing European Central Bank profits on Greek bonds, tapping an emergency fund run by the European Commission, or bilateral loans from friendly countries such as France. Two French sources denied any bridging loan was planned.

Finance ministers said Greece needed 7 billion euros of funding by 20 July, when it must make a crucial bond redemption to the European Central Bank, and a total of 12 billion euros by mid-August when another ECB payment falls due.

Some diplomats questioned whether it was feasible to rush the package through the Greek parliament in just three days. Tsipras is set to sack ministers who did not support his negotiating position in a vote last Friday and make dissident lawmakers in his Syriza party resign their seats, people close to the government said.

Greek sources said Tsipras feared a public backlash in Greece when the terms of the bailout become known.

Even while Tsipras was still at the table in Brussels, one of his ministers went on television to say he could not blame lawmakers who would find it hard to say ‘Yes’ to the emerging cash-for-reforms deal.

“It’s clear this deal does not represent us,” Skourletis said.—Reuters

Turkish PM warns against using Erdogan to sabotage coalition talks

ISTANBUL, 13 July — Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu warned opposition parties not to question the role of President Tayyip Erdogan during coalition talks starting on Monday, saying to do so would sabotage efforts to form a new government.

Opposition parties have made clear they want Erdogan to keep out of daily politics if they take part in any coalition government, a shot across the bows of a man bent on turning the largely figurehead presidency into a powerful executive post.

“Opening to question the legitimacy of our president or the respectability of his office would lead to the sabotage of the coalition talks from the start,” Milliyet newspaper quoted Davuto-



Turkey’s Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu

glu as saying in comments to reporters on his plane back from a visit to Bosnia over the weekend.

The AK Party, which Erdogan founded, lost its parliamentary majority in a 7 June election for the first time since it came to power in 2002, forcing it to seek a junior coalition partner or

face the prospect of a fresh election.

Despite a constitutional ban on the head of state engaging in party politics, Erdogan turned the vote into a referendum on his own ambitions of forging an executive presidency, campaigning for constitutional change.

The outcome frustrated those ambitions, at least for now, and plunged Turkey into political uncertainty not seen since the unstable coalition governments of the 1990s.

Despite Erdogan’s repeated calls for a new government to be formed quickly, some senior officials have suggested the best interests of both him and the AK Party could be in the failure of coalition talks and a new

election.

Opposition parties have made it clear they would not accept Erdogan continuing to chair cabinet meetings, as he has done since taking over the presidency last year. They argue that this exceeds his constitutional powers as president.

The first round of coalition talks is due to begin later on Monday, with Davutoglu meeting Kemal Kilicdaroglu, leader of the secularist opposition CHP, Turkey’s second-biggest party.

A deal with the Islamist-rooted AKP would mean bridging a wide ideological divide, and Davutoglu indicated that the negotiations would be difficult, expressing concern about Kilicdaroglu’s recent comments to reporters that

he may not serve in cabinet even if an agreement is reached. “From the first day, contradictory statements are constantly emerging,” Davutoglu said. “A serious partnership necessitates walking together. Those who don’t fully shoulder responsibility will lose.”

The AK Party won 258 seats in the 7 June election, ahead of the CHP on 132 seats, while the nationalist MHP and pro-Kurdish HDP won 80 seats each. Davutoglu was due to meet the MHP leader on Tuesday and HDP leaders on Wednesday.

The Hurriyet daily reported Davutoglu as saying that if coalition talks were unsuccessful there would be early elections, from which the AKP would benefit the most.—Reuters

At least 23 killed in military barracks collapse in Russia

MOSCOW, 13 July — At least 23 soldiers were killed when a military barracks collapsed in Russia’s Omsk region, Russian news agencies said on Monday.

A Defence Ministry statement said the concrete building which housed military personnel in the village of Svetly in southern central Russia had collapsed on Sunday, trapping people inside.

Interfax news agency quoted a ministry official, Igor Konashenkov, as saying the death toll had reached 23 by Monday morning and 19 people had been taken to hospital.

Reuters

Police evacuate 18 from Paris suburb store hold-up

PARIS, 13 July — French police evacuated 18 people from a clothes store in a shopping precinct just outside Paris that was held up by robbers on Monday, police sources said. French media earlier reported that armed robbers were holding the people hostage at the store. The police could not confirm whether the robbers were armed or whether the people had been held hostage, although there was no indication it was a terrorist act. It was not immediately clear where the robbers were. The incident took place in Villeneuve-la-Garenne, in the Hauts-de-Seine region to the northwest of the French capital.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 14 July, 2015

Corruption spans nations, business sectors

By Aung Khin

Favouritism, nepotism and other forms of corruption are global phenomena and not restricted to any one country. The problem is not a new one, but is almost as old as the world itself.

Despite the breadth of corruption around the world, its magnitude is not equal in every society. As George Orwell wrote in *Animal Farm*, “All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others.” Likewise, some

countries are more corrupt than others. Corruption is found in democracies and dictatorships, as well as feudal, capitalist and socialist economies. It can also be found in private-owned business organizations.

Corruption can take different forms, depending on the sector in which it is found. While political corruption involves senior politicians, bureaucratic corruption is commonly found in government agencies, and even in private firms, in the form of favouritism and nepotism. Electoral corruption, even in democratic states, can involve the sale of legislative votes in exchange for administrative or judicial decisions, or governmental appointments.

In business organizations, favouritism and nepotism are used as protective tools for management. Corrupt managers may favour those who always obey orders and instructions, even those that are unreasonable and illogical. If manage-

ment cannot deal with favouritism in an organization, they will fail to maintain efficiency and productivity among lower-level staff.

Some organizations used a combined strategy of favouritism and professionalism. The favouritism is a protective tool for management, and professionalism a productive tool for the company. However, management needs to handle these tools tactically and cleverly for effective control of the organization.

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.

Democracy in Practice

Htun Tin Htun

DISCIPLINE

Let's calculate the value of discipline. Assuming that the value of alphabet A=1, B=2, C=3.....Z=26 and therefore D (4)+ I (9)+ S (19)+C (3)+ I (9)+P (16)+L (12)+ I (9)+N (14)+ E (5) equals to the value of (100). We can get only very few English words worth (100). It is better to conquer yourself than to win a thousand battles. Then the victory is yours. It cannot be taken from you, not by angels or by demons, heaven or hell. Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable, procures success to the weak, and esteem to all. No evil propensity of the human heart is so powerful that it may not be subdued by discipline.

EQUITY

Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are. Fairness does not mean everyone gets the same. Fairness means everyone gets what they need. Equality of opportunity is not enough. Unless we create an environment where everyone is guaranteed some minimum capabilities through some guarantee of minimum income, education, and healthcare, we cannot say that we have fair competition.

MORALITY

Purity or impurity depends on oneself. No one can purify another. You only lose what you cling to. No one saves us but ourselves. No one can and no

one may. We ourselves must walk the path. A man is not called wise because he talks and talks again; but if he is peaceful, loving and fearless then he is in truth called wise. Don't go by reports, by legends, by traditions, by scripture, by logical conjecture, by inference, by analogies, by agreement through pondering views, by probability, or by the thought, ‘This contemplative is our teacher.’ When you know for yourselves that, ‘These qualities are skilful; these qualities are blameless; these qualities are praised by the wise; these qualities, when adopted & carried out, lead to welfare & to happiness’ — then you should enter and remain in them.

OUTSTANDING

All human actions have one or more of these seven causes: chance, nature, compulsions, habit, reason, passion, desire. Wishing to be friends is quick work, but friendship is a slow ripening fruit. The one exclusive sign of thorough knowledge is the power of teaching. Democracy is when the indigent people, and not the men of property, are the rulers. At his best, man is the noblest of all animals, separated from law and justice he is the worst. The energy of the mind is the essence of life.

CREATIVITY

Every child is an artist; the problem is staying an artist when you grow up. If you hear a voice within you say, ‘You cannot paint,’ then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced. Have no fear of perfection,

you'll never reach it. Curiosity about life in all of its aspects, I think, is still the secret of great creative people. You can't wait for inspiration; you have to go after it with a club. Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will. You see things; and you say, ‘Why?’ But I dream things that never were; and I say, ‘Why not?’

RESPECT

Be a reflection of what you'd like to see in others! If you want love, give love, if you want honesty, give honesty, if you want respect, give respect. You get in return, what you give! A great relationship is about two things, first, find out the similarities, second, respect the differences. Treat people the way you want to be treated. Talk to people the way you want to be talked to. Respect is earned, not given. What is Love? Love is when two people touch each other's soul. Love is honesty and trust. Love is helping one another. Love is mutual respect. Love means that differences can be worked out. Love is reaching your dreams together. Love is the connection of two hearts ...yours and mine!

ATTITUDE

Let's calculate the value of Attitude. A(1)+T (20)+ T (20)+I (9)+T (20)+U (21)+D(4)+E (5) equals 100. There are only very few English words to get the value 100. Let me give you some words; discipline, status and personal.

Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful. A positive attitude may not solve all your problems, but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort. Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching? Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine. If you don't get everything you want, think of the things you don't get that you don't want.

CARE

The really important kind of freedom involves attention, and awareness, and discipline, and effort, and being able truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them, over and over every day. Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. This life is for loving, sharing, learning, smiling, caring, forgiving, laughing, hugging, helping, dancing, wondering, healing, and even more loving. I choose to live life this way.

YOUTHFULNESS

A good youth ought to have a fear of God, to be subject to his parents, to give honour to his elders, to preserve his purity; he ought not to despise humility, but should love forbearance and modesty. All these are an ornament to youthful years. Youth is happy because it has the capacity to see beauty. Anyone who keeps the

ability to see beauty never grows old. If growing up means it would be beneath my dignity to climb a tree, I'll never grow up, never grow up, and never grow up! You are never too old to become younger! If you still think you're a young man then you are, no matter what the calendar says.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is a word many of us were not taught growing up. Yet it is the core of morality and justice — most of us did not need to define it with a word. Enjoy this brief collection of quotes on integrity and character. Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters. Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts. Live so that when your children think of fairness, caring, and integrity, they think of you. Integrity is telling about myself/me the truth. And honesty is telling the truth to other people. Real integrity is doing the right thing, knowing that nobody's going to know whether you did it or not.

NETWORKING

Actually, it's the people who already have strong trust relationships with you, who know you're dedicated, smart, and a team player, who can help you. Sometimes, idealistic people are put off the whole business of networking as something tainted by flattery and the pursuit of selfish advantage. To succeed in this world you have to be known to people. It's all about people. It's about networking and being nice to people and not burning any bridges. We are

at a crossroads in the music business: with the rise of the internet, the world we live in has changed, and the past is not coming back. But I see the glass as half-full: the internet and social networking are new avenues for the next heroes to be born on. Networking is an essential part of building wealth.

PROFESSIONALISM

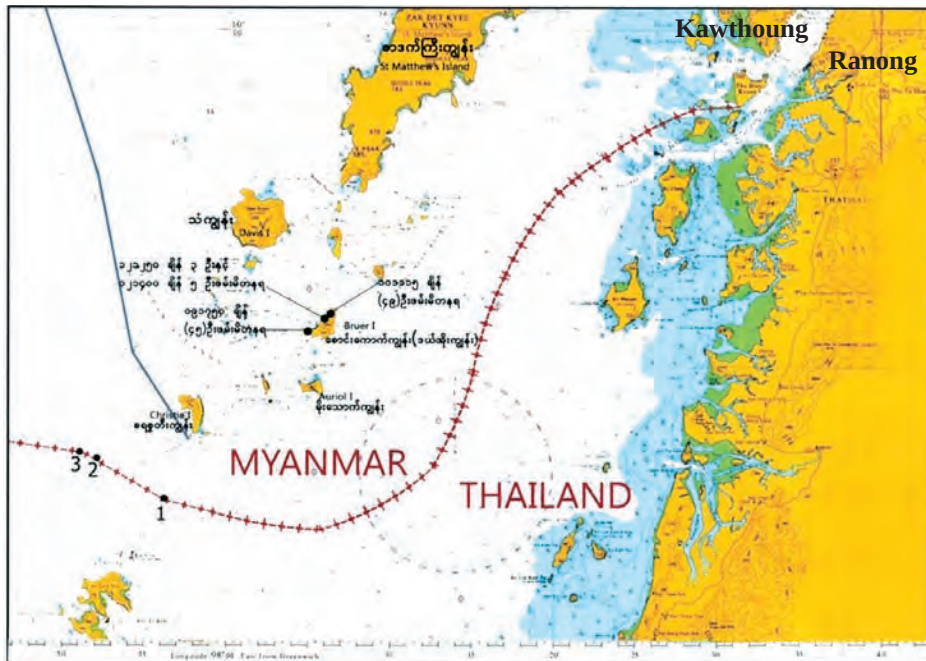
There was a moment when I changed from an amateur to a professional. I assumed the burden of a profession, which is to write even when you don't want to, don't much like what you're writing, and aren't writing particularly well. Being a professional is doing the things you love to do, on the days you don't feel like doing them. The professional has learned that success, like happiness, comes as a by-product of work. The professional concentrates on the work and allows rewards to come or not come, whatever they like. In business ‘professionalism’ is not a tactic but a moral value. They copied my product, they copied my strategies yet they failed miserably in the business, because they couldn't copy my professionalism. Professional men run the business started by the courageous men. World can run without money and currencies but not without business and trade.

RESILIENCE

Life doesn't get easier or more forgiving; we get stronger and more resilient. The human capacity for burden is like bamboo—far more flexible than you'd ever believe at first glance. Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less

(See page 8)

NATIONAL



A map shows location of Bengalis detained by Myanmar Navy which combed Bruer Island.—MYAWADY

Myanmar navy...

(from page 1)

They were left on the

small islet in Myanmar territory in early June.

The navy is searching the areas for more Benga-

lis and the victims will be sent back to their home country.

Myawady

Democracy in Practice

(from page 8)

good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good. before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good.

ACTIVE

I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious. Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're right. The quote "Who Dares Wins" is not by a person, but rather is the slogan of the British Special Forces. Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Inspiration exists, but it must find you working. High expectations are the key to everything. "Do you want to live a safe life or an authentic one?" There are two types of people: The ones who give you 50 reasons it can't be done ... and the ones who just do it. I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.

COOPERATION

Since the dawn of time, the descent of man has revolved around teamwork, and today, successful organizations in any sphere of life all rely on a teamwork ethic with people working together towards a common goal. In union there is

strength. He who does good to another does good also to himself. The path to greatness is along with others. When was ever honey made with one bee in a hive? No member of a crew is praised for the rugged individuality of his rowing. Teamwork appears most effective if each individual helps others to succeed, increasing the synergy of that team; ideally, every person will contribute different skills to increase the efficiency of the team and develop its unity. Individually we are one drop, Together we are one ocean. Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results. Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success. If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself. The best teamwork comes from men who are working independently toward one goal in unison.

TRUST

In any relationship, the essence of trust is not in its bind, but in its bond. So hold the hand of the person whom you love rather than expecting them to hold yours. People ask me why it's so hard to trust people, and I ask them why it is so hard to keep a promise. I've learned that it takes years to build up trust, and it only

takes suspicion, not proof, to destroy it. It wasn't your fault, it was mine for believing every word you said. Trust is like a mirror; once it's broken you can never look at it the same again. Love all, trust a few. Never trust someone who lies to you. Never lie to someone who trusts you. To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved. People always ask me why I don't open up to anyone anymore. Sometimes trusting a friend is the hardest thing to do. Even the closest friends can become your enemies. What upsets me is not that you lied to me, but that from now on I can no longer believe you. Trust is the hardest thing to find and the easiest to lose.

INNOVATIVE

Nothing works better changing a mindset than a great quote. Nothing is stronger than habit. If you always do what you always did, you will always get what you always got. It's tough when markets change and your people within the company don't. They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself. We cannot solve a problem by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them. Necessity is the mother of invention. Minds are like parachutes, they work best when open.

COHESIVENESS

Social cohesion was built into language long before Facebook and LinkedIn and Twitter - we're trib-

al by nature. Tribes today aren't the same as tribes thousands of years ago: It isn't just religious tribes or ethnic tribes now: its sports fans, its communities, and its geography. I think any new technology that helps connect and create social cohesion is great. But at the end of the day, you and I are analogue creatures. We have to take 'oohs and aahs' and convert them to 0s and 1s and then convert them back to 'oohs and aahs.' Narratives that work in social networks are the exchange of stories that are told well. Without social cohesion, the human race wouldn't be here: We're not formidable enough to survive without the tactics, rules and strategies that allow people to work together.

EQUANIMITY

The term brahma vi-hāra refers to the state of Brahmā, or more often, in meditation, to our internal

state of Brahmā-like qualities, the divine abodes, that is, lovingkindness (mettā), compassion (karuṇā), appreciative (sympathetic) joy/gladness (muditā) and equanimity (upekkhā). They are also known as "immeasurable" (appamāṇā or appamaññā) because they should be cultivated unconditionally so that they can reach out to immeasurable beings everywhere. We go on to cultivate equanimity, the capacity for accepting people and things just as they are, even when they do not respond to our best efforts, or indeed they might even backslide. No matter how much effort we put in to save and succour others, there will always be those

we are unable to reach or touch. With a mirror-like mind, we wholeheartedly accept the situation for the moment. For, this too will pass.

So, 1). Be disciplined, 2). Be equitable, 3). Be moral, 4). Be outstanding, 5). be creative, 6). Be respectable, 7). Be attentive (positive attitude), 8). Be careful, 9). Be youthful, 10). Be endowed with integrity, 11). Be nesting networking, 12). Be professional, 13). Be resilient, 14). Be active, 15). be cooperative, 16) be trustworthy, 17) be innovative, 18) be cohesive and 19). be endowed with equanimity are the requisites for democracy in practice.

About the author:

U Tin Htun

Freelance Management and Development Consultant, former International UNV UNCHS/ILO/UNIDO Cooperative and Small Business Specialist in Malawi and Kiribati /UNDP Community Empowerment and Development Specialist in Bangladesh

Crop yields are amazing due to pesticides!

But pesticides must be handled properly...



Hmat Gyi-Aungpinle

Jewish woman who helped Kurds fight IS returns to Israel

JERUSALEM, 13 July — A Canadian-Israeli who was the first foreign woman to help Syria's Kurds fight Islamic State has left the front lines and returned to Israel, citing the spread of Iranian influence in the war zones among her reasons.

After eight months in which she was often incommunicado, stirring rumours that she had fallen captive, Israeli media feted Gill Rosenberg's sudden return on Sunday. But she may still face a legal reckoning for her unauthorised travels.

The 31-year-old former Israeli army volunteer said the lessons of the Holocaust drove her to help protect the Kurds and other Middle East minorities menaced by Islamic State advances.

"I think we as Jews, we say 'never again' for the Shoah, and I take it to mean not just for Jewish people, but for anyone, for any human being, especially a helpless woman or child in Syria or Iraq," Rosenberg told Israel's Army Radio on Monday. "But in the past few weeks I think a lot of the dynamics have changed there, in terms of what's going on in the war. The Iranian involvement is a lot more pro-

nounced. Things changed enough that I felt that it was time to come home."

Rosenberg started out with Kurdish YPG guerrillas in Syria before moving to the Dwekh Nawsha, a Christian militia in Iraq. Both countries are formally at war with Israel, which bars its citizens from travelling there. Iran is among regional powers sending forces to battle Islamic State in Iraq.

The Israeli internal security agency Shin Bet said it questioned Rosenberg after she landed in Tel Aviv. It did not elaborate on whether she would face criminal charges, but an Israeli justice official told *Reuters* it appeared unlikely.

Rosenberg's native Canada, from which she emigrated alone to Israel, had also urged her to get out of Syria. The Canadian embassy in Israel did not immediately comment on her return.

US authorities could pose more of a challenge, however.

In 2009, Rosenberg was arrested in Israel over an international phone scam and extradited to the United States, where she served time in prison. Yahel Ben-Oved, one of her lawyers,

said Rosenberg won early release in 2013 on condition that she remain paroled either on US or Israeli soil.

"I believe she may have violated this by going to Syria," Ben-Oved told *Reuters*. "This could be a problem for her." US officials said they were looking into the case.

Rosenberg declined a *Reuters* request for an interview, saying she would speak to foreign media later in the week. *Reuters* sources familiar with the YPG and Dwekh Nawsha confirmed that Rosenberg had served with both.

"We were, like, under 2 km (1 mile) from Daesh (Islamic State) the whole time, for the most part," Rosenberg told Army Radio. "There were some pretty major firefights, but, you know, a lot of it was just holding lines." She said she was ordered to keep quiet about her Israeli citizenship while with the YPG, a militia with a historically pro-Palestinian leaning. "The Kurds love Israel. They love Israel and they love the Jewish people. But among the ranks of the YPG there's also local Arabs and other people that might not be such big fans of Israel," she said.—*Reuters*

Iraq says operation to retake Anbar Province underway



Members of Iraq's Shi'ite paramilitaries launch a rocket towards Islamic State militants in the outskirts of the city of Falluja, in the province of Anbar, Iraq on 12 July, 2015.—*Reuters*

BAGHDAD, 13 July — Iraqi troops backed by mainly Shi'ite Muslim militias launched military operations on Monday to recapture the country's largest province Anbar from Islamic State militants, a military statement broadcast on state television said.

The announcement of the offensive comes two months after Islamic State militants seized Anbar's capital Ramadi, extending their control over the Sunni Muslim province west of Baghdad.

"At 5 o'clock this

morning operations to liberate Anbar were launched," said a joint military command statement read out on state television.

It said the offensive was being carried out by the army, mainly Shi'ite militia known as Hashid Shaabi (Popular Mobilisation) units, special forces, police and local Sunni Muslim tribal fighters.

The statement gave no other details, but military officers and Hashid Shaabi commanders have said the initial target will be the city of Falluja, about 50 km (30

miles) west of Baghdad.

Hadi al-Ameri, commander of the largest Shi'ite force, the Badr Organization, told Iraqi television on Sunday he expected the main assault on Falluja to take place after the Eid holiday at the end of Ramadan, later this week.

Residents in Falluja and Ramadi reported heavy bombardment of both cities early on Monday. Security sources said Islamic State insurgents also fired rockets and launched several vehicle bombs against army positions.—*Reuters*

Saudi-led air raids in Yemen kill 21 two days into truce



Flames rise from the site of a Saudi-led air strike in Yemen's capital Sanaa on 13 July, 2015.—*Reuters*

SANAA, 13 July — Saudi-led air raids killed 21 civilians in Yemen's capital Sanaa on Monday morning, relatives of the victims and medics told *Reuters*, two days after the start of a United Nations-brokered humanitarian truce that Riyadh does not recognize.

"Three missiles targeted the neighbourhood, destroying 15 houses and killing 21 people and wounding 45 others," said a resident.

A Saudi-led Arab coalition has been bombing

the Houthi militia and army forces loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh since 26 March, aiming to push them back from southern and central areas and restore the country's exiled government.

The Houthis, who are allied to Riyadh's main regional rival Iran, advanced from their northern stronghold a year ago, capturing the capital Sanaa in September and then pushing south early this year, prompting the Saudi-led airstrikes.

More than 3,000 people have been killed in the fighting and air strikes so far, amplifying an existing humanitarian crisis, but the Houthis and Saleh's forces remain embedded across the populated Western side of the country.

The United Nations brokered a pause in the fighting on Friday to allow humanitarian aid to be delivered, but the Saudi-led coalition said it had not been asked by Yemen's exiled President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi,

in whose name it is acting, to stop its raids.

Brigadier-General Ahmed al-Asiri, the spokesman of the coalition, was reported by al Sharq al Awsat newspaper as saying there would be no truce because Houthis were not committed to a ceasefire and no UN observers had been deployed on the ground to monitor possible violations.

There have also been reports of fighting in breach of the pause conditions in Aden, Marib and Taiz, the main theatres of battle between local resistance movements, tribes, Islamist militants and the Houthis and Saleh's forces.

A Houthi leader, Saleh al-Samad, described the continued Saudi raids as presenting "a clear challenge to the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and seriously try to stop this aggression". A United Nations Security Council resolution in April demanded the Houthis and Saleh's forces quit areas they have captured, release prisoners and surrender weapons taken from army units that have been overrun.—*Reuters*

At least five killed in Nigeria's Rivers state shooting

PORT HARCOURT, (Nigeria), 13 July — At least five people were shot and killed on Saturday evening in a small community a few kilometres (miles) from Nigeria's largest refinery in the oil hub Port Harcourt in Rivers state, a spokesman police and local leaders said on Sunday. Gunmen on motorbikes rode around Agbonchia for about an hour shooting at people, youth leader Osaro Nwoke and Simeon Awaji, a local council official said. Police spokesman, Ahmad Mohammad, said that five people had been killed and that 11 people connected to the attack had been arrested, one on Saturday and the others on Sunday.

"We arrested 10 people today ... items recovered included a Lexus jeep, two motorcycles and ... ammunition," Mohammad said. The delta region periodically sees kidnappings and shoot-outs between local gangs.—*Reuters*

Islamic State says Afghanistan leader still alive

KABUL, 13 July — Islamic State on Monday released an audio tape it said was of the movement's leader for Afghanistan, contradicting reports that he was killed in a US drone strike. The message purportedly from Hafez Saeed was posted to an IS website two days after the Afghan intelligence agency said he had been killed. The audio could not be independently verified. Saeed, a Pakistani, was reportedly killed in the Achin district of Nangarhar province late on Friday, the intelligence agency said. Saeed switched allegiance last year from the Taliban to Islamic State in Afghanistan. Islamic State figures have been targets for US drone strikes, which killed three other IS commanders in the same area in a week, including Shahidullah Shahid and Gul Zaman. After pushing out the Taliban insurgents, Islamic State fighters have in the past two months gained ground in several districts of Nangarhar Province, which shares a long and porous border with lawless areas inside Pakistan. Achin fell to the IS militants last month after heavy clashes with the Taliban.—*Reuters*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Asian business leaders discuss pro-growth private-sector cooperation



Sadayuki Sakakibara (C), chairman of the Japan Business Federation, makes a speech at the sixth Asian Business Summit in Tokyo on 13 July, 2015. Asian business leaders from 11 countries and regions gathered to discuss ways to strengthen private-sector cooperation and encourage more investment in Asia.—KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 13 July — Asian business leaders from 11 countries and regions gathered on Monday in Tokyo to discuss ways to strengthen private-sector cooperation and encourage more investment in the region, with negotiations making progress toward a Pacific free trade agreement.

At the opening of the sixth Asian Business Summit, Sadayuki Sakakibara, chairman of the Japan Business Federation, said Asia has become an “extremely important engine of global economic growth,” adding that economic partnership agreements will play a pivotal role in spurring further

growth.

The head of Japan’s most powerful business lobby, also known as Keidanren, expressed hope for the early implementation of a free trade agreement now being negotiated between Japan, China and South Korea, and of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a regional free trade concept that involves 16 Asia-Pacific countries, including ASEAN members.

The envisioned deals “can be expected to bring lower tariff rates with more-widely opened markets for investment and services, in turn contributing to the development of an improved regional business

environment,” Sakakibara added.

Before issuing a joint statement at the end of the summit later in the day, the business leaders were expected to exchange views on economic cooperation, infrastructure-building, environmental issues and the development of human resources.

The participants came from business organizations in countries such as China, South Korea, India, as well as from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The Asian Business Summit was first proposed by former Keidanren chief Fujio Mitarai in 2010.

Kyodo News

China June trade data spurs hopes for second half, but imports shrink again

BEIJING, 13 July — China’s export sales unexpectedly rose for the first time in four months in June and imports fell again but posted their best performance this year, causing some optimism tepid trade flows are picking up.

Yet hopes were offset by a realisation that China’s trade sector had a poor second quarter, with volumes contracting significantly from a year ago, further dragging on an already stuttering Chinese economy.

With China set to publish its second-quarter gross domestic product (GDP) data on Wednesday, some analysts warned that lacklustre trade is the precursor for disappointing economic growth.

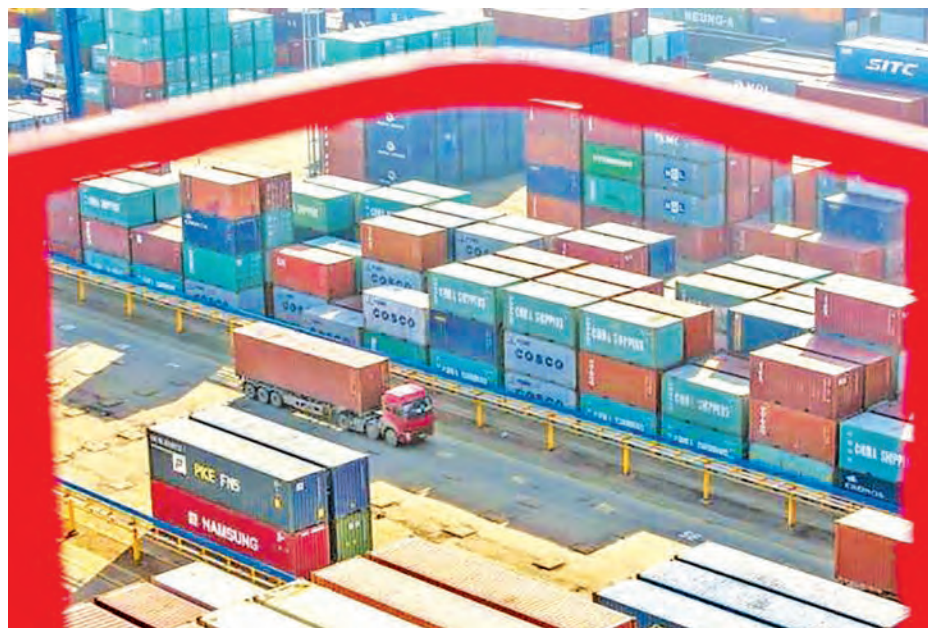
“The soft trade data in the second quarter suggest that China’s second quarter GDP will underperform,”

ANZ economists said in a note, adding that the figure could fall to 6.8 percent from the first quarter’s 7.0 percent.

Given the headwinds faced by China’s economy, analysts polled by Reuters predict growth may have dipped to 6.9 percent between April and June, the weakest performance since the global financial crisis.

On Monday, the General Administration of Customs said Chinese exports grew 2.8 percent last month from a year ago, beating forecasts for a 0.2 percent decline.

Imports fell for an eighth consecutive month, on a yearly basis, but the 6.1 percent drop was the smallest this year, and much better than the 15.0 decline expected by economists. For June, China had a trade surplus of \$46.5 billion, down from May’s



A truck drives past shipping containers at a port in Lianyungang, Jiangsu province on 23 Jan, 2015.—REUTERS

\$59.5 billion. For the first half of 2015, the surplus was \$263 billion, more than 2.5 times the figure in the same period last year.

Some analysts warned

that the pick-up in China’s trade in June may not last.

“Even though inventories at domestic companies stayed at a relatively low level in May and June, the

economic fundamental is weak,” said Nie Wen, an analyst at Hwabao Trust. “I doubt imports would continue to improve in the next few months.”—Reuters

Healthcare packages likely to be revised in UAW, Detroit Three talks

NEW YORK, 13 July — Healthcare packages are likely to be revised and profit-sharing agreements could be altered in talks for new contracts scheduled to begin on Monday between the United Auto Workers (UAW) and The Big Three US automakers, the Wall Street Journal reported citing people familiar with the negotiations. Health care costs will be a central issue in the talks, as the automakers face paying a so-called “Cadillac tax” of 40 percent

on rich UAW medical plans starting in 2018. Fiat Chrysler (FCHA.MI) (FCAU.N), one of the top three auto makers in Detroit, is looking to retool the compensation systems completely, the WSJ reported.

According to a study of 2014 labor costs by the Center for Automotive Research, Fiat had a much higher percentage of lower-paid, entry-level workers as compared to General Motors (GM.N) and Ford (F.N). Fiat’s US workers hourly la-

bor costs averaged \$48 per hour as compared to Ford Motor Co’s \$57 and GM’s \$58. UAW’s current contracts expire on 14 September. The talks will focus on narrowing the gap between veteran workers, who make about \$28 an hour, and employees hired since 2011 with a “second tier” hourly wage of \$16 to \$19.

Ford, Fiat Chrysler and General Motors could not be reached for comment outside regular business hours.—Reuters

S Korea, US to hold meeting on wrong anthrax delivery

SEOUL, 13 July — South Korea and the United States will hold a meeting for a wrong delivery in April by a US military laboratory of live anthrax samples to a US military base in South Korea, Seoul’s foreign ministry said on Monday.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a press release that the accidental delivery of the deadly anthrax agents will be discussed on Wednesday afternoon in the ministry’s

headquarters in central Seoul.

Military and diplomatic officials from the two sides will discuss the accident under the US-Korea Status of Forces Korea (SOFA) Joint Committee, headed by Shin Jae-hyun, director-general for the ministry’s North American affairs and Terrence J O’Shaughnessy, vice commander of the US Forces Korea (USFK).

Xinhua

World Bank, IMF vows to help improve tax systems in developing countries

WASHINGTON, 13 July — The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have announced to launch an initiative to help developing countries strengthen their tax systems ahead of the Financing for Development conference due to be held in Ethiopia.

The two bodies vowed to deepen the dialogue with developing countries on international tax issues with an aim to help increase their weight and voice in the international debate on tax rules and cooperation, according to a recent joint press release carried by both of their official websites. The two international financial institutions also plan to develop diagnostic tools to help member countries evaluate and strengthen their tax policies. The announcement came ahead of the Financing for Development conference, also known as the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

At the global gathering scheduled for Monday-Thursday, heads of state and multilateral institutions and representatives from private sector will discuss how to scale up financial strength to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

Chinese Finance Minister Lou Jiwei will attend the international event as representative of Chinese President Xi Jinping. —Xinhua

Okinawa assembly passes ordinance to hinder US base relocation

NAHA, 13 July — The Okinawa prefectural assembly on Monday passed an ordinance that could delay the planned relocation of a US base within the prefecture which is being promoted by the state government despite staunch local opposition.

The ordinance, to take effect on 1 November, regulates transport of soil from outside the island prefecture in the name of preventing the entry of alien species, thus affecting material to be used in landfill work for the facility to replace the Marine Corps Futenma Air Station.

While the ordinance has no power to unconditionally ban operators from bringing soil into Okinawa for the landfill work, it requires them to report to the local governor from where

the soil was extracted and countermeasures against specific alien species 90 days in advance.

The move gives support to Okinawa Gov Takeshi Onaga, who was elected governor last November with a pledge to take every possible measure to block the central government's plan to build the replacement facility on reclaimed land in Nago's Henoko area. He insists the base should be moved outside the prefecture instead to reduce its burdens of hosting over 70 percent of the land occupied by US military bases in Japan.

He is expected to cancel his predecessor's approval for the landfill work as early as next month, as sources close to the matter said on Monday his advisory panel is set to report to

him that there was a flaw in the approval procedure.

If the approval is negated, the state government may take legal countermeasures as it will not be able to proceed with the relocation plan.

Onaga's predecessor Hirokazu Nakaima approved the land reclamation plan as fulfilling legal requirements in December 2013, but the panel is planning to say in its report it was a faulty decision as the previous government did not secure the viability of measures to protect the environment in the Henoko area, the sources said.

"Okinawa is an island surrounded by the sea, and environmental protection is very important," Onaga told reporters before the voting on the ordinance, adding he is hoping the ordinance will



The Okinawa prefectural assembly holds a meeting on 13 July, 2015, to pass an ordinance to regulate the transport of soil from outside the island prefecture to be used in landfill work for the facility for the US Marine Corps Futenma Air Station. The ordinance could delay the relocation of the base.—KYODO NEWS

be effective in protecting the environment.

The central government is planning to purchase a to-

tal of 20.62 million square meters of soil from Kagawa, Yamaguchi, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima

and Fukuoka prefectures in addition to Okinawa's main island for the landfill work.

Kyodo News

Experts show different views on security bills

TOKYO, 13 July — Five experts on security expressed their views on the government-sponsored security bills to expand capabilities of the Self-Defence Forces on 13 July, 2015, at the special panel of the House of Representatives.

During the public hearing, which was held at a time when the ruling bloc aims to hold a vote on the controversial bills and ram them through the lower house soon, Doshisha University President Koji Murata, among the five, supported the bills, citing the growing military assertiveness of China.

Hosei University Professor Jiro Yamaguchi said, meanwhile, they are against the pacifist Constitution as they will lead Japan to deviate from its exclusively defence-oriented policy.

Outside the Diet building, around 200 people staged a rally, seeking the withdrawal of the bills. Addressing the rally, Masahiko Shimizu, constitutional professor of Nippon



Doshisha University President Koji Murata attends a public hearing of the lower house special panel on the government-sponsored security bills on 13 July, 2015, in Tokyo. While the ruling bloc aims to hold a vote on the controversial bills and ram them through the lower house soon, Murata supported the bills, citing the growing military assertiveness of China.

KYODO NEWS

Sport Science University, said parliamentarians must take much more time to examine the bills before voting on them.

Kyodo News

Indonesia's volcano eruption strands tens of thousands of air passengers

JAKARTA, 13 July — Tens of thousands of passengers have been stranded in Indonesia's airports, following airport closure order by the authorities due to the eruption of Mount Raung volcano in East Java Province. Indonesia's state-run administrator firm PT Angkasa Pura I said that in Bali International Airport, the busiest airport affected by the closure, some 39,715 passengers from 414 flights failed to go to their destination cities.

"That data was compiled from Thursday to Sunday until 16:00 pm local time," Farid Indra Nugraha said here on Sunday.

Indonesian authorities closed the airport again on Sunday afternoon after it briefly reopened on Saturday. Similar measures were also taken in Blimbingsari airport in East Java's city of Banyuwangi. The Transportation Ministry issued the airport closure order through NOTAM (Notice to the Airmen) on Thursday night, affecting five airports located in three provinces of East Java, Bali and West Nusa Tenggara (NTB).

Reports said the volcanic ash was spewed up to 1 km above the volcano, drifting east and southeast.

Besides the passengers, Indonesia's state-run airline

firm Garuda Indonesia was among the party suffered most from the airport closure. It has canceled hundreds of flights to airports affected by the eruption.

Garuda Indonesia Director General Arief Wibowo said on Sunday that the firm has yet to calculate the losses due to the closure of the five airports in the last few days.

"For instance, on the first day alone (Friday) we canceled 112 flights. We suffer from opportunity loss for sure," Arief said, adding that the losses were still being calculated at present.

In response to the situation, Garuda Indonesia

has provided options for its passengers to refund their tickets or reschedule their flights.

Indonesia sits on the world's volcano fault line from the western tip of Sumatra, down to Java and several islands in eastern Java. Volcanoes are also active in Sulawesi island in the eastern region.

Mount Raung volcano is one of the 129 active volcanoes in Indonesia. Another volcano in North Sumatra, Sinabung, has been actively spewing volcanic materials in the last few years, displacing thousands of people living nearby.

Xinhua

Land bridge project designed between Thailand's two seas

BANGKOK, 13 July — Construction of a land bridge in southern Thailand has been planned to link the Gulf of Thailand with the Andaman Sea.

The land bridge project is designed as part of a newly-built railway to ply between Surat Thani Province on the shore of the Gulf of Thailand and Pang-nga

Province on the coast of the Andaman Sea to facilitate cargo and passenger transportation between the two seas, Chaivat Tongkamkoon, deputy director of the Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning, said on Monday. The project is designed to become a land-based gateway for logistical and economic development

in the coastal southern Thailand which largely relies on rubber plantations and tourist industry, according to the OTP deputy chief.

There will be a dozen railway stations along the way between Surat Thani Province and Pang-nga Province, plus access to airports in those southern provinces as well as Phuket

international airport, he said. Phuket is an island resort just across Pang-nga, which is as well a seaside tourist destination. The OTP is yet to conduct environmental impact assessment and public hearings on the land bridge project, which will be implemented by the State Railway of Thailand, he added.—Xinhua

Italian couple hugging their way around Australia

SYDNEY, 13 July — A young Italian couple travelling around Australia are surprising strangers around the country by offering impromptu hugs in busy city malls and tourist spots.

Erica Della Mura, 20, and partner Nicolo Marmioli, 21, draw

crowds by standing in busy areas wearing a blindfold and with their arms outstretched.

A cardboard sign and small coin collection tin alerts passers-by what the gesture means.

And the strangers receive a feel-good hug, but with no strings

attached. Donations are not required. "I trust you. Do you trust me? Hug me. The hugs are free but if you want help us travel this beautiful country. Thanks so much," the sign reads.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation on Monday report-

ed the reactions of strangers are widely varied.

"We like to do this because it's really, really beautiful," Della Mura said. "A lot of people say 'thanks'. A lot of people say 'safe travels'. A lot of people say nothing." Some even cry.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TRINIDAD TRADER VOY NO (1501)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TRINIDAD TRADER VOY NO (1501) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T./M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV EVER PROGRESS VOY NO (036)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER PROGRESS VOY NO (036) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T. (5) 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 CHUN AN SHIPPING PTE LTD**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TU SON VOY NO (5/15)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TU SON VOY NO (5/15) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (3) 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 RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV THAI BINH 68 VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV THAI BINH 68 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W 6 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 G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV TAN BINH 39 VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAN BINH 39 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 14.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.I.P.T-1 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 G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301191/2301178

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV PHUONG NAM 68 VOY NO (-)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NAM 68 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.7.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T-3 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 G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.**

Phone No: 2301191/2301178

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-645)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TAMPAN VOY NO (TPN-645) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.7.2015 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 ADVANCE CONTAINER
LINES**

Phone No: 2301185



Yoga lovers practise yoga beside a lotus pool in Jilingshan Park in Huangshan City, east China's Anhui Province, on 12 July, 2015.—XINHUA

**Advertise
with us!**

For inquiries
to place an
advertisement
in the GNLM,

Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com

(+95) (01) 8604532

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weak elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 14th July, 2015: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in Taninthayi Region, Kachin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Kayah State, scattered in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and Mon State. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Mon - Taninthayi Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

E-mail disruption hits millions of “au” mobile phone users

Tokyo, 13 July — KDDI Corp said on Monday millions of its “au” mobile service users have encountered difficulties accessing their e-mails on their smartphones and other mobile phones since early Sunday evening.

The disruption affected as many as 7.96 million

users at one point. As of 7:30 am on Monday, 1.59 million users were still being affected, according to the company.

A fire damaged equipment at a communications centre in Tochigi Prefecture, causing air-conditioner failure that apparently shut down e-mail servers

there due to rising room temperatures, according to KDDI and a local fire department. E-mails began being disrupted around 6:30 pm on Sunday.

KDDI suffered a similar service disruption in February 2012, affecting as many as around 6.15 million subscribers. The

company attributed the incident to a failed power unit at the same communications facility. A series of service disruptions that afflicted KDDI between the end of 2012 and May 2013 prompted regulators to issue administrative guidance to the mobile phone operator.—Kyodo News



Olivia Jordan of Oklahoma is crowned by Miss USA 2014 Nia Sanchez after winning the 2015 Miss USA beauty pageant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on 12 July, 2015. —REUTERS

Oklahoma woman named Miss USA; Trump a no-show

BATON ROUGE, (Louisiana), 13 July — Oklahoma's Olivia Jordan was crowned Miss USA on Sunday, capping weeks of controversy in the run-up to the annual beauty pageant after its

co-owner Donald Trump made incendiary remarks about Mexican immigrants while announcing his run for president.

Several judges, guests and the event's hosts all backed out after the real

estate mogul described some migrants from Mexico to the United States as drug-runners and rapists while announcing in June he was seeking the Republican nomination.

Despite the contro-

versy, no incidents or disruptions were apparent either in the audience or on stage during the live broadcast from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, carried on cable channel Reelz after NBC dropped the show over Trump's remarks.

Trump, who traditionally attends, said on Saturday he would be campaigning and would not be on hand.

Jordan, 26, an actress and graduate of Boston University, won the 64th pageant after deftly answering a question about the nation's next hot-button issue. Other finalists stumbled while answering similarly topical questions from the judges, who were all past pageant winners such as Miss Universe and Miss USA.

"We still need to talk about race relations in the country, we have not solved this issue," Jordan said. "We really need to work on being an accepting society."—Reuters

From 'Star Wars' to horror scares, six Comic-Con highlights

LOS ANGELES, 13 July — Superhero movies made the biggest splash at San Diego's Comic-Con this year, but the convention's 130,000 comic book and pop culture fans were also treated to a smorgasbord of experiences, surprises and scares. As the 35th Comic-Con wrapped up its four-day event on Sunday, here are six highlights from the annual event.

Zombies, ghosts and the supernatural served up scares, from late night fan screenings of upcoming horror movies "The Gallows," "The Visit" and "Cooties," to the undead frightening attendees on the convention floor. At the booth for AMC's hit zombie series "The Walking Dead," fans screeched in fear as they walked into the back of a truck filled with blood-stained mattresses and a gaggle of slow-moving zombies. Creepy bloodied "twins" from the upcoming "Sinister 2" film popped up around the streets of San Diego's downtown Gaslamp district, while indoors a trailer from "Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials" featured terrifying zombie-like creatures that frightened the crowd.

The 6,000-plus crowd attending the panel for the upcoming "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" film was escorted by Stormtroopers to a nearby outdoor venue for a surprise concert. Fans went wild and were armed with lightsabers as

the San Diego Symphony performed John Williams' iconic "Star Wars" score, concluding with a fireworks display. Snoopy's little red house became a giant, inflated playpen with real beagles to pet and a bouncy slide to glide down. "The Peanuts Movie," a 3D-animated movie due out in November, will bring the cast of Charles M. Schulz's iconic comic strip to the big screen.

What happens when Harry Potter, Doctor Who and Professor Xavier turn up to a party together? Actors Daniel Radcliffe, Matt Smith and James McAvoy indulged in a late-night game of ping pong at Entertainment Weekly's Comic-Con party, with Radcliffe dominating the table.

Elsewhere, "Avengers" director Joss Whedon danced up a storm to 1990s hip hop tracks. For Christmas this year, director Quentin Tarantino is bringing back the "roadshow" cinema-going experience for audiences to watch his gritty Western film "The Hateful Eight." The "roadshow" was a popular cinema experience in the 1950s and 1960s, with movies being accompanied by intermissions and musical overtures.

Tarantino, who delivered a master class for film lovers on shooting in 65mm format, said "The Hateful Eight" will be released in 70mm widescreen in 100 US theaters on Christmas Day as a roadshow event.

Reuters

Carrie Underwood breaks into own car to save her son



Underwood, 32, took to Twitter to share the news of her Saturday struggle, reported People magazine. PTI

LOS ANGELES, 13 July — Singer Carrie Underwood had to break into her own car to save her four-month-old son, Isaiah, after her dogs accidentally locked the car from inside.

Underwood, 32, took to Twitter to share the news of her Saturday struggle, reported People magazine.

"When your dogs manage to lock themselves, all your stuff and the baby in the car and you have to break a window to get in," she wrote.

The Grammy-winning country star had to break the windows of her own car to safely bring her baby out.

PTI

'Minions' dominates with \$115.2 million debut

LOS ANGELES, 13 July — "Minions" ruled the weekend box office, racking up a massive \$115.2 million in North America, for the second biggest animated film opening in history.

The Universal and Illumination Entertainment spin-off to "Despicable Me" just missed the domestic record set by "Shrek the Third's" \$121.6 million kickoff in 2007, while continuing animation maestro Chris Meledandri's hot streak at the multiplexes. What makes Meledandri so valuable to studios is that he keeps budgets low. "Minions" cost \$74 million to produce, a modest number considering that Pixar and DreamWorks Animation routinely spend north of \$100 million on their animated features. "I'm not sure the public is mindful of what films cost, they're more concerned with how they resonate," said Nick Carpou, Universal's domestic distribution chief. "Chris is able to produce films that speak to families, to children, to people everywhere." The studio left nothing to chance when it came to reminding moviegoers why the loved the nattering, mischievous, highlighter-hued critters. Universal partnered with the likes of Snapchat, McDonald's, and Amazon to deliver nearly \$600 million



Actress Sandra Bullock poses with characters in costume from the film during the 'Minions' World Premiere at Leicester Square in London, Britain on 11 June, 2015. REUTERS

in publicity and promotions, according to a recent article by Bloomberg. The titular characters were ubiquitous popping up on everything from Twinkies to Chiquita bananas. Carpou said he was made aware of the Minions' cultural currency this weekend while on an outing to a mall. A store featuring plush toys prominently displayed the "Despicable Me" characters. "They're everywhere, those yellow guys," he said. "In a way they exist in the culture without even having a film attached to them." The opening weekend crowd for "Minions" was 59% female, 55% under the age of 25, and 60%

comprised of families.

"With anything that opens to over \$100 million, you breach all demographics," said Jeff Bock, an analyst with Exhibitor Relations. "The Minions are the stars of the 'Despicable Me' franchise...kids love them, teens love them, and adults love them." "Minions" also enjoyed a sprawling rollout, debuting in 4,301 theaters. In recent months, there's been a lot of celebrating taking place on the Universal lot. The studio is the leader in market share thanks to hits like "Pitch Perfect 2" and "Fifty Shades of Grey," and has two films that have crossed \$1 billion

at the global box office with "Furious 7" and "Jurassic World."

"Minions" was such a behemoth that two newcomers, "Self/Less" and "The Gallows," risked getting washed away. Of them, "The Gallows" fared better, picking up \$10 million, across 2,720 locations. The Warner Bros. found footage chiller cost less than \$2 million to make, so it could be profitable. Entertainment 360 and Blumhouse Productions backed the picture about a high school play gone terribly, terribly wrong...and not in that teenagers putting on "The Crucible" kind of way.

Reuters

GENERAL

Double the joy for Hingis as she and Paes win mixed title

LONDON, 13 July — Martina Hingis completed the doubles-double at Wimbledon on Sunday after she and Leander Paes walloped Alexander Peya and Timea Babos 6-1, 6-1 to win the mixed doubles trophy at the All England Club.

Twenty four hours after partnering another Indian, Sania Mirza, to the women's doubles crown, the 34-year-old combined with Paes to scoop their second mixed title of the year after also triumphing at the Australian Open.

"I think last night and today was just amazing, the emotions," Hingis said.

"The chemistry we had today...It was incredible."

Hingis, the 1997 Wimbledon singles champion,

Leander Paes of India and Martina Hingis of Switzerland show off their trophies after winning their Mixed Doubles Final match against Timea Babos of Hungary and Alexander Peya of Austria at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 12 July, 2015.—REUTERS



claimed her third mixed title and her overall grand slam doubles tally now stands at 13. Paes now has eight mixed doubles titles to go with eight men's doubles

trophies he has won at the majors.

"Coming out and playing like that on one of the most prestigious courts that we've grown up with and

winning a title like that, again for the second time in a grand slam without losing a set, that is really special," the Indian said.

Reuters

Hong Kong panda bears down on world record for longevity

HONG KONG, 13 July — The oldest giant panda living in captivity is set to challenge the world record for the animals' longevity, with her age said to put her on par with a human centenarian. Hong Kong's giant panda Jia Jia, whose name means "good", will turn 37 this summer at theme park Ocean Park, matching the Guinness World Records title for the oldest panda sur-

vivor in captivity — Du Du, who died in 1999, aged 37.

"It is rare for pandas to live to this age," said Grant Abel, the park's director of animal care. "It's probably equivalent to someone, a human person, who would be over a hundred years of age."

Jia Jia's caregivers say they are considering sending an application to Guinness World Records after the

celebration of her birthday, which is observed in summer, although the exact date is not known, as she was captured in the wild.

Born in China in 1978, Jia Jia was gifted to Hong Kong in 1999, along with another panda, to mark the second anniversary of the city's handover from former colonial ruler Britain.

She weighs 80 kg and is considered to be in remarkably good health for her age, even though her vision is severely impaired and her hearing has deteriorated, says Paolo Martelli, the park's chief veterinarian. Jia Jia takes medicines for high blood pressure and arthritis. She walks slowly and avoids the exhibition area of her enclosure, preferring to stay at the back and feast on several kilograms of bamboo shoots and leaves, besides fruit and high-fibre bread." The first thing I thought when I saw

Jia Jia was, 'Oh my God, she's so old, I'm going to be the one to bury her,' Martelli said." But actually it's been 10 years now. And she's had a few ups and downs, but she always manages to bounce back and look surprisingly good for years after that," he said, adding that it was hard to predict her remaining lifespan.

Pandas are endangered because most of their natural habitat has been destroyed for timber, farming and construction, according to conservation group the World Wildlife Fund. A Chinese government survey in 2014 estimated 1,864 pandas live in the wild, up 17 percent from 2003.

They also have an exceptionally short breeding season, with females fertile for just 24 to 36 hours a year, says a nonprofit body, Pandas International.

Reuters



36-year-old giant panda Jia Jia, looks on at the Hong Kong Ocean Park, China on 9 July, 2015.—REUTERS

Wildfires in Washington state threaten homes, prompt evacuations

WASHINGTON, 13 July — Two lightning-sparked wildfires roared largely unchecked for a third day on Sunday in north-central Washington state, threatening more than two dozen homes and prompting the evacuation of about 300 dwellings, officials said.

The flames have charred nearly 20,000 acres (80 square km) since erupting on Friday in the grass- and brush-covered hills of Douglas County, authorities

said. One of the two fires grew out of four separate blazes that later merged into one.

No injuries have been reported, but 29 homes and 30 other buildings were listed as immediately threatened, said Robin DeMario, a spokeswoman for the Northwest Interagency Coordination Centre that monitors wildfires in the region.

As of Sunday, the two blazes were still raging out of control, with firefighters

having managed to carve containment lines around 10 percent of the flames, said Darren Wright, a spokesman for the Washington State Patrol.

Most of the evacuations ordered were for residences standing in the potential path of advancing flames, he said. So far, no structures have been reported lost.

Nearly 160 firefighters were working in ground crews trying to enclose the blazes, assisted by wa-

ter-dropping helicopters, DeMario said.

The Red Cross opened an emergency shelter for evacuees at a high school in the town of Ephrata, south of the fire zone.

DeMario said the Douglas County blazes are among several major wildfires burning in Washington state, with the next largest being a 5,000-acre (20.23-square-km) fire near the Canadian border.

Reuters

mitv Myanmar International

(14-7-2015 07:00 am~15-7-2015 07:00 am) MST

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| * News | (Papaya Salad) |
| * Insight Myanmar | * Writer |
| * "Child Protection" | * Snake Dancer |
| Overview of Child | * News |
| Protection | * Myanmar Traditional |
| Programme | Identity (EP-1) The |
| * Yangon Markets: | Culture of Pennant |
| Mingalar Wholesale | Pillar |
| Market | * A Historic Town: |
| * News | 9 Pagodas |
| * National Literary Icon | * Myanmar Harpist |
| & Guiding Light of | * News |
| Myanmar Literature: | * National Literary Icon |
| Sayar Zaw Gyi | & Guiding Light of |
| (Episode- 2) | Myanmar Literature: |
| * Kayah Style | Sayar Zaw Gyi |
| * News | (Episode- 1) Childhood |
| * Culture Show: | And Student Life |
| Abdication of King | * Maha Myatmuni |
| Thibaw | Buddha Image In |
| * Karaweik Palace- A | Rakhine |
| Symbol of Glorious | * News |
| Myanma Culture | * "Myanmar's Traditions |
| * News | and Culture" |
| * Myanmar Traditional | Novicehood in |
| Toys | Myanmar |
| * Grow Back for | * Guiding Star of Song |
| Posterity "The dawn | Birds |
| of development" | * Sagaing: Gold Leaf |
| * Sticky Shan Snack | * News |
| * News | * Youth of The Future |
| * A Day Out With | (Ep-11) (Hair |
| Sarah (EP-6) | Designer) |
| * News | * A Monk's Robe |
| * Taste of Myanmar | * Myanmar Traditional |
| | Art Bronze Casting |

MRTV Entertainment Channel

(14-7-2015, Tuesday)

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 6:00 am | 8:30 am |
| • Mono Classical Songs | • Myanmar Video |
| 6:20 am | 9:30 am |
| • Pyi Thu Ni Ti | • Musical Programme |
| 6:40 am | 9:40 am |
| • Fashion Show (Music) | • Radio Drama |
| 6:55 am | 10:35 am |
| • Teleplay | • Myanmar Video |
| 7:00 am | 12:00 am |
| • TV Drama Series | • Close Down |

Int'l football stars arrive in Australia this week for ICC tournament

CANBERRA, 13 July — Four of world football's heavyweight clubs descend Down Under this week for one of the biggest off-season extravaganzas seen in Australia.

The International Champions Cup (ICC) will be played in Australia for the first time — featuring Manchester City, AS Roma and Real Madrid — when it makes its much-anticipated Australian stop later this week, while Premier League club Liverpool is also scheduled to play two friendlies. Manchester City have already arrived in the country ahead of their first match — a friendly against affiliate club Melbourne City FC — while fellow ICC opponents Real Madrid and AS Roma are expected to arrive on Monday evening and on Wednesday respectively.

Manchester City hit the training track on Saturday, with a number of first-team stars still yet to join the group. Yaya Toure, Vincent Kompany and Samir Nasri are among those already here, with David Silva and Joe Hart expected to join the group before the first match.

Meanwhile Real Madrid's Superstar forward Cristiano Ronaldo has arrived in Melbourne amid the country's coldest snap of weather in more than a decade. He has already been spotted shopping and getting a haircut, having arrived well before his teammates ahead of the Spanish team's first ICC match against Roma at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on Saturday 18 July. That match kicks off the three-game series in Melbourne, with Roma to take on Manchester City on 21 July, followed lastly by Manchester City and Real Madrid on 24 July.—Xinhua

Steel-plated Djokovic a step too far for Federer

LONDON, 13 July — Novak Djokovic again revealed the true depth of his steely core to grind Wimbledon idol Roger Federer's hopes of a record eighth title into Centre Court's baseline dust on Sunday.

With a sell-out crowd urging Federer to scale the same dizzy heights he reached in eclipsing Britain's Andy Murray in Friday's semi-final, Djokovic shrugged off losing a stomach-churning second-set tiebreak to prevail 7-6(1), 6-7(10), 6-4, 6-3.

After swiping away a forehand winner to end a two hour 56 minute contest that crackled into life midway through but then fizzled out, top seed Djokovic roared to the grey London sky before kneeling down and nibbling some of the cherished turf.

"In the end when I finished the last point, I took



Winner, Novak Djokovic of Serbia and runner up Roger Federer of Switzerland pose with their trophies after their Men's Singles Final match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, on 12 July, 2015.—REUTERS

out everything that was in me," Djokovic, who has rebounded magnificently from losing the French Open final to Stanislas Wawrinka and missing out on a full set of majors, said.

"It's a great achievement. Even though it's the third title here, it feels like the first.

"Obviously, I was disappointed and heartbroken (to lose the French), but

if there is one thing that I learned in the sport it's to recover fast and to leave things behind and move on."

For the second year running in the All England Club's showpiece final

Federer played majestically but could not break down the defences of the game's ultimate warrior.

Twelve months ago he pushed the Serb to five sets. This time the Swiss maestro's challenge fizzled out in anti-climactic fashion and Djokovic dominated the third and fourth sets of his 17th grand slam final with clinical precision.

World number one Djokovic now has three Wimbledon titles, the same as his coach Boris Becker, and moves above the likes of Andre Agassi, Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl and Ken Rosewall in the all-time list of grand slam collectors.

At 28, he already has nine majors to his name and, despite the life-changing journey into married life and fatherhood, his hunger for battle remains as voracious as ever.

Nearly six years old-

er, Federer had hoped to become the oldest man to win the Wimbledon title in the professional era.

But, after saving seven set points and coming through a pulsating second-set tiebreak that will go down as one of the tournament's classics, his well of inspiration ran dry.

He will come again, that much is guaranteed, but his chances of winning a record-extending 18th grand slam title are receding.

"You know, I still think I had a great tournament," Federer told reporters. "You can have good tournaments without winning, as well. I still won six matches, lost one. The ratio still remains very good.

"But of course you sort of walk away empty handed. For me a finalist trophy is not the same. Everybody knows that."

Reuters

Manchester United close on Schneiderlin, eye Gaitan

LONDON, 13 July — Manchester United's transfer splurge looked set to intensify on Sunday following media reports that Southampton's France midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin had undergone a medical with the Old Trafford club. There was no confirmation from United, who agreed to sign Bayern Munich's Germany midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger and Italy's Torino right back Matteo Darmian this weekend.

Schneiderlin, 25, was playing in the English third tier with Southampton only five years ago but has impressed in the Premier League and was in France's World Cup squad last year.

Louis Van Gaal's team, who finished fourth

in the Premier League last term, are also looking at a part swap deal involving Brazilian right back Rafael and Benfica's long-coveted Argentina winger Nicolas Gaitan. "Benfica and Manchester United are in negotiations over Gaitan and one offer includes Rafael to join Benfica," Cassiano Pereira, Rafael's agent, told Portuguese newspaper *Record*.

One man seemingly definitely on his way out of Old Trafford is injury-prone striker Robin van Persie, who took to social media on Sunday to chronicle his journey to Turkey where he is poised to sign a deal with Fenerbahce.

His Netherlands team mate Memphis Depay has been recruited by United to fill the void.—Reuters



Southampton's Morgan Schneiderlin and Tottenham's Nacer Chadli battle for the ball during the Barclays Premier League match at St Mary's Stadium, Southampton on 25 April, 2015.—REUTERS

'Flying Dumbos' celebrate after Chun's US Open win

SEOUL, 13 July — As a maths prodigy with a near genius IQ level of 138, it is safe to say the nickname 'Dumbo' is not a reference to South Korean golfer Chun In-gee's intelligence.

The 20-year-old became the latest South Korean to score top marks on the LPGA Tour by bagging the US Open on Sunday, becoming the first player to win the tournament at the first attempt since compatriot Birdie Kim in 2005.

The US Open trophy has become a frequent visitor to Seoul over the last decade, with Korean golfers winning seven of the last 11 titles, and Chun's win on Sunday was the 12th by a South Korea-born golfer in 17 LPGA Tour events this year.

Tagged as a 'star in the making' since turning pro in 2012, Chun has seven wins on the Korean tour, including three this year, and she said Sunday's victory, and the acclaim that comes with it, would spur her on to achieve more.

Enrolled at Seoul's prestigious Korea University, Chun said she was not a natural the first time she picked up a club, and had it not been for some fatherly teasing her career path may have been very different.

"I really enjoyed studying and I was doing pretty well at school, but one day my father and my father's friend took me to a golf range and they asked me

In Gee Chun holds up the trophy after the final round of the US Women's Open at Lancaster Country Club, PA on 12 July, 2015.—REUTERS



to hit some shots," she told reporters at a news conference.

"I tried to swing the club but the result wasn't that good. Then my father and my father's friend teased me a little bit and I got fired up, and I felt I could do it.

"Then I decided to spend some time in golf, and I fell in love with golf like that."

With a long graceful swing that packs a punch at impact, Chun's game is built around precision iron play and a stellar short game.

She used both to great effect on Sunday, clawing her way back from four strokes off the lead to card a four-under 66 at Lancaster Country Club in Pennsylvania, pipping compatriot

Amy Yang by a single shot.

The win earned her more than \$800,000 in prize money and saw her vault 10 places in the world rankings to number 10, despite still playing on the domestic Korean tour.

"As I heard, this was a US Open setting, the course played very long, the rough was tough," said Chun, who negotiated the four rounds with new caddie Dean Herden.

Picking up vital pieces of information, even when it is just a whisper, is something Chun uses to her advantage.

In previous interviews she told Korean media she is uncontrollably curious, always on the lookout for new things. "My ears are always open, I listen to other people

carefully," she told Golf Digest in 2013. "That's how I got the nickname Dumbo."

Her coach, Park Won, told the magazine: "When someone says something, In-gee listens to it and thinks about it for a long time. Then she starts asking questions.

"Actually, when you are next to her, it's quite exhausting because of the questions."

The nickname, like many of her 'Flying Dumbos' fanclub, followed her to the United States.

"When I came over here, some American fans recognised that nickname and called me Dumbo," she said on Sunday.

"And some even shouted it 'let's go, Dumbo', that has made me really enjoy the game."—Reuters