

President U Thein Sein felicitates Brazilian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Ms Dilma Rousseff, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federative Republic of Brazil which falls on 7th September 2013.—MNA

Better security measures to be taken for safety of SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept—The Leading Committee for Organizing the XXVII SEA Games held the ninth coordination meeting at the hall of President Office, here, this morning, with an address by Patron of the Leading Committee Vice-President U Nyan Tun.

Speaking at the meeting, the Vice-President emphasized that work guidelines had been laid down on services of stadiums, gymnasiums, sports gear and sports

techniques for being able to successfully hold the SEA Games, better security measures for safety of the SEA Games, systematic sports management, presentation of entertainment. He noted that the work guidelines comprised creating of greening sports competitions, establishment of safety transport, modern ICT management for sports information, plans for security, health and sanitation, setting up of legal environment in line

with the Olympic Charter and public participation in organizing the SEA Games. He urged the committees to strive for timely completion of preparatory tasks.

Deputy Ministers for Sports U Thaug Htaik and U Zaw Win reported on securing victory in the Games and preparations for holding the competition.

Chairman of the Leading Committee Union Minister U Tint Hsan submitted reports on progress of works by

committees, the remaining tasks and difficulties, future tasks and matters to be coordinated with the ministries concerned.

Subcommittee chairmen Union Ministers, deputy ministers and officials presented reports on their respective sectors and remaining tasks. The Vice-President attended to the needs.

Before concluding the meeting, the Vice-President fulfilled the requirements of each committee.—MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar President Office (Order No. 38/2013)

2nd Waxing of Tawthalin, 1375 ME
(6 September, 2013)

Union Peace-making Work Committee added with members

“The Union Peace-making Work Committee” constituted under Order No. (15/2013) of the President Office dated 5 July 2013 has been added with the following persons as members.

- (1) U Zeyar Aung
Union Minister
- (2) U Win Myint
Union Minister

Sd/Thein Sein
President

Republic of the Union of Myanmar



Vice-President U Nyan Tun addresses ninth meeting of Leading Committee for Organizing the XXVII SEA Games.—MNA

RBE, special express train on Yangon-Kyaikto railroad

Yangon-Kyaikto (RBE) special train will set off its maiden trip on 7 September and then runs every Saturday and Sunday on schedules, according to the press conference held at Sakhantha Hall of Yangon Railway Station.

The Yangon-Kyaikto (RBE) special train is facilitated with three special coaches each of which has 76 seats and two special coaches each of which has 52 seats, totalling 332. The train is aimed at enabling the passengers bound for

Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda to have comfortable travelling. Each coach is equipped with air-conditioners. The sofa seats can be adaptable to east from west, said General Manager U Tun Aung Thin of Myanma Railways (Lower Myanmar).

Yangon-Kyaikto railroad is 98.75 miles. At present, three trains run up and down routes of Yangon-Kyaikto-Mawlamyine-Yet-Dawei railroad.

The RBE special train will take four hours and 35 minutes for the route. The people wishing to pay

homage to Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda can travel a trip in a short time, said U Tun Aung Thin.

Assistant General Manager (Travelling)

U Kyaw Kyaw Myo of Myanma Railways said, “Being an express train, the RBE will stop over at Bago, Waw and Theinzayat stations along its route.



Byline: Ye Khaung, Myat Thanda Maung,
Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

Arrangements have been made for the passengers to be able to buy the tickets for respective sections.

The foodstuffs with strong smell such as durian fruit and smoking will be prohibited on board the train.”

Fares of the sections of railroad are fixed for passengers—K 1700 per passenger for Yangon-

Bago section, K 2300 for Yangon-Waw section and K 2800 for Yangon-Theinzayat section. The whole route is K 3500 per passenger. For foreigners, ticket is US\$5 for Yangon-Bago, US\$7 for Yangon-Waw, US\$8 for Yangon-Theinzayat and US\$10 for Yangon-Kyaikto.

RBE express train was imported from Japan in 2012. If number of passengers for the route grows up, the express train will carry more coaches.

Myanma Alinn: 4-9-2013

Trs: TTA

Passenger coach of
RBE special express
train seen with sofa
seats.

AFF Women's Championship as Pre-SEA Games match

YANGON, 6 Sept—The AFF Women's Championship 2013 organized by ASEAN Football Federation will take place at Youth Training Centre in Thuwunna of Yangon from 9 to 22 September.

It will be the test matches for the contending teams bound for the SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in December.

The AFF Championship will be participated by Japan U-23, Australia U-19 and Jordanian National Team in addition to those of ASEAN countries. So, it is a great opportunity for the football players.

Ten football teams are divided into two groups—Australia U-19, Vietnam, Thailand, Jordan and Malaysia in Group A and Japan U-23, Myanmar, Laos, the Philippines and Indonesia in Group B.

Myanmar team that has yet to secure gold medals in

the SEA Games is standing tall together with the most successful Vietnamese team on the table.

In the first championship in 2004, Myanmar held up its championship trophy by winning over

Vietnam and clinched title in 2007 championship by beating Thailand in 2007.

Despite reaching the final matches in the 2011 and 2012 championships, Myanmar had to console with second prizes.

Myanmar team is making preparations for taking part in the AFF Championship with its 26 tentatively selected players. Recently, the team has capped 20 finalists.



Japanese Coach Mr Kumada is expected to bring Myanmar team to the highest standard. In July, Myanmar played tune-up matches in Japan as part of preparations for the SEA Games.

That is why the AFF Championship will be the great opportunity for Myanmar women's team so as to secure victory in the upcoming SEA Games.

Kyemon-Chit Ko Ko

Radio, TV courses conducted in Mandalay for second time

MANDALAY, 6 Sept—The radio broadcast and TV programme course is being conducted at the Alindaga fine arts school on 69th street between 37th and 38th streets in Mandalay as of 30 August.

The enthusiasts from Thazin FM and news agencies at home and abroad are attending the course that runs to 8 September.

The course was jointly conducted by Myanmar Journalists Union (MJU), Creative Media House (CMH) and Association Education for Peace of Poland.

Two Polish radio experts give lectures to the trainees and an experienced TV correspondent from Polish, TV programme production. The radio course is facilitated with necessary equipment at the radio

Yangon on 31 August.

Members of fire fighters led by Head of No 8 Zone U Kyaw Naing of Fire Services Department and Staff Officer Ye Kyawthu Soe Naing of Mayangon Township Fire Services Department participated in fire drill.

Next, officials of the department gave lectures on dos and don'ts for fire prevention to the staff of the centre.

Kyemon-Zawgyi (Panita)



workshop.

The practical works are being provided to the trainees of TV course. A similar course has been conducted

from 19 to 28 August in Yangon. Professor Piort Balcerowicz of Warsaw University of Poland gave lectures on solving of human

rights and conflicts in Yangon from 12 to 16 August and from 23 to 27 August in Mandalay.

Kyemon-Ba Oo (Mann)

Environment

Saplings directly distributed to people

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept—With a view to ensuring active participation of the people, the Forest Department directly distributed saplings including teak, shade and flowery plants to the people who really cultivate the saplings in 2013 rainy season.

Under the supervision of Head of Nay Pyi Taw Forest Department Assistant Director U Tet Toe, Staff Officer

U Win Bo and staff of Pinyin Township Forest Department carried the saplings by vehicle around Kyitaung, Khawma, Muntegwin, Kyaukchet villages in Zeyathiri Township on 24 August and distributed saplings to the local people.

The staff presented teak, eucalyptus, oil eugenia, star-flower and perennial saplings totalling 4300 to local people free of charge.—MNA

FSD members, staff practise fire drill

YANGON, 6 Sept—A fire drill was held at Myanmar Convention Centre-MCC on Mindhamma Road where

the body-building contest will be held for the XXVII SEA Games in Ward 2 of Mayangon Township of



National Sports

Win Zaw Tun secures champion in Myanmar Open Chess Tourney

YANGON, 6 Sept—The prize presentation for the Myanmar Open Chess Tournament 2013, jointly organized by Sports and Physical Education Department under the Ministry of Sports and Myanmar Chess Federation was held at Aung San Gymnasium, here, on 3 September afternoon.

Joint Secretary of the federation U Kyi Thein and Mr Anthony Tan of Malaysian Chess Association presented cash awards to winners.

Vice-President of the federation U Win Aung gave trophies to Win Zaw Tun (A&I), Myint Han (Yangon Region) and Zaw Win (A&I) from first to third positions.

President of the federation U Maung Maung Lwin awarded championship trophy to Win Zaw Tun who secured champion in the tournament.

Thirteen qualified players from the tournament were allowed to take part in the 2013 National Chess Championship.

Kyemon

Accident

12-wheeled Nissan truck plunges into Zeyawady Natsin Creek

PYU, 6 Sept—A 12-wheeled Nissan truck carrying feedstuff for poultry heading for Mandalay from

Yangon plunged into left of Natsin Creek Bridge near mile post No 145 on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Pyu Township of Bago Region on 3 September morning.

The root cause of accident was dozing of reckless driver.

In the incident, the front part of the vehicle was damaged due to

lose of wheels.

The conductor of the vehicle evaded from the accident. Zeyawady Police

Station opened a file of lawsuit over the case under the law.

Kyemon-Pyu Myint Oo



WORLD

World leaders pressure Obama over Syria at G20 summit

ST PETERSBURG, (Russia), 6 Sept—US President Barack Obama faced growing pressure from Russia's Vladimir Putin and other world leaders on Thursday to decide against launching military strikes in Syria, which many of them fear would hurt the global economy and push up oil prices.

At a summit of the Group of 20 (G20) developed and developing economies in St Petersburg, Putin greeted Obama with a thin smile and a business-like handshake, a clear sign of the strains between them over how to respond to a chemical weapons attack in Syria.

Obama also wore a stiff smile before talks began over dinner on the world economy and then on Syria, and there was none of the arm clutching or hugs between the two presidents that is typical of such occasions.

The rift over Syria overshadowed the discussions on how to revive growth but not before splits

emerged within the group over a US plan to wind down an economic stimulus programme. The G20 accounts for two thirds of the world's population and 90 percent of its output.

The first round at the summit went to Putin, as China, the European Union, the BRICS emerging economies and a letter from Pope Francis all warned of the dangers of military intervention in Syria without the approval of the UN Security Council.

"Military action would have a negative impact on the global economy, especially on the oil price — it will cause a hike in the oil price," Chinese Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao said.

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon later told the leaders over the dinner in a tsarist-era seafront palace that any military action must have the Security Council's backing.

"Let us remember: every day that we lose is a



Russia's President Vladimir Putin (L) welcomes US President Barack Obama before the first working session of the G20 Summit in Constantine Palace in Strelna near St Petersburg, on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

day when scores of innocent civilians die," his office quoted him as saying. "There is no military solution."

Obama blames forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad for the 21 August poison gas attack in the Damascus suburbs that killed up to 1,400 people. Moscow says Obama has not proven that claim and says rebel forces may have carried it out.

In New York, US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power left no doubt that Washington had given up trying to work with the UN Security Council over the attack.

She said there was "no

viable path forward in this Security Council" and accused Russia of holding it hostage. Moscow has signaled it would veto any resolution on the use of force unless Washington produced stronger proof.

Obama has asked the US Congress to approve military action and France has said it is ready to support US intervention.

Showing he was undeterred by the criticism, Obama said before talks with Japan's prime minister on the sidelines of the summit that using chemical arms was "not only a tragedy but also a violation of international law that must be addressed."—Reuters

Egypt minister warns of terrorism wave after assassination attempt

CAIRO, 6 Sept—Egypt's interior minister survived an assassination attempt unscathed on Thursday when a car bomb blew up next to his convoy and gunmen strafed his vehicle, prompting him to warn that a wave of terrorism by opponents of the military-installed government was just beginning.

The minister, Mohamed Ibrahim, has been involved in overseeing a violent crackdown on supporters of Mohamed Mursi, the elected Islamist president who was overthrown on 3 July by the army following mass protests against his rule.

No organization immediately claimed responsibility for the first attempt to kill an Egyptian minister since the 1990s, but it appeared to bear the hallmarks of an Islamist attack.

"It is likely that it was a suicide explosion as a result of a high explosive device,"

an Interior Ministry statement said.

Mursi's Muslim Brotherhood — accused by the government of terrorism and inciting violence — condemned it.

But the sophisticated attack, possibly involving a suicide bomber with a massive bomb, as well as a follow-up attack with firearms, showed the risk that Egypt's crisis could spawn a wave of Islamist attacks like those of the 1980s and 1990s.

Staged in broad daylight, it was by far the most audacious act of militancy since Mursi's overthrow, although radicals have also stepped up an insurgency in the Sinai Peninsula.

Video footage emerged on Thursday showing two militants firing rocket-propelled grenades at a container ship as it passed through the Suez Canal in the eastern Sinai on Saturday.—Reuters



Riot police move in to guard the site of an explosion near the house of Egypt's interior minister at Cairo's Nasr City District, on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Iran's Foreign Ministry tasked with leading nuclear talks

TEHERAN, 6 Sept—Iranian President Hassan Rouhani has tasked the Foreign Ministry with conducting the upcoming nuclear talks with the world powers, semi-official Fars news agency reported on Thursday. Mohammad-Javad Zarif, the country's new Foreign Minister, is an experienced diplomat over Iran's controversial nuclear programme and was a member of the Iranian nuclear negotiating team, led by Rouhani, from 2003 to 2005.

However, it is not disclosed whether Zarif or another official from Foreign Ministry will head the Iranian team in the talks.

Former Iranian For-

eign Ministry spokesman, Abbas Araqchi, said earlier that "If the Foreign Ministry is tasked with (leading the nuclear) talks, I am sure that the ministry has the required capacity and will do the job well." By Rouhani's Thursday decree, Iran's Foreign Ministry will take over the responsibility from the Supreme National Security Council of the country.

Both Iran's new government and the world powers, have shown interest for resuming nuclear talks after the last round of negotiations, which were held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in April ended without yielding much practical results.

Xinhua

Japan, UK agree to cooperate in humanitarian assistance to Syrians

BUENOS AIRES, 6 Sept—Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and British Foreign Secretary William Hague agreed on Thursday to work closely on humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees who have fled their country, which remains mired in a civil war, Japanese officials said. "Japan intends to redouble its efforts at assistance to refugees and surrounding countries," Kishida was quoted as telling his British counterpart in a telephone conversation during his visit to Argentina, adding that Tokyo hopes to coordinate moves with London.

Hague said Britain, which has decided against participating in a possible US-led military attack on Syria over its suspected use of chemical weapons, puts a particular emphasis on working closely with Japan in humanitarian assistance, according to the officials.

Kyodo News

Australia's opposition blunders on Internet policy on election eve

CANBERRA, 6 Sept—Australia's conservative opposition was forced to make a quick about-turn on its Internet policy to rule out more censorship on Friday, in a rare policy bungle on the eve of a general election it is poised to win.

Opinion polls are pointing to a solid victory for opposition leader Tony Abbott, ending six years of often turbulent Labour rule and the past three years of political uncertainty over a hung parliament.

Abbott has run a disciplined campaign, focusing on stability under his Liberal-National Party coalition in contrast to the infighting

which saw the Labor Party dump Kevin Rudd as prime minister in 2010, and then recall him in favour of Julia Gillard in late June.

But the opposition's short-lived policy blunder, suggesting a British-style compulsory filter for "adult content", could also signal emerging divisions within Abbott's Liberal Party between social conservatives and free-speech liberals.

"We made a mistake, we acknowledged the mistake. We corrected the mistake. It took about three minutes," Abbott said in his final media conference of the election campaign.

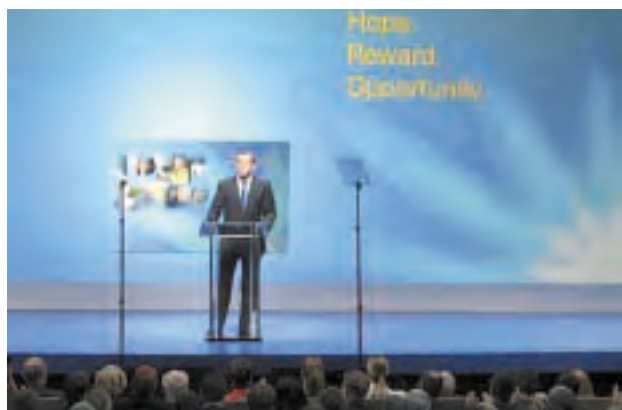
"We do not support in-

ternet filtering," he added, saying his plan would allow people to choose to have filters on computers and smart phones if they wanted to block access to pornography.

The latest polls show Abbott's conservatives set to win about 53 percent of the vote, which would give his coalition as many as 90 seats in the 150-seat parliament.

Economists believe a clear result for either party would boost business confidence at a time when the economy is adjusting to lower growth and rising unemployment as a prolonged mining investment boom tapers off.

"Removal of uncertainty is important for investors, businesses and consumers," said Craig James, chief economist at the CommSec stock broking firm. "There are good reasons to expect a stronger Australian economy once election uncertainty is resolved." Abbott's campaign has been strongly supported by media magnate Rupert Murdoch and his Australian newspapers, with most of the rival Fairfax Media newspapers on Friday also calling for a change of government.—Reuters



Australia's conservative opposition leader Tony Abbott speaks as he launches his party's election campaign in Brisbane on 25 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Japan's DoCoMo to begin selling iPhone as early as autumn



A man walks past the logo of Japan's biggest mobile phone operator NTT Docomo at its shop in Tokyo on 3 July, 2013.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 6 Sept—NTT DoCoMo Inc will begin selling Apple Inc's iPhone as early as this autumn, sources familiar with the matter said on Friday, as it seeks to halt a loss of market share to rivals already offering Japan's most popular smartphone.

DoCoMo, Japan's biggest mobile carrier, had long resisted taking on the iPhone, which remains the most popular smartphone in Japan despite the ascendancy of Samsung Electronics Co Ltd's Galaxy series elsewhere. It has paid heavily for that strategy

as it ceded market share to smaller competitors KDDI Corp and Softbank Corp. DoCoMo, a pioneer in mobile Internet and one of the last of the world's large mobile carriers still not offering the iPhone to its 60 million customers, said in a stock exchange statement that it had nothing to announce on the matter.

Apple is expected to unveil the latest version of its iPhone at an event on 10 September. *The Nikkei* business daily said an announcement that DoCoMo would begin marketing the iPhone is likely to come

on the same day. Shares in Softbank, the first Japanese carrier to offer the iPhone, fell 2.8 percent as of 0115 GMT on Friday, while KDDI dipped 0.1 percent. DoCoMo was 0.5 percent higher after opening up more than 3 percent. The sources said DoCoMo would continue with its planned winter promotions for handsets made by Sony Corp, Sharp Corp and Fujitsu Ltd.

Fujitsu shares, which had risen on news that it would be included in the winter promotions, fell 1.6 percent. Sony rose 0.5 percent while Sharp fell 1.3 percent. Tokyo's benchmark Nikkei average was down 1.2 percent.

Although DoCoMo's negotiations with Apple had been shrouded in secrecy, it was widely believed that strict contractual obligations typically linked to iPhone sales would have conflicted with the Japanese mobile leader's practices. The sources said it was not clear exactly when a DoCoMo iPhone would go on sale.—Reuters

Australian teen tests Apple tolerance with new iPhone leak

SYDNEY, 6 Sept—An Australian teenager who has built an online following by leaking pictures of upcoming Apple Inc products has done it again, showing off the purported fingerprint scanner of the latest iPhone ahead of its expected launch next week.

Sonny Dickson, who lives with his parents in suburban Melbourne, attracted attention in August after he released detailed pictures and videos of the new grey and champagne casing on the upcoming iPhone.

On Thursday, Dickson leaked what he says are the first detailed pictures of the new model's new "home" button with its rumoured biometric fingerprint scanner. While the design differences have yet to be technically assessed, they could have a whole lot to do with the rumored biometric fingerprint scanner that numerous pundits and analysts have predicted. In fact, we'd count on it," Dickson said on his website, sonnydickson.com/

Apple, which zealously controls information of its

new product launches in the face of rampant interest from consumers, has invited media to an event on 10 September, where it is expected to unveil at least one new model iPhone. Supply chain sources told *Reuters* in June that Apple is expected to launch two new models this year, one with new fingerprint technology and a cheaper version in a plastic casing, widely referred to as the iPhone 5S and iPhone 5C respectively.

Apple plans to dress up the 5C model in a range of five or six colors to differentiate it from the more expensive model that has traditionally come only in black and white, according

to the sources.

Apple declined to comment on Dickson's actions, and he says they have never contacted him about it. Dickson told *Reuters* he has five to 10 sources in China who buy Apple prototype parts directly from factory-line workers, which are then sold from \$250 to \$500.

His sources then send him photos and videos of the parts, which are posted under his name on his website and YouTube channel, which generate ad revenue. Initially communicating via Weibo, a Chinese micro-blogging service, Dickson said he and his suppliers moved to a secret website to discuss business.—Reuters



A man shows a photograph he took on his iPhone of an Apple store in Beijing on 6 June, 2012 file photo.

REUTERS

AT&T, Sawiris circle Telecom Italia

MILAN, 6 Sept—Egyptian tycoon Naguib Sawiris and US telecoms giant AT&T have contacted the core investors who want to sell their shares in Telecom Italia, a source close to the situation said. The same source earlier said Mexico's America Movil had been interested, though the Mexican telecoms giant owned by tycoon Carlos Slim denied it had had any contact. There had been no formal expression of interest in buying the stakes, said the source, who is familiar with the thinking of Telecom Italia shareholders.

Investors' expectations of a shake-up in the telecoms sector were ratcheted up this week when

Verizon Communications agreed to buy British operator Vodafone out of its US wireless business for \$130 billion, and Telecom Italia is seen as an early target. The board of Telecom Italia is meeting on September 19, and its Chairman Franco Bernabe is seeking a new investor ahead of the meeting. AT&T declined to comment. Sawiris was not immediately available for comment. "I can categorically deny that," America Movil Chief Financial Officer Carlos Garcia Moreno told *Reuters* in a telephone interview. "We have not had any contact." Bernabe, who has been at the helm of the debt-laden Italian telco since 2008, was giving nothing away.—Reuters



A man uses a mobile phone in front of a Telecom Italia shop in downtown Rome on 14 Sept, 2006.—REUTERS

Japan Display ponders new plant, IPO possible in 2014 at earliest

TOKYO, 6 Sept—Japan Display, the world's top maker of screens for smartphones and tablets, will reach maximum capacity at a recently opened factory by next summer, CEO Shuichi Otsuka told *Reuters* on Thursday, raising the likelihood of an IPO early next year to fund a new facility. Otsuka said in an interview that a plant opened in June in Mobarra, Chiba prefecture, had already reached full capacity and that it is aiming to double capacity by June or July next year, reaching the plant's limit.

"A new factory is in our sights, but it's not time to make a decision on it yet," Otsuka said, adding that the company could use cash for

capital spending if it turns a profit this year and "the earliest timing for an IPO would be in 2014." A source familiar with the matter told *Reuters* on Thursday that the company was aiming for an IPO during the current financial year to next March that

would value the entire business at about 800 billion yen (\$8.04 billion).

Earlier this year Otsuka had said that the earliest launch for an IPO would be in fiscal 2014. The IPO could raise about \$1 billion dollars, market watchers believe.



A signboard of Japan Display Inc is seen at its factory in Mobarra, Chiba prefecture, on 3 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Reuters

Chinese-built Bolivian satellite tested in space simulator

LA PAZ, 6 Sept—The Chinese-built Bolivian satellite *Tupac Katari* is undergoing testing in a space simulator to determine whether it can withstand the extreme temperatures of outer space, the Bolivian Space Agency (BSA) said on Thursday. The testing phase aims to verify the satellite's various functions and detect any possi-

ble malfunction, said Ivan Zambrana, BSA director and supervisor of the *Tupac Katari* project.

This "thermal vacuum" testing phase will last one month and allow the agency to make any necessary repairs prior to the scheduled launching on 20 Dec, Zambrana added. Zambrana stressed the importance of the satellite to Bolivia's

telecommunications industry, a pillar of the economy. Last year, the industry brought in some 1.5 billion US dollars. "So, a project that costs 300 million dollars for 15 years is considered normal," said Zambrana. *Tupac Katari*, named in honour of a legendary indigenous hero who fought the Spanish conquerors, is set to begin service in May 2014,

five months after launch. Initially, the Bolivian government has approved a million-dollar budget to install more than 1,000 antennas throughout the country, and some 33 million dollars is being invested to build and equip two ground control stations. *Tupac Katari* will use satellite platform DFH-4, designed by China. *Xinhua*

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Human gut microbes may help fight obesity

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept — Lab mice receiving gut bacteria from obese humans are likely to put on more weight compared to those given bacteria from the guts of lean humans, US researchers said on Thursday.

The findings, published in the US journal *Science*, demonstrate the transmission of physical and metabolic traits via gut microbes, representing an important step toward the ultimate goal of developing anti-obesity treatment with bacteria. Researchers from the Washington University recruited four human twin pairs discordant for obesity and transferred the gut microbiota in fecal samples from each of them into the guts of germ-free mice that had been raised under sterile

conditions, without any microbes of their own.

They found that the recipients of the obese twins' microbiota gained more fat than the recipients of the lean twins' microbiota if the mice are fed a standard diet. "This wasn't attributable to differences in the amount of food they consumed, so there was something in the microbiota that was able to transmit this trait. Our question became: What were the components responsible?" said Jeffrey Gordon, director for the Centre of Genome Sciences and Systems Biology at Washington University School of Medicine and a co-author of the paper. When the researchers housed mice receiving microbes from a lean twin with mice given microbes from an obese twin

for five days, they discovered that the obese mice slimmed down but the lean mice appeared unaffected.

Analysis of the bacterial communities showed that specific members of the so-called Bacteroidetes phylum could pass from the lean mice and colonize the obese mice, suggesting that these bacteria were largely responsible for protection against weight gain.

According to the researchers, none of the bacteria from the obese mice could invade the lean mice to make them accumulate fat. To learn more, the researchers formulated diets for the mice that were representative of modern Western diets — low in fiber and high in saturated fats — and found both the obese and lean mice



appeared to be unaffected by the others' gut microbes. However, when the animals were given the "healthier", high-fiber and low-fat human diet, the results were the same as before.

The findings indicated that more complex interactions between diet, body mass and gut microbiota

underlie human metabolic disturbances than researchers have appreciated. "We now have a way of identifying such interactions, dependent on diet, and thinking about what features of our unhealthy diets we could transform in ways that would encourage bacteria to establish themselves in our guts,

and do the jobs needed to improve our well-being," Gordon said. "In the future, the nutritional value and the effects of food will involve significant consideration of our microbiota — and developing healthy, nutritious foods will be done from the inside-out, not just the outside-in," he said. — *Xinhua*

GSK cancer vaccine disappoints in melanoma trial

LONDON, 6 Sept — An experimental cancer vaccine from GlaxoSmithKline failed to help melanoma patients in a closely watched late-stage clinical trial, dealing a blow to the high-risk, high-reward project. Britain's biggest drugmaker said on Thursday that it would continue with the Phase III trial of its MAGE-A3 therapeutic vaccine to see if it benefited a subset of patients with a particular genetic signature. The trial has two joint targets, known as co-primary endpoints, looking at both the broad population and a patient subset, so it is possible the treatment will yet prove effective for a small number of people with the deadly skin cancer.

It is also being tested in lung cancer. The vaccine

is one of two particularly high-risk developmental GSK products that industry analysts believe could, in theory, become multi-billion dollar sellers. The other is a heart drug called darapladib, designed to fight clogged arteries in a different way to statins. In both cases, however, analysts have been wary of modeling firm sales forecasts, given the above-average risk of failure, and as a result GSK stock fell only 1 percent by 1410 GMT. Shares in its US partner Amgen, however, slumped 33 percent, reflecting the high hopes riding on the project at the small biotech firm.

Amgen provides one of the components in GSK's vaccine. Citigroup analyst Andrew Baum said that already low consensus expect-



The signage for the GlaxoSmithKline building is pictured in Hounslow, west London on 18 June, 2013.

REUTERS

tations for the product are now likely to fall further. He currently forecasts sales of only 149 million pounds (\$233 million) in 2018 for the MAGE-A3 vaccine in both melanoma and lung cancer. That figure is about half the industry consensus. Unlike traditional preventative vaccines, the MAGE-A3 treatment is designed for people with established dis-

ease, helping their immune systems to prevent the return of disease after surgery. Other companies, including Bristol-Myers Squibb, Roche and Merck & Co, have had some recent notable successes in clinical trials of innovative drugs to boost the immune system, but GSK is still pushing the scientific boundaries with its MAGE-A3 vaccine. — *Reuters*

Asha to Ashes: Microsoft's emerging market conundrum

SINGAPORE/NEW DELHI, 6 Sept — Microsoft Corp's acquisition of Nokia's handset business gives the software behemoth control of its main Windows smartphone partner, but leaves a question mark over the bigger business it has bought: Nokia's cheap and basic phones that still dominate emerging markets like India. Microsoft Chief Executive Steve Ballmer has said he sees such phones — of which Nokia shipped more than 50 million last quarter — as an entree to more

search and advisory firm, is that Microsoft simply lacks Nokia's retail and supply chain experience in the Finnish company's most important markets. "The devices business, especially the non-smartphones business in emerging markets, is a completely different dynamic," he said. Kolla pointed to the need to manage tight supply chains, distribution, and building brands through word-of-mouth. "Microsoft doesn't have it in its DNA to run operations at this level," he said.



Microsoft Chief Executive Steve Ballmer (L) and his Nokia counterpart Stephen Elop introduce new Nokia phones with Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system at an event in New York in this 5 Sept, 2012 file photo. — *REUTERS*

expensive fare. "We look at that as an excellent feeder system into the smartphone world and a way to touch people with our services even on much lower-end devices in many parts of the world," he said in a conference call to analysts on Tuesday. But analysts warn that's easier said than done.

The problem, said Jayanth Kolla, partner at Convergence Catalyst, an India-based telecom re-

India is a case in point. Nokia has been there since the mid 1990s and the country accounted for 7 percent of its 2012 revenue while the United States generated just 6 percent, according to Thomson *Reuters* data. Its India roots run deep: it has a presence in 200,000 outlets, 70,000 of which sell only its devices. One of its biggest plants in the world is in the southern city of Chennai. — *Reuters*

Samsung sees TV market recovery, boosted by new models



Models pose with Samsung Electronics' Ultra HD LCD televisions during World IT show 2013 at the Coex convention centre in Seoul on 22 May, 2013. — *REUTERS*

BERLIN, 6 Sept — Samsung Electronics Co, the world's largest maker of televisions, expects a recovery in the TV market in the second half of this year,

helped by an improving US economy and the launch of new high-end sets.

With LCD TV prices falling by 15 percent on average every year, main-

stream manufacturers are adding new features and going upmarket with bigger screens that boast four times better resolution than lower-priced LCD models from Chinese rivals. "The first half of the year was quite tough for the television market. Now that the US economy is recovering, we foresee that the second half will be quite positive or will recover," Kim Hyun-suk, head of Samsung's TV business, told *Reuters* in an interview.

"We will have new technology coming into the market such as UHD (Ultra High-Definition) televisions." Speaking on the sidelines of IFA, Europe's largest consumer electronics trade

show, Kim said Samsung's focus will remain on the premium segment, offering increased model ranges and competitive prices. Samsung is feeling pressure from Chinese manufacturers such as TCL Corp, the world's fifth largest TV maker.

Global LCD TV demand grew 3.7 percent in the second quarter, thanks to a 29 percent rise in China. Excluding China, LCD TV shipments fell 3.5 percent, dropping 14 percent in Europe and 9 percent in North America, research firm DisplaySearch said. The China market now accounts for 27 percent of global demand on a unit basis, bigger than Europe and North America. — *Reuters*

Kerry to discuss Syria, Middle East on Europe trip

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept—US Secretary of State John Kerry will discuss Syria, Egypt and Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in a weekend trip to Europe, the US State Department said on Thursday.

Kerry is scheduled to leave on Friday for Vilnius, capital of Lithuania, which currently holds the rotating presidency of the European Union (EU).

He will attend a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Lithuania on Saturday, and is set to discuss issues in the Middle East, including Syria, Egypt, and the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Later Saturday, Kerry is scheduled to go to Paris to meet senior French government officials, and on Sunday, see representatives of the Arab League.



US Secretary of State John Kerry

According to the State Department, he will provide an update on Israeli-Palestinian peace talks during the Sunday meeting, while Syria will also be discussed.

On Monday, Kerry will meet Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in London. The meeting will be the first since Kerry succeeded in convincing the

Palestinians to return to the negotiating table with Israel in July, after a break of three years due to Israel's settlement construction in 2010. Kerry's trip comes as US President Barack Obama is trying to convince US Congress to authorize a military strike against Syria for its alleged use of chemical weapons against civilians on 21 August.—Xinhua

Two Koreas agree to restore military hotline

SEOUL, 6 Sept—South and North Korea have agreed to restore a military hotline along the west coast, paving the way for the resumption of a shuttered joint industrial park, *Yonhap News Agency* reported on Thursday.

The agreement was reached during an inter-Korean meeting to discuss

details on the resumption of operations at a joint industrial complex located in the North's city of Kaesong, *Yonhap* said, citing Unification Ministry officials. The military hotline, which was severed in March amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula, will be restored Friday, the report said.—Kyodo News



A police officer directs traffic on a flooded road after heavy rain in Nagoya, central Japan, on 4 Sept, 2013. KYODO NEWS

Brother of Mexico drug cartel chiefs gets 20 years for US money laundering

SAN ANTONIO, 6 Sept—The brother of two kingpins of Mexico's infamous Zetas drug cartel was sentenced on Thursday to 20 years in US federal prison for his role in laundering money for the gang through the buying, training and racing of American quarter horses.

Jose Trevino Morales, 42, his wife and two mid-

dlemen convicted with him in May handled millions of dollars in drug proceeds for the Zetas, laundering cash through a network of straw buyers in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico and California, authorities said.

FBI agent Armando Fernandez said Trevino sought to avoid financial reporting requirements by making sure that no more

than \$10,000 in cash was ever deposited in a single bank at any time.

The money was ultimately invested in the American quarter horse industry, and some of the horses turned out to be big winners on the racing circuit. One horse, Mr Piloto, won a \$1 million purse in the 2010 All American Futurity at Ruidoso Downs in New Mexico.

The quarter-horse investments marked some of the more novel money laundering efforts tied to the Zetas, an organization blamed for many of the bloodiest atrocities carried out by Mexican drug gangs.

"This prosecution and the sentences imposed today should send a clear message to those who would attempt to import their brand of corruption and violence into the United States," US Attorney Robert Pitman said after the

sentencing. "We will find you, we will prosecute you and we will seek the most severe consequences that the law allows."

The two middlemen, Francisco Colorado Cessa, 52, and Fernando Solis Garcia, 30, were also sentenced on Thursday after being convicted of money laundering in May. Colorado received 20 years in prison and Solis was sentenced to 13 years.

Several other lower-level participants in the operation, including Trevino's wife, Zulema, were scheduled to be sentenced on Friday.

In July, Mexican authorities arrested his younger brother, the reputed leader of the Zetas cartel, Miguel Angel Trevino Morales, who was wanted for murder, torture, money laundering and ordering the kidnapping and execution of 265 migrants.—Reuters

Colombia's Santos names 'unity and peace' cabinet

BOGOTA, 6 Sept—Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos named five new ministers on Thursday to strengthen his government before presidential elections next year and after heavy criticism of his handling of a protest in the farming sector that turned violent last week.

Santos dubbed the new line-up a "cabinet of unity and peace" and called on each new minister to help him bring an end to five decades of war with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, and resolve problems in the agriculture sector.

While Santos has not yet said whether he will run for a second term next year, his re-election has become more difficult in recent weeks and hinges on securing peace with the Marxist FARC during talks underway in Cuba.

"Constructing peace will require a great mobilization among citizens, it will require participation in new areas to plan and execute agreements reached in Havana," with the FARC, said Santos, 62, after naming his new team at the presidential palace. The entire cabinet resigned on Monday, standard procedure before the president shuffles his cabinet. Santos named Amylkar Acosta as energy minister, Aurelio Iragorri as interior minister, Alfonso Gomez Mendez as justice minister, Ruben Dario Risaralde as agriculture minister and Luz Helena Sarmiento as environment minister.

Finance Minister Mauricio Cardenas kept his post as did Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon and Foreign Minister Maria Angela Holguin. The changes to ministerial posts like agriculture and

energy are likely aimed at calming tempers after labour disputes across Colombia's vast rural areas and in the mining sector.

The cabinet shuffle comes just days after Santos was forced to send troops to patrol the streets of Bogota when protests led by farmers became violent and caused havoc across the capital. The nationwide dispute led to the deaths of five people.

Reuters



Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos speaks during a news conference at Japan National Press Club in Tokyo on 13 Sept, 2011. REUTERS

Vietnam establishes seaplane squadron

HANOI, 6 Sept—Vietnamese Navy held a ceremony to announce the decision of forming a DHC-6 seaplane squadron, which is supposed to manage all relevant combat-ready and training activities, local Tien Phong (Pioneer) news website reported on Friday.

At the ceremony held on Thursday in northern Vietnamese city of Hai Phong, Vice Admiral Pham Ngoc Minh, the Navy's chief of staff, said the establishment of the DHC-6 seaplane squadron, along with the EC-225 helicopter squadron, the Navy's first squadron formed on 25 Dec, 2011, are steps to building up the modern regular Navy and fulfilling the task of safeguarding

Vietnam's sovereignty over territorial waters and islands.

Viking Air aircraft manufacturer and its subsidiary Pacific Aviation held a graduation ceremony for 8 Vietnamese pilots mastering DHC-6 Twin Otter Series 400, also known as the Guardian 400, in Canada on 10 July. In May 2010, Vietnam's Navy signed with Viking Air a contract on buying six Guardian 400s. According to the Canadian manufacturer, the seaplanes is fully-equipped for transport, maritime patrol and surveillance, resupply, search and rescue purposes.

Of the total, three are specially equipped for maritime patrol and coastal surveillance.—Xinhua

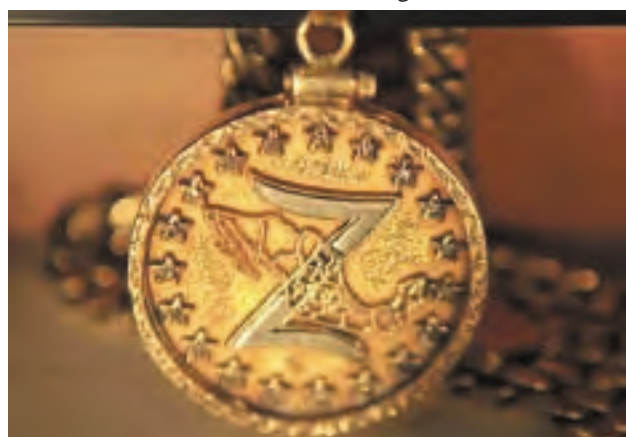
Suspected US drone strike kills seven militants in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, (Pakistan), 6 Sept—A suspected US drone aircraft killed at least seven militants in Pakistan's ethnic Pashtun tribal region on the Afghan border on Friday, Pakistani security officials and residents said.

US drones have fired missiles into troubled and inaccessible border areas such as North Waziristan, the main stronghold for militant groups aligned with al-Qaeda and the Taliban, since 2004. Pakistan has been angered by reports of civilian casualties and what it sees as a violation of its sovereignty,

and the United States has reduced their use in recent years. In the early hours of Friday, drones fired two missiles on a compound in the village of Dargah Mandi in North Waziristan, destroying the house and killing seven people.

Security officials said all those who were killed were insurgents. The area where the attack took place is known as a stronghold for the Haqqani network, which regularly attacks US forces in Afghanistan from its mountain hideouts in Pakistan.—Reuters



A medal of the Zetas drug cartel is displayed in the Drugs Museum at the headquarters of the Ministry of Defence in Mexico City on 18 Aug, 2010.—REUTERS

LOCAL NEWS

Myinmu bus lines committee holds annual general meeting

MYINMU, 6 Sept—Private Bus Lines Supervisory Committee of Myinmu Township in Sagaing Region held annual general meeting at Shwe Pyi Thit Hall of Myinmu Township General Administration Department on 1 September, in conjunction with donation ceremony.

Township Management Committee Chairman U Thein Zaw delivered an address at the ceremony.

Chairman of Private Bus Lines Supervisory Committee U Tin Tun Win, Secretary U Min Lwin and Member U Sein Lin read out annual report, future plans



and financial statement.

Township Education Officer Daw Kyi Kyi Mar spoke words of thanks for donation.

The officials of the committee provided cash assistance for education of

offspring of members of the committee and presented bonus to bus lines. They donated K 1.2 million to Basic Education Primary School.—*MMAL-Ko Ko Naing (Myinmu)*

Award committee evaluates entries for anti-human trafficking contests

BAGO, 6 Sept—Award scrutiny committee for painting, poster, cartoon, poem, essay, novel, short story and photo contests in commemoration of Myanmar Anti-Human Trafficking Day scrutinized the entries and selected the winners in eight separate programmes at Police Transit Camp in Bago in Bago Region on 1 September.

Chairman of Bago Region Anti-Human Trafficking Committee U Maung Maung Than, Commander of Bago Region Police Force Police Col Mya Win,

Deputy Commander Police Lt-Col Zaw Khin Aung, Commander of Bago Region Anti-Human Trafficking Corps Police Major Ye Win Aung, committee members and

invited guests attended the event.

Chairman U Maung Maung Than observed the evaluation and made recommendations.

MMAL-Thant Zin



National Sports

Myanmar Taekwondo athletes undergoing joint training in ROK

YANGON, 6 Sept—Under a government-to-government programme, Myanmar Taekwondo athletes left for Seoul of Korea for a joint training from 4 September to 25 October as part of preparation for XXVII SEA Games.

The team was formed with leader secretary U Zaw Win, manager Daw Wah

Wah Tun, chief coach U Kyaw Than Oo, nine male athletes and nine female athletes.

They were seen off by Myanmar Taekwondo Federation President U Mya Han and Joint Secretary U Phyo Zaw Aung at Yangon International Airport on 3 September.

MMAL-Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)

Winners awarded in township reading habit promotion festival



YANGON, 6 Sept—With the support of Myanmar Libraries Foundation and under aegis of Dagon Myothit (South) Township General Administration Department, Township Education Department, Township Information and Public Relations Department and Township Writers Association jointly organized the award presentation for reading habit promotion festival at No (2) Basic Education High School in Dagon Myothit (South) Township recently.

Award winners in essay contest, poem recitation contest and reading contest

were honoured at the ceremony. Myanmar distinction winners in matriculation exam were also awarded at the ceremony.

The township administration, the township education officer, the district information and public relations officer, the chairman of Township Writers Association and officials presented awards.

Award winning students recited poems and patron of Township Writers Association Nay Soe Thaw spoke words of thanks.

MMAL-Su Mon Oo (Hinthada)

Fingerlings released into farmlands in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 6 Sept—Local farmers led by Toungoo District Fisheries Department released 50,000 fingerlings into the farmland of U Than Myint in Mokhaung Village of Toungoo Township on 30 August.

It was attended by Head of Toungoo District Fisheries Department U Win Tin, Township Administrator U Thein Zaw Win and the Commander of Township Police Force and local people.

Kyemon-115

Environment

Tens of thousands of saplings distributed to Tatkon Tsp

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept—A total of 100,000 saplings were distributed to the people in Tatkon Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, according to the Township Forest Department.

A collective tree planting ceremony was held in the yard of Irrigation Department by departmental personnel, members of social organizations and students with some 6000

attendance.

It was jointly organized by Township General Administration Department and Tatkon local station.

A total of 43800 saplings out of 100,000 saplings have been distributed to the whole township.

Remaining saplings will be planted by the road and station yard.

MMAL-Kyaw Thu Win (Myanma Alinn)



Business

Myanmar fish products exporters visit Vietnam

YANGON, 6 Sept—A 12-member delegation led by Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan which included members of Myanmar Marine Produce Exporters Association visited Vietnam on 29 August under Myanmar-Vietnam Trade Promotion Scheme, according to a press release of a weekly regular meeting of marine produce exporters.

Treasurer of the association Dr Toe Nanda Tin shared her experience that one-acre fish farm in Vietnam could produce 500 tons of fishes.

Myanmar could only produce 10 tons of fishes from the same areas with the technologies that have far lagged behind.

She stressed the need to carry out technical exchange with Vietnam and Israel as suggested by the Vietnamese officials.

Vietnam made offers to purchase fish products from Myanmar which invited the former to open a feed factory in Myanmar.

MMAL-Khin Cho Win (MNA)

Sar Pan Eain Library in Salin Tsp marks fifth birthday

SALIN, 6 Sept—Fifth anniversary of Sar Pan Eain Library was held in Sinkyone village in Salin Township in Minbu District in Magway Region on 3 September.

Outstanding students and reading prizes winners were also awarded at the ceremony.

Township Information and Public Relations Officer U Aung Myint Oo gave talks on reading habit, sustainability of libraries, and census-taking in 2014.

MMAL-Township IPRD

CSCs issued to eligible citizens in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 6 Sept—Myitkyina Township Immigration and National Registration Department Officer U Soe Naung and staff made field trips to Citapu ward in third week of August to issue Citizenship Scrutiny Cards.

CSCs were presented to the ward administrator on 2 September.

A total of 287 CSCs were presented to eligible citizens in the ward.

MMAL-Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

Don't Smoke

Shamanism in Myanmar (Part I)

The American Heritage Dictionary gives the meanings of "Shamanism" and shaman as follows:-

Shamanism= the religious practice of certain native people of northern Asia, who believe that good and evil spirits pervade the world and can be summoned or heard through inspired priests acting as mediums.

Shaman= a priest of shamanism, a medicine man among certain North American Indians.

But history has proved that Shamanism has existed in any civilization of any country at any period of time, since "Homo Sapien" has evolved into a full-fledged "Anthropithecus Erectus".

Shamanism in Myanmar is the oldest pre-Buddhist belief system and practice which prevail till today. The country abounds in natural and human resources as well as traditions of interaction between nature and men. Humans of Myanmar had cultivated all features of primitive cultures expressed in visual and performing arts, traces, remnants and evidences of which are discovered in caves and settlement sites of early men across the country in hills and mountain valleys, islands, archipelagoes, sea coasts and shallow seas. The Padalin caves in the southern Shan State are some of outstanding Neolithic Age settlements in the country.

Occult science is the oldest of all sciences which mankind had acquired through his perception of nature by means of his five faculties namely seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting and feeling and conceptualization of them.

Generally there are two types of shamanism in Myanmar (1) indigenous type and (2) imported type from China, India and Southeast Asian countries. The first type has many variations depending upon geographic locations and anthropological characteristics. But they all have one common concept—nature commands all living creatures, flora and fauna including men. So the first shamanism was

nature worship. Natural objects of grotesque size and shape and formation are revered, such as big trees, mountains, rock, stone, cave, just as natural phenomena like earthquake, volcanic eruption, storm, thunder, lightning, meteor, solar and lunar eclipse, waterfalls and floods are feared and revered. Super-normal and super natural objects are believed to be the abodes of supernatural powers or deities [gods and goddesses] who govern the world. They are believed to be the benefactors of all living

Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

creatures including men. They bring good to all living creature if their commands and laws are obeyed, but they cast evil as punishment on all, if their commands and laws are disobeyed. Evil natural phenomena are manifestation of their anger inflicted upon living creatures.

Therefore men have to worship them by propitiating to appease their anger and to beg for their forgiveness and favour. For such ritual function, direct contact with deities is not possible for everyone. There emerged agents who can contact with deities.

Hence priest or spirit medium, a professional go-between to contact with and to conduct all ritual functions. In every community of all ethnic races of Myanmar there is at least one or two such mediums or shamans giving the above services. His or her profession is not necessarily hereditary. Unless he or she is equipped with inherited qualities of his or her father who was a shaman, son or daughter cannot be successor to father's shaman profession.

Another variation of indigenous shamanism is spirit worship and ancestor worship. That man is composed of body and soul is universally believed. So when a man dies his soul departs from his body and lingers on unless there is a place to occupy and rest. Every soul is a spirit that occupies a tree, a rock, a lake, a fall, a river or any vacancy if there is no

tomb for it to rest in peace. Spirits can molest or help living humans. Therefore spirits are worshipped spirit shaman can invoke and invite or expel spirits by performing some rites such as offerings of food and chanting mantras. When a child or any member of the family falls sick for some times local shaman is consulted, when modern medical doctor gives up his case on the ground that the disease is supernaturally caused [apa-yoga or pa-yoga meaning disease coming from outside] shaman is

Kachins (2) the Kayahs (3) the Kayins (4) the Chins (5) the Mons (6) the Bamas (7) the Rakhines and (8) the Shans. Among them the Bamas are the largest majority. All these ethnic groups believe in shamanism and consult their shamans when they are in need of their advice and help, regardless of the religion they openly profess. Cultural anthropologists say that ancestors' worship was brought by Chinese immigrants into Myanmar since the early days of history.

The next variation is planet shamanism. According to ancient Egyptians, Babylonians, Greeks, Romans, Hindus, Tibetans and Chinese etc all heavenly bodies, sun, moon, stars, constellation and planets govern our Earth.

There are planets that influence the lives of all living beings, flora and fauna [including humans]. Hindu culture and civilization which spread to entire South-east Asia through earliest Indian colonization had profound and extensive impact upon the life of the peoples of Asia and South-east Asia. Myanmar is no exception. Being close neighbour of India, Indian colonization of Myanmar began at the earliest date of history long before the arrival of Buddhism to the country. With it came Hindu culture. Hindu deities—gods and goddesses, belief systems and all pertaining sciences and occult sciences, visual and performing arts and crafts spread in the country. Enclaves of Hindu communities were founded not only at commercially and economically strategic places but also at capitals, cities and towns, even at some villages. Hindu learned men [Brahmin priests] became raja-gurus [royal advisers] at the courts of Myanmar kings, who consulted them on climate, weather, agricultural activities as well as on state affairs, administration, warfare, auspicious sites and dates for building and for royal ceremonies, etc.

(To be continued)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 7 September, 2013

Charity

"For attractive lips, speak words of kindness. For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people. For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry. For beautiful hair, let a child run their fingers through it once a day," says the famous quote of Sam Levenson, an American writer.

The democratic transition along with a series of political and social reforms has prepared the ground for emergence of civil society organizations which are regarded as the engine of societal development worldwide. Charitable organizations are mushrooming unlike in the past, providing help in various sectors ranging from education, community care of the elderly to alleviating humanitarian crises.

No doubt, the expanded role of charitable and philanthropic organizations can be a true contributing factor to the social order, which in turn would encourage the rule of law and communal harmony. But, when it comes to the fight against poverty, we need to think twice about the way we offer charity to the poor.

Poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, especially in developing countries and it has been the headache for all governments across the world. Charity can create a breathing space for the poor but is not a long-term solution for poverty. It calls for long-term plans of the government to lift people out of poverty.

The government in office has prioritized the rural development and poverty alleviation for 70 per cent of the population, but what it needs to do first is to rebuild public confidence in government institutions, which can be achieved by putting it words into action.

Despite all the challenges ahead, it is a welcome sight to see growing number of charitable organizations around us with more and more young people engaging in philanthropic works. In fact, works of charity soften one's mind and create fraternity between people.

Mahatma Gandhi said "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

ADB, Japan to assist in construction of Kayin State-Yangon road

MANILA, 6 Sept—The Asian Development Bank (ADB), using a \$ 1.5 million grant provided by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, will assist the Government of Myanmar in designing and preparing a project to upgrade a 70-kilometer section of road connecting Kayin State with Yangon.

This technical assistance (TA) will lay the groundwork for a loan under consideration by ADB to upgrade the road between Kawkaik and Eindu, which would help those living in Kayin

State have easier access to employment, education and health care, and reduce travel times while increasing traffic volumes. The road is part of the Greater Mekong Sub-region program's East-West Economic Corridor (EWEC) and will ultimately strengthen road links with Thailand.

The TA grant will also help train staff at the Ministry of Construction and Public Works in project preparation and implementation, focusing on issues of design, budgeting and procurement.

Moe Thu

NATIONAL

Dy FM attends 192nd Anniversary Independence Day reception of Brazil

YANGON, 6 Sept—Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw and wife were welcomed by Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Jose Carlos da Fonseca Junior and wife at the reception to mark the 192nd Anniversary

Independence Day of the Federative of Republic of Brazil, at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Road, Dagon Township, here, at 6:45 pm today. Those present on the occasion enjoyed Brazilian traditional music.—MNA

Cooperation in microfinance discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept—Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsan met with Executive Managing Officer Mr Michio Atsuda of Acom Co., Ltd of Japan at his office, here this morning.

They discussed cooperation with the ministry in microfinance for rural development and socio-economic status of local people and matters on finance services of Acom Co Ltd

MNA

Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and wife attend reception of Brazil's Independence Day.—MNA



Union FM felicitates Brazilian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—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 Luiz Alberto Figueiredo, Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federative Republic of Brazil which falls on 7th September 2013.

MNA

Natural Disaster Management Capacity Building Course kicks off

MAGWAY, 6 Sept—The natural disaster management capacity building course No 7/2013, jointly organized by Magway Region government and Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, was opened at Nanhtaikthu Hotel in Magway on 26 August morning.

Magway Region Minister for Social Affairs U Aung Kyaw Min made a speech. Director U Chaun Haya of Relief and Resettlement Department

explained the purpose of training course.

A total of 30 trainees from General Administration Department, Myanmar Police Force, Social Welfare Department, Relief and Resettlement Department, Fire Services Department, Health Department, Women's Affairs Organization, Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Red Cross Brigade attended the course from 26 to 31 August.

Kyemon-District IPRD

LOCAL NEWS

Interfaith Friendship District/Township Interfaith Friendship Committee

TACHILEK, 6 Sept—Head of Pakokku District Religious Affairs Department U Than Soe on 28 August held a meeting for formation of Interfaith Friendship Committee (District/Township).

The meeting was attended by responsible persons of Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and Hinduism at his office.

A total of 29 persons from all religions held a coordination to set up the committee so as to solve religious affairs in district and township.

The district committee

was constituted with U Tin Win (Buddhism) as Chairman, U Win Naing (Buddhism) as General Secretary, four persons each from four religions as vice-chairmen and secretaries and four persons from four religions as members, totalling 14.

The township committee was formed with U Hsan Nyunt (Buddhism) as chairman, U Myo Myint (Buddhism) as general secretary, four vice-chairmen, four secretaries and four members, totalling 14.

Kyemon-District IPRD



OUTSTANDING POLICE HONORED: Bago Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col The Tun gave instruction at coordination meeting at Police Hall of Bago Region Police Force on 5 September. The commander of Region Police Force and officials presented awards to outstanding policemen who made vigorous efforts in crime reduction and exposed criminal cases.—KYEMON-SAN WAI (HANTHAMYAY)



Trees planted along both sides of road to Tharekhan Pagoda

PAKOKKU, 6 Sept—Wanarawpaka tree growing and blood donation association (Pakokku) held the tree growing ceremony along the three miles and two furlongs long road from Shwegu Pagoda to Hsingyo Shwegu Tharekhan Pagoda on 1 September morning.

About 150 members of the association, students

and people participated in growing 2100 saplings.

Pakokku Township Forest Department distributed saplings to the association.

U Po Noe-Daw Htwe Shin of Kyu Village helped them carry saplings from the nursery of Pakokku Forest Department to the tree planters by car.

Kyemon-District IPRD

2013 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day's Objectives. Central Body for Suppression of Trafficking in Persons Myanmar Anti-Trafficking in Persons Day 13th September. LET'S JOIN TOGETHER TO END HUMAN TRAFFICKING. Includes logos for UNIAF, UNICEF, Save the Children, FXB, JICA, and EXIT.

US intercepts Iranian order for attack on US interests in Iraq

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept—The United States has intercepted an order from an Iranian official instructing militants in Iraq to attack US interests in Baghdad in the event the Obama administration launches a military strike in Syria, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on Thursday.

The American Embassy in Baghdad was a likely target, according to unnamed US officials quoted by the newspaper. The Journal said the officials did not describe the range of potential targets indicated by the intelligence.

In addition, the State

Department issued a warning on Thursday telling US citizens to avoid all but “essential” travel to Iraq.

President Barack Obama has asked the US Congress to back his plan for limited strikes in response to a chemical weapons attack on civilians that the United States blames on Syrian President Bashar al-Assad’s forces.

The Journal reported that the Iranian message was intercepted in recent days and came from the head of the Revolutionary Guards’ Qods Force. The newspaper said the message went to Iranian-supported

Shi’ite militia groups in Iraq.

The Journal reported that the message informed Shi’ite groups to be prepared to respond with force after any US military strike on Syria.

“Travel within Iraq remains dangerous given the security situation,” according to the State Department’s warning, which replaced an earlier one “to update information on security incidents and to remind US citizens of ongoing security concerns in Iraq, including kidnapping and terrorist violence.”

Reuters



Teachers of the National Coordinating Committee of Education Workers (CNTE) block the surroundings of the International Airport of Mexico City, capital of Mexico, on 5 Sept, 2013.—XINHUA



A view of the site of a traffic accident is seen near the United Nations headquarters in New York, on 5 Sept, 2013. Four people were injured in a Manhattan vehicle crash that also caused a scaffolding collapse, local fire department said. XINHUA

US proof of chemical weapons use far from convincing

ST PETERSBURG, 6 Sept—Russia cannot take the US proof of chemical weapons use in Syria as they are far from convincing, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said here on Thursday.

Responding to a question over Syria during a Press conference in the Group of Twenty (G20) summit, Peskov said Russia is not blocking the work of the UN Security Council but encourages its partners to consider the situation in Syria “in a responsible manner” and not to use

the so-called fact to justify their own actions, he noted. “We cannot accept the proof which, from our point of view, is not proof at all and that is far from being convincing,” Peskov said.

The Security Council is the “only legitimate body” in international affairs that can use legitimate forces, he said, adding “neither Russia nor the US” can make such decisions alone.

Moscow believes that decisions should not be made before UN experts finish their probe and pro-

vide evidence on who had used the chemical weapons in Syria, he added.

Moscow saw it unacceptable if “anyone in the world imposes its will on another state and tries to change the international law regime under which the world lives,” said the spokesman.

As for the relationship between President Vladimir Putin and his US counterpart Barack Obama, Peskov said they are “constructive although there are multiple serious disagreements.”—Xinhua

Strike against Syria requires UN backing

SANTIAGO, 6 Sept—Chile’s President Sebastian Pinera said on Thursday that a military strike against Syria required the backing of the United Nations Security Council.

“I want to say that the Chilean government believes that any military action in Syria must be within the context of the multinational institutional structure that we have at the United Nations and the Security Council, and not by a unilateral decision of a single or a group of countries,” Pinera told a Press conference in the presidential palace of La Moneda.

US President Barack Obama has been seeking congressional support for a punitive strike against Syria’s alleged use of chemical weapons, even at a time when the United Nations awaits a report on the Syrian incident from its team of chemicals experts.

“We are waiting to hear the report of UN experts sent to Syria, so that it can be heard by all the countries in the international community, and also by the Security Council, and the respective decisions can be adopted there,” he said.

On the purported use of chemical weapons in Syria, Pinera said the government of Chile strongly condemned the abuse of its people in Syria, especially if chemical attacks were proved true.—Xinhua

South Africa intensifies crackdown on rhino poaching

CAPE TOWN, 6 Sept—South African law enforcement agencies have intensified the crackdown on rhino poaching, arresting 24 alleged rhino poachers in the past two weeks, the government said on Thursday. The arrests brought the number of suspected rhino poachers arrested across the country since 1 Jan, 2013, to 191, the Department of Environmental Affairs said.

The latest arrests were made in the Kruger National Park and the North West, Mpumalanga and Limpopo provinces. In addition to the arrests, four suspected rhino poachers were shot dead in two separate operations last month. Minister of Environmental Affairs and Water Edina Molewa commended law enforcement agencies for the good work they have done in the fight against rhino poaching, the department said.

But the department said

the arrests happened amidst the increasing number of poaching incidents reported in South Africa.

The total number of rhinos poached since the beginning of the year has increased to 618, with the Kruger National Park continuing to bear the brunt of rhino poaching, with 381 rhino having been killed for their horns since January. Among the total number of rhinos poached, 64 have been killed in Limpopo, 62 in KwaZulu-Natal, 62 in North West and 42 in Mpumalanga.

“South Africans are encouraged to continue supporting the work of the security forces, rangers and conservationists,” the department said. “The commitment to conservation requires the support of everyone in order to stem the tide of rhino poaching.”

The authorities have set up anonymous tip-off lines

0800 205 005, 08600 10111 or Crime-Line on 32211 to encourage the public to report incidents of poaching.

South Africa blames rhino poaching on the rising demand for rhino horns. Rhino horns are superstitiously believed to cure many diseases, notably cancer, although no scientific evidence to prove this.

Xinhua

G20 leaders adopt St Petersburg development strategy

ST PETERSBURG, 6 Sept—The Group of Twenty (G20) leaders on Thursday approved here a strategy outlining development priorities for the group members over the medium term.

The St Petersburg Development Strategy, prepared by the development working panel of G20, detailed such priorities as reinforcing G20’s commitment to shared growth and

improving the group’s approach to development.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, whose country holds the rotating presidency of G20 this year and plays the host to the 2013 G20 Summit, told fellow summiteers that though situation had improved thanks to measures taken by G20 member states, it is still too early to become complacent and the group’s

main task is to bring back sustainable and balanced growth to the global economy.

“Unfortunately, this problem has not yet been resolved; systemic risks and conditions conducive to the recurrence of an acute crisis persist,” said President Putin. “Just recently the IMF lowered its 2013 global growth forecast to 3.1 percent.”—Xinhua



US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power briefs reporters on Syria at the UN headquarters in New York, on 5 Sept, 2013.—XINHUA

REGIONAL

S Korea bans fishery imports from 8 Japan prefs including Fukushima

SEOUL, 6 Sept — South Korea said on Friday it has placed an import ban on all fisheries products from eight Japanese prefectures, including Fukushima.

The decision was made on Friday following a meeting between government agencies chaired by Prime Minister Chung Hong Won and the ruling party.

According to officials, all fishery products from radiation-affected regions in Japan will be banned from entering South Korea regardless of radiation contamination.

The ban affects products from Fukushima, Aomori, Ibaraki, Gunma, Miyagi, Iwate, Tochigi and Chiba prefectures.

“The measure comes as our people’s concerns are growing over the fact that hundreds of tons of radiation-contaminated water are leaked daily from the site of Japan’s nuclear accident in Fukushima,” the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries said in a Press release, according to *Yonhap News Agency*.

The Japanese government on Friday responded by saying that Japan has stringent food safety standards based on international rules and regularly measures radiation levels.

“We have provided the South Korean government with relevant information since the leakage of contaminated water (at the

Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant) came to light,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said at a Press conference in Tokyo.

“We will continue to ask South Korea to take measures based on scientific facts,” he added. The South Korean government said it will request additional radiation tests from Japan, if “even a minuscule dose of radioactive material, such as cesium or iodine, is detected in any products from any other region of Japan,” *Yonhap* reported.

The government also decided to lower the allowed dose of radiation in fisheries products from the current 370 becquerel per kilogramme to 100 Bq/kg.

Yonhap quoted the ministry as saying that the measures come “as the government concluded that it is unclear how the incident in Japan will progress in the future and that the information the Japanese government has provided so far is not enough to predict future developments.”

South Korea last year imported 5,000 tons of fishery products from the eight affected prefectures, out of a total of 40,000 tons of imports from Japan.

South Korea had imposed a ban on some Japanese fisheries products following the earthquake in March 2011 that led to the Fukushima nuclear disaster.

Kyodo News

Philippine gov't says ready to resume talks with rebels

MANILA, 6 Sept — The Philippine government said on Thursday that it remains open to continue peace discussions with the leftist rebels but the latter must show some goodwill and sincerity.

Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda made the statement amid reports that the leftist New People’s Army (NPA) members, who attacked government troops this week in southern Province of Compostela Valley, using explosive devices with bacteria and deadly toxin.

Army doctors reportedly found traces of human feces and snake venom in wounds of the seven soldiers wounded during Tuesday’s attack.

“The position of our government is that we are open on the peace process. (But) what we need is sincerity,” he said.

The government panel negotiating peace with the NPA said it may resume peace talks with the insurgents if they agree on a new negotiating framework. Government negotiators added that the NPA should have a clear agenda for ending violence and bringing peace in the country.

The NPA, an armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has been waging a war against the government for over four decades.—*Xinhua*



A high-school girl in Bangkok tastes a donut that looks like sushi in the Thai capital on 12 Aug, 2013. Mister Donut will offer the “Sushido” until the end of September. KYODO NEWS

Indonesian court sentences soldiers over prison murders

JAKARTA, 6 Sept — A military court in Cebongan of Yogyakarta on Thursday sentenced eight special force soldiers who stormed a prison and shot dead four inmates in a revenge killing. The soldiers broke into Cebongan prison near Yogyakarta on the main island of Java in March and carried out the attack to take revenge on the prisoners, who were in custody accused of murdering their superior officer in a nightclub brawl.

Ucok Simbolon, the main executor of the attack, was sentenced to 11 years. The two other ringleaders,

Second Sergeant Sugeng Sumarya and First Corporal Kodik, were sentenced to eight years and six years respectively.

All the three soldiers said that they would appeal the decision.

The other five soldiers were sentenced to one year and nine months in jail.

The trial opened in June and has been controversial. More than one hundred people staged rally outside the court, giving their support to the soldiers, saying that their acts could calm down gangster move in Yogyakarta Province.—*Xinhua*

Pakistan to hold grand conference on security, Taliban talks

ISLAMABAD, 6 Sept — Pakistani government will convene a grand conference of mainstream political parties next week to evolve consensus on a national security policy to deal with terrorism and to discuss proposal for talks with the Taliban insurgents, officials said late Thursday.

The All Parties Conference (APC) will be held in Islamabad on 9 September,

they said. Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan has talked to senior political leaders by the phone and extended invitations, they said. He delivered invitations to the leaders from Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. The conference will be held at the Prime Minister’s house.

The government was previously expected to hold the APC on 12 July to

An ancient baking mold of mooncake is seen at a folk culture museum in Hefei, capital of east China’s Anhui Province, on 5 Sept, 2013. Mooncake is a Chinese bakery product traditionally eaten during the Mid-Autumn Festival, which falls on the 15th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar. XINHUA



Panel recommends opening 165 mountains for expeditions in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 6 Sept — A government panel has recommended the names of 165 new peaks to be opened for the upcoming adventure season, officials said on Thursday.

The opening of new peaks is expected to uplift the economic conditions of local people, boost the country’s tourism industry and expand the scope mountain expeditions. A sub-committee formed under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) recommended such expeditions in a report after extensive consultation with local people, tourism institutions and related experts.

“We conducted an in-depth study for preparing the report, and the government will take decisions after the detail study,” Ang Tshering Sherpa, the coordinator of the sub-committee told *Xinhua*.

Sherpa, a former president of Nepal Mountaineering Association, said that if the initiative is implemented, it will boost country’s tourism industry and uplift the local economy.

Currently, around 326 peaks are allowed for mountain expeditions and adventure sports in Nepal. If the initiative is endorsed by the Nepali government, the number of peaks will be increased to 491.

The proposed peaks include one 8,000-metre mountain, 12 mountains above 7,000-metre but below 8,000, 143 mountains which are above 6,000 meters and nine mountains above 5,000 metres.

The government opened 122 new peaks in 2003, and nine other peaks in 2004, but since then no new peaks have been opened.

Xinhua



A farmer who will serve as cotton picker in northwest China’s Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region prepares to board a special train at the railway station in Minhe Hui and Tu Autonomous County, northwest China’s Qinghai Province, on 5 Sept, 2013. Peasants swarm into Xinjiang every year to harvest cotton there.—XINHUA

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

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

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

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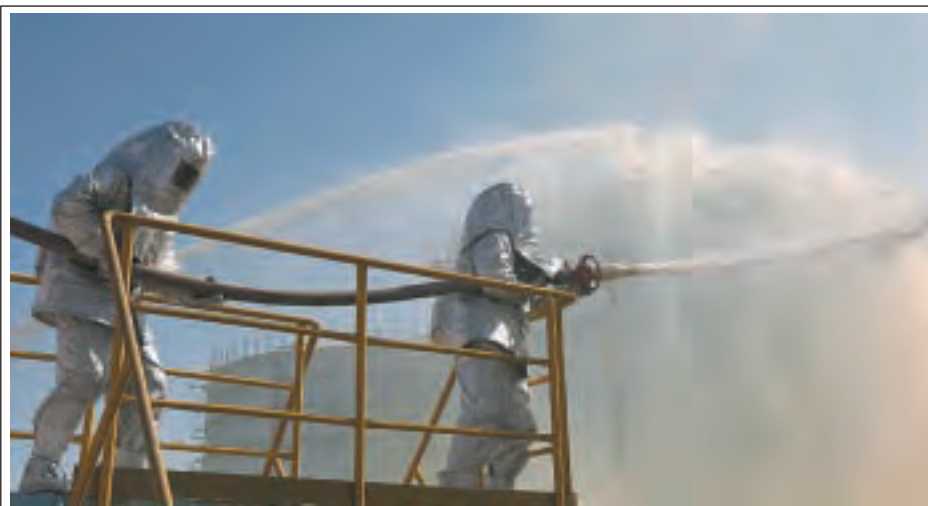
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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

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Fire fighters try to put out "fire" on oil tanks during a fire drill at a chemical plant in Karamay, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, on 4 Sept, 2013. Fire fighting department in Karamay conducted a rescue drill based on the scenario of a fire accident on oil tanks in the plant on Wednesday.

XINHUA

Number of Somali people in crisis falls to lowest level since 2011

UNITED NATIONS, 6 Sept — The number of people in crisis in Somalia has fallen to the lowest level since famine was declared in 2011, Philippe Lazzarini, the UN resident and humanitarian coordinator for Somalia, has said.

The improvement in food security in Somalia is attributed to a combination of ongoing humanitarian response, successive seasons of good rainfall and low food prices, UN associate spokesman Farhan Haq quoted Lazzarini as saying on Wednesday.

Haq, however, did not give the exact number of the Somali people in crisis.

The top coordinator warned that the needs in Somalia remain enormous, underlining the need to continue providing life-saving assistance and scaling up investments in programming to build communities' ability to cope with future shocks, Haq said.

"If we act to build up resilience now, we can ensure that the next period of poor rains does not turn into a deep humanitarian crisis," Lazzarini was quoted as saying.—Xinhua

Croatian president appeals for solution of Macedonian-Greek dispute

SKOPJE, 6 Sept — Croatian President Ivo Josipovic, after meeting his Macedonian counterpart Gjorge Ivanov in Skopje on Wednesday, encouraged both Macedonia and Greece to find mutual solution on the name issue.

"The mechanisms in Europe work on consensus. A mutual solution has to be found and we will support whatever Greece and

Macedonia agree on," said Josipovic, who is on a two day official visit to Macedonia. He added that Croatia is in a good position because it has good relations with both Athens and Skopje.

Ivanov underlined that Macedonia is the constructive part in the negotiations and that a solution can be found by dialogue and initiatives. "The whole region is moving towards NATO and EU, but there is a status quo situation because of the name dispute in our EU integrations. We expect new developments in this process from which everybody will profit from," Ivanov said.

He referred to the visit of UN special representative for the name dispute Mathew Nimetz to both Skopje and Athens which is scheduled for next week. The name issue between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has been a two-decade-long dispute between the two neighbours.—Xinhua



Egrets are seen on the wetland of the Longshan River in Penglai City, east China's Shandong Province, on 3 Sept, 2013.—XINHUA

Regional leaders to push for talks over DR Congo crisis

KAMPALA, 6 Sept — Leaders from Africa's Great Lakes region and their foreign and defence ministers on Wednesday started gathering here to resolve the latest escalation of fighting in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The leaders are holding an emergency summit called by Uganda, the chair of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), a regional peace and security body bringing together 11 member countries.

In recent weeks, fighting resumed between the Congolese troops and the M23 rebels. The UN Intervention Brigade was also involved in the fighting which saw the M23 being dislodged from some of its strategic places around Goma, the capital of North Kivu Province.

The fighting also affects relations between the neighbouring DRC and Rwanda, which is protesting the shelling of its areas

by unknown people from across the border.

The flare is the latest since the new rebellion surfaced in 2012, despite various regional efforts to stabilize the country. The DRC has witnessed decades of war, leaving a large number of people dead and forcing hundreds of thousands of others to flee to neighbouring Uganda and Rwanda.

Following regional pressure late last year, the Congolese government and the M23 started peace talks mediated by the Ugandan government.

Regional experts say the negotiation option must be explored to the end, warning that war can wors-

en the already bad humanitarian situation.

James Mugume, permanent secretary of Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, told Xinhua in an interview on Wednesday that to have meaningful negotiations the fighting has to stop.

"You must stop the fighting then hold the peace talks as agreed in the peace and security framework," he said.

"You should never tire of meetings when you are resolving an intricate problem that dates back to the colonial days. It is a big country; there are many issues, so you have to be patient."—Xinhua



Afghan army soldiers inspect the site of a blast in Nangarhar Province of eastern Afghanistan on 4 Sept, 2013. Two Afghan army soldiers were wounded and one army van was damaged in an IED attack in Pul-e-Behsoud area in the eastern Province of Nangarhar on Wednesday morning, the provincial police spokesman Colonel Hazrat Husain Mashriqiwal said.—XINHUA

ENTERTAINMENT

Angelina Jolie, Steve Martin to receive honorary Oscars

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — Oscars season kicked off on Thursday as actors Angelina Jolie, Angela Lansbury, Steve Martin and Italian costume designer Piero Tosi were the first to receive honorary Governors Awards, the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences said.

The Governors Awards are an Oscar statuette given to those in film that have made significant contributions to the industry through their body of work. They will be presented at a ceremony in Hollywood on 16 November.

Jolie, 38, is the



Actor and comedian Steve Martin arrives on the red carpet at the Muhammad Ali Celebrity Fight Night Awards XIX in Phoenix, Arizona in this 23 March, 2013 file photo.

REUTERS

youngest of the four recipients, and is being honoured for her career, including her Oscar-winning role in 1999's "Girl, Interrupted," her directorial debut with 2011's "In the Land of Blood and Honey," and her humanitarian work.

Comedic actor and three-time Oscar host Martin, 68, has a long-standing career playing witty or dim characters in comedy films such as 1979's "The Jerk," "The Pink Panther" series and 2005's "Shopgirl." Despite a career spanning 60 years, Martin has never received an Oscar nomination. The actor tweeted on Thursday that he was "proud to win an honorary

Oscar this year. A salute to comedy and all the great people I've worked with."

Lansbury, 87, is a three-time Oscar nominee for her roles in 1944's "Gaslight," 1945's "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and 1962's "The Manchurian Candidate." She is also widely known for her role as fictional writer-sleuth Jessica Fletcher in television series "Murder, She Wrote."

Five time Oscar-nominated costume designer Tosi, 86, garnered recognition for his work on Italian director Luchino Visconti's films such as 1957's "White Nights" and for 1963's "The Leopard" and



Special envoy of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and movie director Angelina Jolie gives a speech on "Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict Initiative" during a screening event of her movie "In the Land of Blood and Honey" in Tokyo on 29 July, 2013. —REUTERS

1971's "Death in Venice." The honorary Governors Awards are presented ahead of the Academy Awards, which will close out the Hollywood awards season on 2 March, 2014. —Reuters

Jennifer Hudson tackles 'intimidating' role of Winnie Mandela

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — For Oscar and Grammy-winning actress and singer Jennifer Hudson, the decision to play anti-apartheid activist Winnie Mandela in her first lead role was no easy matter, especially when she saw what the former South African first lady meant to the nation. In the

and heard people talk about Winnie Mandela.

"This is something they clearly treasure and take very seriously," she added. "I thought if I am going to do this I have to be all in. I thought maybe I should go home. And then I thought, this is a story that I would want to be a part



Singer Jennifer Hudson arrives at the 2013 MTV Video Music Awards in New York on 25 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

biopic "Winnie Mandela," which opens in US theatres on Friday, Hudson plays the ex-wife of Nelson Mandela from the time she met him as a young woman, through decades as the public face for her imprisoned husband's fight against white rule.

The film also depicts Winnie Mandela's fall from grace when she is embroiled in murder and human rights violations before her husband is released from prison after 27 years in 1990 and goes on to become South Africa's first black president. "It was very intimidating for me, actually," said Hudson, who came to understand the pressure of her role when she arrived in South Africa

of and tell." Hudson, 31, plays opposite fellow Chicagoan Terrence Howard in the role of Nelson Mandela. She spent four months in Africa for the film, which was shot in 2011 by South African director Darrell Roodt.

"I had to lose weight for the film and also learn the accent," said Hudson. "Everyone was worried about the physical. I was like, I am not worried about the losing weight part. I am more concerned with the accent." To conquer the accent, she immersed herself in the South African culture and spent time where the Mandelas lived "just to be absorbed by their surroundings."

Reuters

Expect simple, modern looks at New York's Fashion Week



A model uses a playing card to keep her hair in place as she walks the runway during a rehearsal before a presentation of the Honor Spring/Summer 2014 collection during New York Fashion Week, on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 6 Sept — Designers from around the world began unveiling their latest looks at New York Fashion Week on Thursday, as fashion buyers and editors assembled to see what will be au courant for spring with trend watchers expecting a season of simple silhouettes.

Hundreds of shows are

'Fifth Estate' exposes WikiLeaks in Toronto film festival debut

TORONTO, 6 Sept — "The Fifth Estate," an unlikely thriller that chronicles the emergence of anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks and its enigmatic founder Julian Assange, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival on Thursday.

English actor Benedict Cumberbatch, who plays Assange, called the debut at Toronto the "perfect marriage" of a festival, known for its popular participation, and a film, about what he called "people journalism."

The festival is also considered a harbinger of the awards season. Films that have fared well in Toronto, like "Slumdog Mil-

lionaire," have gone on to win best picture Oscars. Some 366 films, including 146 world premieres, will screen over 11 days.

Transparency and secrecy in the Internet age have emerged as prevalent themes in the programme, led by "The Fifth Estate." The film, made and distributed by Disney/Dreamworks, was chosen to kick off Toronto weeks after former government contractor Edward Snowden leaked US surveillance data with the help of WikiLeaks and Assange.

"As we have seen in the Edward Snowden case, this is a story that contin-

Furstenberg's lush colors and Ralph Lauren's polished classics. Longtime designer Carolina Herrera can be relied on for sleek sophistication and veteran Michael Kors for his clean lines. Mathieu Mirano has made a name for himself at age 22 designing for pop singer Lady Gaga.

Others are harder to figure out in advance. Publicity material for Concept Korea said the collection by Kaal E Suktae was inspired by a phrase from the Bible: "The stone the builder rejected has become the cornerstone."

Roseanne Morrison, fashion director at The Doneger Group, experts in retail trends and forecasting, said she expects an abundance of skirts, A-line sheaths, cropped tops and soft pants in a departure from skintight looks of recent years. "I think we're just moving into this whole mood of simplicity ...

almost unencumbered," she said.

Tadashi Shoji, one of the first designers to appear on Thursday, showed an abundance of sleeveless sheath dresses and cropped tops, separately or by pairing abbreviated tops over sleek A-line silhouettes. The trend recalls the 1990s, said Ken Downing, fashion director at retailer Neiman Marcus. "It was that moment of being very pared down after coming out of all the opulence of the '80s," he said.

Giving a boost to the simpler clothes are innovations in fabrics such as latex and neoprene, Morrison said. Clothes now can be minimally cut or draped without losing character. "It's finally advanced to the level where it's got a softness too, but it still has substance," she said. Shoji's runway proved Morrison to be on target.

Reuters



Cast member Benedict Cumberbatch arrives for the premiere of the film "The Fifth Estate" at the 38th Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto on 5 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

ues to be central, and we have also seen that people of great intelligence and goodwill disagree," director Bill Condon told the Toronto audience. Condon said "The Fifth Estate" was not a judgment about

WikiLeaks or Assange, but a portrayal of a complex issue that raises more questions than answers about the struggle between transparency, privacy and the security implications.

Reuters

SPORTS

Lambert to start for England after Sturridge ruled out

LONDON, 6 Sept— Southampton striker Rickie Lambert will lead England's attack in the World Cup qualifier against Moldova on Friday after Daniel Sturridge was ruled out through injury.

Manager Roy Hodgson hopes the in-form Sturridge, who has returned to Liverpool for treatment on a thigh problem, may recover in time for Tuesday's qualifier in Ukraine.

Hodgson was already without striker Wayne Rooney for both games due to a head injury and Lambert, who scored on his debut in a friendly against Scotland last month, will start against Moldova at Wembley alongside Danny Welbeck and Theo Walcott.

"We have not exactly been lucky with injuries. We have lost five players that a couple of weeks ago I was really banking on," Hodgson told a news conference on Thursday before adding defender Steven Caulker was also ruled out

with an ankle injury.

"(Sturridge) has worked hard at his treatment. The initial prognosis was that he would not be fit for either. It will be touch and go for Tuesday but we won't know until Sunday."

Later in the day the Football Association named Hodgson's starting lineup on its official Twitter feed, showing that captain Steven Gerrard, Frank Lampard and Jack Wilshere would be playing in midfield behind Lambert, Walcott and Welbeck.

England are well-placed to qualify for next year's tournament in Brazil although they trail Group H leaders Montenegro by two points with a game in hand. Ukraine are third, a point behind England.

The build-up to the Moldova game has been dominated by FA chairman Greg Dyke's assertion that few people believe England can win next year's finals.

"I would say I very much doubt we are at the

top of bookmakers lists to win the World Cup next year at the moment," Hodgson said. "So let us first qualify and then aim to get



a bit better when Brazil comes round.

"The four remaining games are of vital importance. I don't quantify games as one being easy or one being hard. Moldova have proven very hard to

Liverpool's Daniel Sturridge (L) fights for the ball with Manchester United's Danny Welbeck during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield, Liverpool, northern England on 1 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

beat and we know they will be hard to beat on Friday night and I will need my best players.

"I think we need 10 points. I think that would see us mathematically certain."—Reuters

Mexico will amaze Formula One, says Perez

MONZA, (Italy), 6 Sept— Mexico's return to the Formula One calendar in 2014 after more than 20 years' absence will be one of the highlights of the season, the country's leading racer Sergio Perez said on Thursday.

The McLaren driver, who will be hoping to have a car capable of winning his home race after a lacklustre season for the British team this year, told reporters at the Italian Grand Prix that it would be huge.

A draft calendar circulated to teams before Sunday's race at Monza had a record 21 rounds and Mexico listed for a 9 November date, the week before the US Grand Prix in Austin, Texas, subject to track approval.

"I'm very excited. It's not confirmed yet, it's just a pre-calendar but I feel there are very big chances now of this happening," Perez said.

"It will be great for my country, great for the sport. Formula One will be amazed how popular this grand prix can become...it will be huge for Formula One as a sport to go there."

Mexico last hosted a grand prix at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in 1992, when Nigel Mansell was triumphant for Williams who were a top team in those days.

They have scored just one point this season, however, and that is not the only way in which the sport's landscape has changed with new venues like Russia and India opening up.

Last year's inaugural race in Austin drew a strong Latin crowd from both sides of the border and Perez agreed having the two races together would be like having two home grands prix in succession with big crowds at both.—Reuters



Formula One drivers Jenson Button (R) and Sergio Perez arrive at the world premiere of Rush at a cinema in Leicester Square, central London, on 2 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

Davenport heads list of Hall of Fame nominations

NEW YORK, 6 Sept— Former American world number one Lindsay Davenport, a winner of three grand slam singles titles, headlined the list of nominees up for induction into the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

Davenport was announced as a nominee along with two-times grand slam winner Mary Pierce of France and 1994 Wimbledon champion Conchita Martinez of Spain, the Hall of Fame said in a statement on Thursday.

The 37-year-old Davenport produced 55 singles titles and a 753-194 record over a 17-year career that included grand slam titles at the 1998 US Open, 1999 Wimbledon, and 2000 Australian Open.

She also won a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta

Olympics and had a 33-3 record in Fed Cup competition for the United States.

Frenchwoman Pierce, known for her hard-hitting game, won 18 singles titles while compiling a 511-237 record that included triumphs at the 1995 Australian Open and 2000 French Open. She was also on France's Fed Cup team for 10 years, playing an important role in helping the nation win their two titles in 1997 and 2003. She was also a member of the French Olympic Team in 1992, 1996, and 2004.

Martinez, 41, had 33 singles titles during her career, none bigger than her win over Martina Navratilova in the 1994 singles final at the All England Club to become the only Spanish woman to ever win the title.—Reuters

Lindsay Davenport of the US returns a shot to Britain's Sarah Borwell and Raquel Kops-Jones of the US during their Stanford Classic women's doubles semi-final match in Stanford, California in this 31 July, 2010 file photo.

REUTERS



World champion Gilbert ends drought with Vuelta stage win

TARRAGONA, (Spain), 6 Sept—Belgium's Philippe Gilbert roared past late attacker Edvald Boasson Hagen to take stage 12 of the Tour of Spain on Thursday and claim his first win since becoming world champion last September. Vincenzo Nibali of Italy remains overall leader and is 31 seconds ahead of Ireland's Nicolas Roche with Spain's Alejandro Valverde a further 15 seconds back.

Norwegian Boasson Hagen blasted away as the pack struggled on a short but punishing rise to the finishing straight in the coastal town of Tarragona but was powerless to stop Gilbert zipping past.

The Belgian made repeated thumbs-up signs to the television cameras afterwards in celebration. "I was thinking just one word — 'finally' — as I came over the line, because I've come very close a few times but this year has been very difficult," Gilbert told

reporters. "Also there was a lot of pressure with the world championships so soon, so the situation was getting intense. "Everybody wanted me to win, they wanted to see that first time finally arrive, so you can say it was a very great moment to be able to get that victory," added the 31-year-old.—Reuters



World Champion Philippe Gilbert of team BMC Racing cycles during the Belgium championship elite men's cycling race in La Roche en Ardenne, on 23 June, 2013.

REUTERS

Socceroo Thompson makes light of Neymar 'overrated' barb



Australia's Archie Thompson celebrates after scoring a goal against Iraq during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match in Doha on 16 Oct, 2012.

REUTERS

MELBOURNE, 6 Sept— Australia's Archie Thompson has made light of his comment that Brazilian Neymar, who recently moved to Barcelona for \$74 million (47 million pounds), was overrated, putting the remark down to jetlag or mistranslation.

The Socceros take on the 2014 World Cup hosts in a friendly in Brasilia on Saturday and Thompson livened up pre-match exchanges by saying he thought Neymar was overrated and his team mate Oscar was a better player.

Forward Neymar re-

sponded to the Melbourne Victory striker in a news conference with the withering question: "What's his name?", according to Brazilian media reports.

"It was the jetlag or the Brazilian reporter didn't understand my Portuguese," New Zealand-born Thompson quipped in a Tweet from Brasilia on Thursday. Thompson has scored 28 goals in 53 internationals, a tally inflated by the world record 13 he scored when Australia beat American Samoa 31-0 in World Cup qualifying in 2001.—Reuters

GENERAL

Obituary Daw Khin Than (88) Years

Beloved daughter of U Thaung and Daw Ohn; residing at No.149 West Horse Racing Road; beloved wife of (U Aung Kyaw); beloved mother of U Kyaw Htay (Immigration Officer, Retd), Daw Khin Htay Myint (Police Inspector, Retd); grandmother of Pyae Phyoo Kyaw (System Engineer, solution-Conversant-Solutions Pte Ltd) + Ma Phyu Phyu Tun, Ko Kyaw Hein + Ma Zin Mar Phyu (N.U.H), Maung Zar Ni Kyaw (N.T.U) passed away at Shwegondaing Specialist Centre on 6-9-2013 (Friday) at 10:10 am. The remains will be cremated at Yayway Cemetery at 4:00 pm on 8-9-2013 (Sunday). (Buses will depart from home at 2:30 pm).

Bereaved Family

13 killed, 10 injured in road mishap in India

NEW DELHI, 6 Sept — At least 13 people, including seven school children, were killed and more than 10 others injured in a major road mishap in the southern Indian state of Kerala on Friday, a senior police official said.

“The mishap happened when a private bus in which the victims were travelling hit a tree and then plunged into a deep gorge at Pernithalmanna in the state’s Malappuram District, after the driver lost control of the speeding vehicle while overtaking another bus,” he said on condition of anonymity.

Xinhua

George Zimmerman’s wife files for divorce in Florida, lawyer says

MIAMI, 6 Sept—The wife of George Zimmerman filed for divorce on Thursday, her lawyer said, less than two months after Zimmerman was acquitted of murder in the shooting of unarmed teenager Trayvon Martin in Florida.

Shellie Zimmerman, 26, sought the divorce after she said last week in an interview with ABC News that the trial had strained their marriage of six years.

Her lawyer, Kelly Sims, did not specify the reason for the divorce in an email to Reuters, and a Seminole County Court clerk in central Florida said she had not seen any filing yet.

any filing yet.

“Shellie has, indeed, filed a petition for dissolution of marriage in Seminole County this afternoon,” Sims told Reuters. He said Shellie Zimmerman was seeking custody of the couple’s two dogs plus “equitable distribution” of their assets and debts. The court filing listed her assets at \$12,729 and debts at \$103,756, mostly from school loans, an auto loan and credit card bills, he said.

“There comes a time when you know you just can’t continue living with someone. That time is now for Shellie,” Sims said.

Zimmerman was acquitted in July of killing 17-year-old Martin as he walked back to the townhouse where he was staying after buying snacks at a nearby convenience store, ending a case that captivated and polarized the US public on issues of race, gun and self-defence laws.

John Donnelly, a family friend who testified in George Zimmerman’s defense at his trial, told Reuters that Shellie was “devastated” when her husband “just packed up and left” after his acquittal and was gone for a month without telling anyone his whereabouts.

Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(7-9-2013, Saturday)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 6:00 am | 2:45 pm |
| 1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw | 20. Musical Programme |
| 6:20 am | 3:00 pm |
| 2. Physical Exercise | 21. News |
| 6:35 am | 3:15 pm |
| 3. Dance & Song of National Races | 22. TV Drama Series |
| 6:50 am | 4:00 pm |
| 4. Documentary | 23. News |
| 7:00 am | 4:15 pm |
| 5. News | 24. Business News |
| 7:20 am | 4:30 pm |
| 6. Business News | 25. Song & Dance of National Races |
| 7:35 am | 4:45 pm |
| 7. Hyper Sports | 26. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Zoology) |
| 8:00 am | 5:00 pm |
| 8. News | 27. News |
| 8:25 am | 5:15 pm |
| 9. India Drama Series | 28. Road to 27 th SEA Games (Judo) |
| 9:00 am | 5:30 pm |
| 10. News/International News | 29. Game for Children |
| 9:25 am | 6:00 pm |
| 11. Documentary (Traveller) | 30. News |
| 10:00 am | 6:20 pm |
| 12. News | 31. Documentary |
| 10:15 am | 6:40 pm |
| 13. TV Drama Series | 32. TV Drama Series |
| 11:30 am | 7:00 pm |
| 14. Game for Children | 33. News |
| 12:00 pm | 7:15 pm |
| 15. News/International News/Weather Report | 34. TV Drama Series |
| 12:25 pm | 8:00 pm |
| 16. Round Up of The Week’s TV Local News | 35. News |
| 1:15 pm | 8:35 pm |
| 17. Teleplay | 36. Business News |
| 2:15 pm | 8:50 pm |
| 18. Hyper Sports | 37. Hit Songs of Stars |
| 2:35 pm | 9:00 pm |
| 19. Instrumental Music | 38. News |
| | 38. Myanmar Series |
| | 39. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn |

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(7-9-13 09:30 am ~ 8-9-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * A Day Life of Kayan Padaung Tribe
- * World News
- * Myanmar Sport Special Canoeing
- * Local News
- * A Moment: With Extraordinaries (Episode-1) Dr. Nyein Chan
- * World News
- * Pyin Oo Lwin Sweater
- * Local News
- * A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * Truly Magical Pindaya
- * World News
- * “JEYYANNADI” A Day in the life of a nun
- * Local News
- * History of Wishfulfilling Mai-Lamu Pagoda
- * World News
- * Travelling To Shan Plateau (Pindaya Myoe Ma Market)
- * Local News
- * Product of Myanmar (Stone of the Heavens)
- * World News
- * Reaching the Unreachable “Towards safer communities”
- * Local News
- * Visiting To Mawlamyine Trip (Episode-1)
- * World News
- * Alphabet of Myanmar Language
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Social And Charitable Association (Episode-3) (Part-1)
- * World News
- * Will you feed the pigeons

British team switches to Nike from Adidas in seven-year deal

LONDON, 6 Sept—US sportswear company Nike will provide kit to the British athletics team until 2020, winning the contract after a legal battle involving current supplier Adidas.

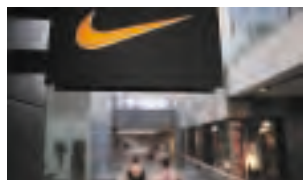
The new agreement will take effect from 1 January and will include the world athletics championships to be hosted in London in 2017.

“The scale and length of their commitment is significant and demonstrates their confidence in the future of British Athletics,” said UK Athletics chief executive Niels de Vos, welcoming the deal with Nike, the world’s largest sportswear company.

Media reports said the contract was worth 15 million pounds (\$23.44 million), double the current

deal. Athletics is enjoying its highest profile in Britain since the 1980s following the excitement generated by the London Olympics last year.

Adidas lost a legal challenge to the planned switch to Nike. A court in the Netherlands where the case was filed dismissed an argument that it had the right to match any rival offer.—Reuters



People walks past a Nike shop under the company logo at the Sanlitun shopping area in central Beijing, on 8 Aug, 2013.

REUTERS

Wawrinka cruises by Murray in seismic US Open shocker

NEW YORK, 6 Sept—Defending champion Andy Murray was the latest grand slam winner to be bundled out of the US Open, thrashed in straight sets by Stanislas Wawrinka in a quarter-finals shocker on Thursday.

Ninth-seeded Wawrinka dominated an out of sorts Murray 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 in just over two hours, winning the battle from the baseline and the net against the Wimbledon champion.

The victory on a wind-blown Arthur Ashe Stadium court lifted the 28-year-old Swiss to his first grand slam semi-final.

The surging Wawrinka, who raised his 2013 record to 41-15 with the upset win, raised both arms in triumph after third seed Murray dumped a second-

serve return into the net on match point.

“It feels amazing for sure, especially here,” the excited Swiss said. “He’s the defending champion, he’s a tough opponent. It was a crazy match for me. To beat him in three sets is just amazing.”

Wawrinka broke the Scotsman four times and never faced a break point against a player noted for his ability to return.

The Swiss cracked 45 winners past a listless Murray and won 31 of 42 forays to the net in the one-sided match.

Murray admitted to something of a Wimbledon hangover after ending a drought of 77 years without a British winner since Fred Perry’s 1936 triumph at the All England Club.



Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland celebrates after defeating Andy Murray of Britain at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 5 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

“When you work hard for something for a lot of years, it’s going to take a bit of time to really fire yourself up and get yourself training 110 percent,” the Scotsman said. “That’s something that I think is kind of natural after what happened at

Wimbledon. But I got here. I got to the quarter-finals of a slam, which isn’t easy.” Much more was expected of Murray, as it was for the other Swiss player that factored at Flushing Meadows - Roger Federer.

Reuters

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann meets Lashio residents

LASHIO, 6 Sept— Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met the Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials, Township Development Supportive Committees and local people at Town Hall in Lashio of Shan State (North) yesterday evening and touched upon regional development.

At the meeting, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that the Hluttaws enacted the laws beneficial to the

citizens and its procedures were gaining momentum as the Hluttaw tenure was over 30 months. He invited reports on difficulties in their region.

Then, the Hluttaw representatives and those attendees reported on regional development, education, health, transport, eradication of drugs and the rule of law, and the state chief minister clarified work progress.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker also said that farmers' interest protection and promotion law will be

enacted soon. He called for people's representatives to serve public interest and to listen to people's voices. He underscored cooperation for flourishing democracy system in accord with democratic practices.

Yesterday evening, the speaker met the leaders of people's militia from Shan State (North). He also met with a delegation led by U Hse Htin from Shan State Progressive Party/Shan State Army this morning.

MNA



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann meets Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials, Township Development Supportive Committees and local people .—MNA

Thailand ready to extend helping hand to Myanmar Defence Services must have legal knowledge: C-in-C



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint shakes hands with Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra of Thailand.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept— Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and party held talks on human rights law with Chairman of National Human Rights Commission of Thailand Prof Amara Pongsapich and party during his visit to Thailand on 4 September.

Afterwards, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker

and party held a frank discussion on constitution with President of the Supreme Court Chief Justice Pairoj Wayuparb and party at Supreme Court of Thailand.

After that, the Myanmar delegation attended a lunch hosted by President of the Senate of Thailand Mr Nikom Wairatpanij at Four Seasons Hotel.

In the afternoon, they met Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra of Thailand at the Government Residence.

The Speaker discussed drawing of demarcation lines, development of border regions, Two Ocean Policy, amity between the two countries, tourism industry, trade and mutual understandings on culture, traditions and religion.

The Thai Prime Minister said that Thailand will make efforts for cooperation between the two countries. It needs to adopt rules and laws for swift completion of borderline designations for trade development. Better cooperation between the two countries would contribute to economic development thereby resulting in development of the ASEAN Community. Thailand is seeking ways to make cooperation with Myanmar for development of tourism industry. She reaffirmed that efforts will

be made for enabling the two countries to share the prosperities. Both countries are making cooperation in narcotic drug problem, labour affairs and child and the aged care. Thailand has extended deadline for foreign workers registration by one year.

She continued that Thailand gave shelter to Rohingya on the human rights grounds only, and they have been given a chance to go back to homeland. She praised Myanmar for its political reform and democratization processes. Thailand is ready to extend a helping hand to Myanmar, she added.

The Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker said that Myanmar's successive governments have been making all-out efforts for eradication of narcotic drugs. These issues could be resolved only after the peace has been restored in border regions.

MNA

Defence Services must have legal knowledge: C-in-C

YANGON, 6 Sept— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met servicemen and family members at Inma and Thayawady stations today separately.

At the meetings, the Senior General pointed out that as reform process is being undertaken in politics, administrative and economic sectors, the Defence Services Personnel Representatives are to follow the public-centred governing system. Defence Services Personnel Representatives participating in legislative matters for the State should have legal knowledge. He urged them to participate in reform process in cooperation with the people.

Yesterday, the Senior General comforted patients at the male ward of Military Hospital in Pyay and presented gifts. Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, wife of the Senior General, comforted the patients and gave foodstuff to the patients at female ward.

At Thayawady station, the Senior General presented books and foodstuff to servicemen and the wife of the Senior General, fund to State Maternal and Child Welfare Association.

Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win gave exercise books and Adjutant-General Lt-Gen Khin Zaw Oo, sports gear to them.

MNA

Water level of Chindwin River may reach danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept— According to the 9:30 hr M.S.T observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti is observed as 18 cm (about 0.5 foot) below its danger level.

It may reach its danger level during the next 24 hours.

The water level of Chindwin River at Homalin is observed as 72 cm (about 2.5 ft) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing comforts patients at male ward of Military Hospital in Pyay.

MNA

