

**INSIDE**

**Magway Region focuses on tourism development**

PAGE-2

**Prevention of violence against women**

PAGE-7

**Mini book corners updated monthly**



PAGE-7

**First-aid Course (Basic) concludes at Sagaing University of Cooperative**



PAGE-10

## Australia's Rudd concedes election defeat to conservative leader Abbott

CANBERRA, 7 Sept—Australia's Labour party leader Kevin Rudd conceded defeat at national

elections on Saturday, offering his congratulations to conservative opposition leader Tony Abbott who

won a landslide victory, ending six years of turbulent Labour rule.

With voting 80 percent counted, Australia's electoral commission was



**Tony Abbott (2<sup>nd</sup> R), who leads the conservative opposition, casts his vote as his wife Margaret and daughters Louise, Frances and Bridget (L-R) look on.**

REUTERS

## Stability and peace could not prevail in the nation in the absence of the rule of law



**Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann speaking at the meeting with organizations for rule of law at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) on Inya Road in Kamayut Township.—MNA**

YANGON, 7 Sept—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met the organizations for rule of law at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) Inya Road in Kamayut Township, here, this afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker said that rule of law is of utmost importance for the nation. He stressed the need for all the people to abide by the laws. He noted that the laws should be observed whether they are just, and can be abided by, stability and peace could

not prevail in the nation in the absence of the rule of law and it may harm the sovereignty, he said. He urged those present to hold discussions and give suggestions on the rule of law with positive attitude instead of blaming each other and organizations.

Chairperson of Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairman of Judiciary, Legal Affairs and Complaints and Appeals Scrutiny Committee Thura U Aung Ko and Chairman of Public Affairs Management

Committee U Maung Oo discussed the rule of law, judicial and legislative matters.

Supreme Court Judge of the Union U Myint Aung, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, officials of the Attorney-General of the Union and officials of Bar Association (Yangon), legal experts and retired judicial staff participated in discussions on judicial matters, rule of law and others.

Next, the Speaker pointed out that the Hluttaw

is responsible for the rule of law and enactment of the just laws the people can abide by. He said that revocation and amendment of laws and drawing the new laws will be discussed at the Hluttaw. The rule of law is tied with just laws and the laws that serve interests of the State and the citizens. He stressed the need to carrying out ongoing tasks by reviewing the discussions from the meeting, and expressed thanks for discussions of those present for the rule of law.

MNA

## Hluttaw representatives' excursion to Hungary

YANGON, 7 Sept—A Myanmar delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Rights Committee Member Dr San Hlaing left here by air for Hungary this morning. They were seen

off at Yangon International Airport by officials from the Hluttaw Office. The delegation comprises five representatives from Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw.—MNA

## Myanmar paralympic delegation leaves for Uzbekistan

YANGON, 7 Sept—Maj-Gen Nay Lin, President of Myanmar Paralympic Federation and Director of Resettlements from the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office and Executive

U Thein Win left here by air this morning to attend 2013 Asian Paralympic Committee Conference to be held in Tashkent of Uzbekistan from 9 to 11 September.

MNA

**INSIDE**

**Obama rejects G20 pressure to abandon Syria air strike plan**



PAGE-3

**UN envoy, Russia say striking Syria would hurt chance for peace**



PAGE-3

**NASA robotic spacecraft lifts off to probe lunar dust**

PAGE-4

**Taipei 101 sky-scraper attracting booming mainland numbers**

PAGE-5

**Critics savage 'cheap and cheerless' Diana film as tawdry soap**

PAGE-13



## Magway Region focuses on tourism development



MAGWAY, 7 Sept—The Magway Region tourism development meeting took place at Nan Htaik Thu Hotel in Magway on 5 September morning. Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe spoke on the occasion. He held talks with officials of Myanmar Tourism Federation on development of tourism industry.

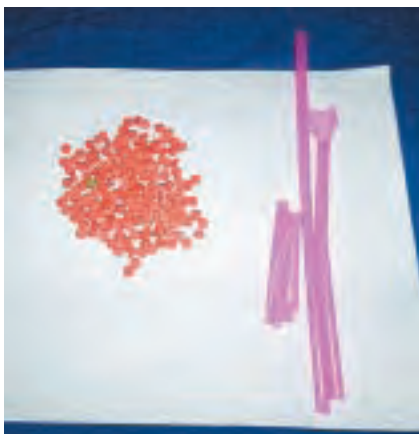
Chairman of Magway Zone Hoteliers Association

U Kyi Tun reported on matters related to tourist destinations in the region and Head of Magway Region Forest Department U Myint Thein, setting up of ecotourism.

Those present at the meeting participated in the discussions on tourism industry. Also present on the occasion were Magway Region ministers, departmental officials, hoteliers and entrepreneurs.—*Tin Tun Oo*

## Anti-Narcotic Drives

### Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek



Ward in Tachilek and found 70 stimulant tablets each from two straws of soft drinks and another two straws containing 20 tablets, totalling 180 weighing 18 grams.

TACHILEK, 7 Sept—A total of 180 stimulant tablets with WY brand were seized in the house of Nan Yon in Hsanhsai (A) Ward in Tachilek on 4 September evening.

IP Hla Lwin and party of Tachilek Special Anti-Drug Squad together with witnesses raided the house of Nan Yon at Room-A1 of Building 6/313 in Hsanhsai A

worth K 360,000. IP Myint Naing arrested the person in front of witnesses with warrant.

Tachilek Myoma Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against drug possessor Nan Yon, son of U Yi Nun under the law, and is striving for arresting the related persons in the case.

*Kyemon-Mawgyi (Triangle Region)*

### Heroin seized in Mongphyat

MONGPHYAT, 7 Sept—SIP Hein Wunna Maung and party of Mongphyat District Police Force of Shan State (East) seized 0.2 gram of heroin in a 5cc syringe, one four inches long bamboo tube and two lead sheets from cigarette box from Sai Kawliya, 44 of Manli Village in Hsipaw Township, passenger from the express

bus driven by Sai Lai Kham heading for Tachilek from Kengtung at the toll gate at 7 pm on 3 September.

Hsipaw Township Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Sai Kawliya under Section 15/16(c) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—*Kyemon-Than Zaw (Mongphyat)*

## Thawtapan edible oil donation for 10<sup>th</sup> time in Mandalay, Sagaing

MANDALAY, 7 Sept—The 10<sup>th</sup> Thawtapan oil donation ceremony for 207 monasteries in six Mandalay townships and Patheingyi Township where above 50 monks stay was held at the hall of Shine Hope Co on 80th Street in Mandalay on 4 September.

At the ceremony, 10850 viss of edible oil, 4430 viss of salt and 207 packets of medicines were donated to members of the Sangha.

On 9 and 10 September, edible oil, salt and medicines will be donated to members of the Sangha and nuns from Sagaing hill, Minwun hill and Sagaing and Mingun on the platform of Laygyun Manaung Pagoda in Sagaing.

This year, 16919 viss of edible oil will be donated to 1279 monasteries from Sagaing and Minwun hills and Sagaing Myoma and Mingun this year, said Secretary of the Thawtapan Oil Donation Committee U Aung Min.



The Thawtapan oil, salt and medicine donation group was established by Sayadaw Dr Ashin Chekinda and disciples in 2004.

The group was divided into Mandalay section and Sagaing section. This year, they made donations for the 10<sup>th</sup> time.

In the ninth time, they donated 11506 viss of edible oil, 5184 viss of salt and 204 packets of assorted medicines to 204 monasteries in Mandalay townships and Patheingyi Township.

The Sagaing Section donated 16383 viss of

## Donation

edible, 16383 viss of salt and medicines to 16383 monks and nuns from Sagaing and Mingun hills and Sagaing Myoma and Mingun.

To mark the donation ceremony, writers gave literary talks on 6 and on 7 September.

*Kyemon-Nanda Min Lwin*

## Transport

### Dry Day aimed at reducing fuel consumption in Yangon

YANGON, 7 Sept—The dry day will be organized in Yangon on 22 September, according to the information from Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee.

Some world countries hold car free day for reducing fuel consumption and emission of smokes from the vehicles. On 22 September, the car free day will be organized in the townships surrounded by Yangon River, Ngamoeyeik Creek and Pazundaung Creek including downtown Yangon from 9 am to 3 pm inclusive of using vehicles with black number plates.

“The programme will include industrial zone-made vehicles and saloons with black number plates. It will not be organized in southern part of Yangon River such as Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha townships and highway bus terminal. Thakayta and Dawbon townships will include in the plan but it will not be implemented in South, East and Seikkan Dagon. A plan is underway to give educative talks on car free day,” said Chairman of

the Educative Talks and Discipline Enforcement Committee U Hla Thaug Myint.

Although the vehicles with black number plates will be prohibited on the car free day, taxis with read plate, religious vehicles with yellow plates, diplomatic vehicles and UN vehicles with white plates and tourists vehicles with blue plates will be allowed normally, it was learnt.

“It is a test. The region minister has allowed to issue information. As it falls on Sunday, the process is expected to be smooth and

easy,” he added.

The vehicles that did not abide by the disciplines will be taken action under supervision. The system has been realized for the vehicles of the defence services since 50 years. Dry day system was also practised for departmental vehicles twice a month in the past.

The Car Free Day will be organized by Yangon Region government, and necessary preparations are being made for the new system.

*Kyemon-Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)*

### Thiri Yadana Myoma Market Coop holds third anniversary

LEWE, 7 Sept—The Thiri Yadana Myoma Market Cooperative Society held the 10th Anniversary at its office on 30 August afternoon.

Chairman of the society U Kyaw Win made a speech. Chairman of the market committee U Nyunt Maung submitted the financial report and presented gifts to those who put largest amount of savings to the society.

*Kyemon-Lewe IPRD*





## WORLD

## Obama rejects G20 pressure to abandon Syria air strike plan



US President Barack Obama speaks to the media during a news conference at the G20 summit in St Petersburg on 6 Sept 2013.—REUTERS

ST PETERSBURG, (Russia), 7 Sept—US President Barack Obama resisted pressure on Friday to abandon plans for air strikes against Syria and enlisted the support of 10 fellow leaders for a “strong” response to a chemical weapons attack.

Obama refused to blink after Russian President Vladimir Putin led a campaign to talk him out of military intervention at a two-day summit of the Group

of Twenty developed and developing economies in St Petersburg.

He persuaded nine other G20 nations plus Spain to join the United States in signing a statement calling for a strong international response, although it fell short of supporting military strikes, underscoring the deep disagreements that dominated the summit.

A senior US official said German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the only

European leader at the summit who did not sign the statement, held off because she wanted to let the European Union have a chance to weigh in first.

Leaders of the G20, which accounts for 90 percent of the world economy and two-thirds of its population, put aside their differences to unite behind a call for growth and jobs and agreed the global economy was on the mend but not out of crisis.

But there was no joint statement on Syria, despite a 20-minute one-on-one talk between Obama and Putin on the sidelines of the summit on Friday, following a tense group discussion on the civil war over dinner late on Thursday.

“We hear one another, and understand the arguments but we don’t agree. I don’t agree with his arguments, he doesn’t agree with mine,” Putin told a closing news conference dominated by questions about Syria.—Reuters

## US urges N Korea to comply with int’l obligations

SEOUL, 7 Sept—The top US diplomat on East Asia on Friday urged North Korea to fully comply with its international obligations, saying such a move will guarantee its security and economic prosperity.

Daniel Russel, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, made the remarks to reporters following a meeting with senior South Korean Foreign Ministry officials.

“Only by full compliance with its international obligations with the UN Security Council resolutions, only by adhering to its own commitments under the six-party process, can North Korea achieve security, let alone respect, let alone prosperity and economic growth that it says it wants,” he said.

Russel stressed the goal of the long-stalled six-party talks is “complete and verifiable denuclearization”

of North Korea and urged Pyongyang to realize that “its security and interests are undermined by its pursuit of nuclear weapons and its nuclear programme.”

The six-party talks among the two Koreas, the United States, China, Japan and Russia have been deadlocked since late 2008. Russel, who arrived on Thursday in South Korea for a three-day visit on the first leg of a five-country Asian tour, has held talks with South Korea’s chief nuclear envoy Cho Tae Yong, 1st Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kyou Hyun and Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Lee Kyung Soo.

Commenting on the crisis in Syria, Russel said he discussed the issue with officials in Seoul and supports a statement issued 31 August by South Korea’s Foreign Ministry that strongly condemned the Syrian government for using chemical weapons against civilians near Damascus on 21 August.—Kyodo News



Daniel Russel (L), US assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, holds talks with South Korean First Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kyou Hyun in Seoul on 6 Sept 2013.—KYODO NEWS

## Uncertainty around Italian coalition ahead of Senate vote

ROME, 7 Sept — The uncertainty that has weighed on Italian politics for weeks continued on Friday, with allies of Silvio Berlusconi playing down the risk of a crisis that could topple Prime Minister Enrico Letta’s fragile coalition government.

Angelino Alfano, secretary of Berlusconi’s People of Freedom party (PDL), welcomed a statement from President Giorgio Napolitano on Thursday in which the head of state said he expected Berlusconi to continue supporting Letta.

“President Napolitano’s confidence in Berlusconi is well placed,” Alfano said in a message posted on Twitter.

The PDL has alternated between offering support to Letta and threatening to bring his government down ever since Italy’s top court confirmed a verdict last month convicting Berlusconi of tax fraud and sentencing him to a four-year jail term.

On Thursday, one of the 76-year-old billionaire’s most loyal lieuten-



Italian President Giorgio Napolitano (L) discuss with EU Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (R) before a family photo during the celebration of the accession of Croatia to the European Union at St. Mark’s Square in Zagreb on 30 June 2013.

REUTERS

ants said he had already recorded a video in which he could announce his withdrawal from the unwieldy coalition of left and right reformed after deadlocked elections in February.

The growing tension prompted Napolitano, who would have to decide whether to order new elections in the event of a government collapse, to warn that a crisis would expose Italy to “extremely serious risks”.

“I read Napolitano’s remarks very positively. I

see it as a 360-degree call for responsibility,” the PDL parliamentary floor leader in the lower house, Renato Brunetta, told reporters at the margins of a conference in Cernobbio, outside Milan.

A special cross-party Senate panel that will vote on whether to begin proceedings to expel Berlusconi from parliament begins meeting on Monday although it may be several weeks before the process is complete.

Letta’s centre-left

Democratic Party (PD) insists it sees no margin for flexibility and will vote to strip Berlusconi of his seat, while the PDL says that the law under which he could be forced out should not apply because it was passed after the events over which he was convicted.

The political ructions have caused growing nervousness on financial markets and reawakened memories of the turmoil which saw Berlusconi’s last government driven from power at the height of the euro zone crisis in 2011.

“There are so many things that need to be done. We need an Italy that is stable in political, economic and financial terms,” Letta said at a news conference after the meeting of the Group of 20 economic powers in St Petersburg.

Uncertainty about Berlusconi’s intentions has left even close supporters perplexed and added to unease in his party, which is split between hardliners pressing him to bring down the government and moderates looking for an arrangement that would avoid a crisis.

Reuters

## UN envoy, Russia say striking Syria would hurt chance for peace

ST PETERSBURG, (Russia), 7 Sept— Russia and the international peace envoy for Syria warned on Friday that US military action against Syria would be illegal without UN Security Council approval and would undermine the chances for a political solution to the conflict.

Remarks by UN-Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi and Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, after a meeting with ministers from several other G20 states, added to pressure on President Barack Obama to refrain from ordering

strikes.

“International law says that no country is allowed to take the law into their hands — they have to go through the Security Council,” Brahimi told reporters in a joint appearance with Lavrov after the talks on the sidelines of a G20 summit.

Lavrov said that “a clear understanding is taking shape among many responsible states that the use of force, bypassing the Security Council, would essentially put an end to efforts to reach a political settlement and convene an international conference.”—Reuters



Arab League-United Nations envoy Lakhdar Brahimi gestures during a news conference on the situation in Syria at the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva on 28 Aug 2013.—REUTERS



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## NASA robotic spacecraft lifts off to probe lunar dust



The small car-sized Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer (LADEE) is a robotic mission that will orbit the moon to gather detailed information about the structure and composition of the thin lunar atmosphere and determine whether dust is being lofted into the lunar sky is pictured at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility on Wallops Island, Virginia on 5 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

PORTLAND, 7 Sept — An unmanned Minotaur 5 rocket blasted off from the Virginia coast on Friday to send a small NASA science satellite on its way to the moon, officials said. The Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer spacecraft, known as

LADEE, was designed to look for dust rising from the lunar surface, a phenomenon reported by the Apollo astronauts decades ago.

"For the first time in 40 years, we have the opportunity to address that mystery," project scientist Richard Elphic, with

NASA's Ames Research Centre in Moffett Field, California, said during a launch broadcast on NASA TV. From an orbit as low as about 31 miles above the lunar surface, LADEE also will probe the thin pocket of gases surrounding the moon. The tenuous atmosphere, which contains argon, helium, sodium, potassium and other elements, may hold clues about how water came to be trapped inside craters on the moon's frozen poles.

"We're taught in grade school and probably junior high that the moon has no atmosphere," Elphic said. "Indeed it does have an atmosphere, but it's utterly unlike our own atmosphere. It's very tenuous," he said. LADEE's 30-day trip to the moon began with an 11:27 pm EDT/0327 GMT Saturday liftoff of a five-stage Minotaur rocket making its debut flight. The first three stages are decommissioned intercontinental ballistic

missile motors, and the last two stages are commercial motors manufactured by Alliant Techsystems Inc. The rocket blasted off from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA's Wallops Island Flight Facility, the first deep-space mission to fly from the Virginia spaceport.

Weather permitting, the rocket was expected to be visible from Maine to eastern North Carolina, and as far west as Wheeling, West Virginia. New Yorkers were due to be treated to a live televised view of the launch on the Toshiba Vision Screen in Times Square, just below the site where the famous New Year's Eve ball is dropped. The use of decommissioned missile components drove the decision to fly from Wallops Island, one of only a few launch sites permitted to fly refurbished ICBMs under US-Russian arms control agreements.

Reuters

## Apple hit with US injunction in e-books antitrust case

NEW YORK, 7 Sept — A US judge who found Apple Inc conspired to fix e-book prices imposed new restrictions on the iPad maker on Friday, limiting its agreements with publishers. US District Judge Denise Cote in New York also said she would appoint an external monitor to review Apple's antitrust compliance policies, procedures and training for two years.

The injunction was narrower than the US Justice Department had sought, in line with Cote's statement last week that she wanted it "to rest as lightly as possible on how Apple runs its business." The department had sought a broader injunction that could have affected Apple's agreements with suppliers of movies, music and TV shows. Cote

ruled on July 10 that Apple was liable for conspiring with five publishers to raise e-book prices above those established by the dominant retailer in the market, Amazon.com Inc.

The five publishers, all of which have settled with regulators, include Lagardere SCA's Hachette Book Group Inc, News Corp's HarperCollins Publishers LLC, Penguin Random House LLC, CBS Corp's Simon & Schuster Inc and Verlagsgruppe Georg von Holtzbrinck GmbH's Macmillan. The terms of Friday's judgment will expire after five years, but Cote's order allows for extensions in one-year increments if necessary. The Justice Department welcomed the injunction.

Reuters



A woman holds up an iPad with the iTunes U app after a news conference introducing a digital textbook service in New York in this 19 Jan, 2012, file photo.

REUTERS

## Deutsche Telekom applies for sports betting license



The logo of Deutsche Telekom is seen at a store in Bonn, on 3 April, 2013.

REUTERS

FRANKFURT, 7 Sept — Deutsche Telekom has applied for a sports betting license which could pit the telecommunications company against online gambling companies competing for a limited number of concessions.

The matter is still at a very early stage, a spokesman for Deutsche Telekom told Reuters on Friday, adding that the application was being reviewed by the Interior Ministry of the German state of Hesse.

"It is not yet certain whether that will turn into an operating business," the spokesman said. A ministry spokesman declined to comment on the matter. Germany's states have agreed to grant 20 conces-

sions to companies to offer sports bets nationwide.

They have long maintained tight control of the online gambling and sports betting market, citing the risk of widespread gambling addiction in an unregulated scenario.

Betting companies like Bwin.party Digital Entertainment has been pressing for the rest of Germany to adopt the more liberal approach that had been pioneered by the northern state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Other British-listed gambling companies like William Hill and Betfair have scaled back their operations in Germany because of tax and regulatory hurdles.

Reuters

## MYANMAR ON THE MOVE

The following is the reproduction of the Myanmar Hotel and Tourism Guide 2013—Ed

## Arriving

## Nay Pyi Taw Airport

Nay Pyi Taw Airport opened in early 2006 and is about 30 minutes from the administrative capital, Nay Pyi Taw. All domestic carriers operate from Nay Pyi Taw to the commercial capital, Yangon, and the cultural capital, Mandalay, as well as to other destinations, such as Sittway and Heho.



## Yangon International Airport

About 15 kilometres (9 miles) from downtown Yangon, the airport boasts attractively-designed arrival and departure terminals offering good services and facilities. Airlines operating at the airport include Myanmar Airways International, Air Bagan, Air Mandalay, Thai Airways International, Thai AirAsia, Bangkok Airways, Silk Air, Jetstar Asia, Indian Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, China Southern Airlines, China Airlines, Vietnam Airlines, Korean Airlines, Qatar Airlines, EVA Airlines, All Nippon Airways and Dragon Airlines.

## Mandalay International Airport

About 35 kilometres (21 miles) south of downtown Mandalay, the country's second international airport has similar services and facilities to those available at Yangon International Airport. China Eastern Airlines operates regular flights between Mandalay and Kunming and the airport is also served by domestic carriers.

## Overland entry

Overland entry is permitted to Thai, Chinese and Indian tourists with border passes and to third party tourists with visa at designated checkpoints along Myanmar's borders with Thailand, China and India. Prior permission is required for tourists entering the country through border checkpoints.

## Air

Air travel often is the best form of transport as it saves time. Domestic carriers Yangon Airways, Myanmar Airways, Air Mandalay and Air Bagan, Asian Wings, Air KBZ, Golden Myanmar Airlines, fly to more than 32 destinations throughout the country. It can be cheaper to book through travel agents than directly with the airlines.

## Express trains

Though a move leisurely and comfortable form of transport, international travellers mainly use the line between Yangon and Mandalay. Myanmar Railways long-distance trains offer first and economy class compartments, sleeping berths and reclining seats. Tickets are available at railway stations and it is recommended to buy them one day in advance.

## Express coaches

It is possible to travel by air-conditioned coach to most tourist attractions throughout the country. Two highway bus terminals in the capital, Nay Pyi Taw, provide transportation services to major cities including Yangon and Mandalay. Several highway bus services in Yangon operate to destinations throughout the country, including Golden Rock, Bagan and NyaungU, Inlay Lake, Mrauk-U, Chaungtha and Ngwe Saung beaches near Patheingyi, and Ngapali beach near Thandwe. There are two highway bus terminals in Mandalay, offering services to destinations in central, upper and eastern Myanmar.

## Intra-city transportation

Taxis are widely available in Yangon. Taxis are metered and the rate is K150 a kilometre, plus and extra K500. However, it is best to bargain the cost of the fare in advance of any trip. Public buses are available in major cities such as Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw. Inter-city buses also operate throughout the country. Trishaws and horse carts are also used as transport in many parts of the country. Trishaws are common in Yangon and horse carts operate at Pyin Oo Lwin, Bagan and some other destinations in Upper Myanmar. Many visitors to Yangon enjoy trips on the city's circular railway, which links the downtown area with outlying suburbs.



**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Substance use relates to recidivism**

VANCOUVER, 7 Sept — Offenders with mental disorders are not as strongly associated with repeating crime as may be commonly thought, but offenders with substance use do have higher odds of recidivism, according to a new Canadian study.

The study, published earlier this week in the American Psychological Association's *Journal of Psychology, Public Policy and Law*, was based on a two-year research of more than 31,000 offenders in the Canadian province of British Columbia. According to researchers, abundant research confirms a high prevalence of substance use and mental disorders in correctional samples as the causes that lead to recidivism.

However, it is still unclear how these two reasons contribute to the risk of repeat offending. In the study, the researchers found offenders with non-substance-related mental disorders were at no greater risk of recidivism than those with no diagnosis. In contrast, nearly 50 percent of repeat offenders had a physician-diagnosed substance use disorder in the 5 years prior to their offense. It's the first study of its kind to use such a large and diverse sample, said Julian Somers, a Simon Fraser University health sciences professor on the research team. "This study highlights the fact that substance use problems are associated with reoffending," he said.—Xinhua

**Dieter Zetsche (L), CEO of German carmaker Daimler, and Mercedes production boss Andreas Renschler pose with a new Mercedes-Benz S400 hybrid car in Sindelfingen near Stuttgart, on 12 June, 2013.—REUTERS**

**Taipei 101 skyscraper attracting booming mainlander numbers**

TAIPEI, 7 Sept — Taipei's landmark skyscraper Taipei 101 is attracting more than 1 million visitors from the Chinese mainland annually, the tower's spokesman revealed on Friday.

It is difficult to count the exact number of mainland visitors to the site, but the observatory of Taipei 101 receives about 6,000 to 7,000 people every day, and about 55 percent of them are from the mainland, spokesman Michael Liu said, noting that the figure seems to have started surging from 2008. Moreover, the mainlanders are also bringing about a boost to the tower's shopping section, according to Liu. The sum of tax reimbursement the tower handled for mainlanders in 2009 rocketed 665 percent from the previous year and has kept increasing by 50 to 60 percent annually thereafter, he said.

Based on tax refund statistics, it can be esti-



mated that visitors from the mainland have spent 2.34 billion New Taiwan Dollars (NTD; about 78.5 million US dollars) on shopping in Taipei 101, and that they spent 1.7 billion within only the first eight months this year. In 2009, consumption by mainlanders in Taipei 101 amounted to 500 million NTD, Liu said. The spokesman said Taipei 101 values the huge potential of mainland consumers and is planning to set up a special team to provide customized

services for them.

In addition to a growing number of tourists, the tower has also attracted 13 mainland enterprises as tenants to set up offices in the building since Taipei 101 opened for mainland investors, according to Liu. Taipei 101, measuring 509.2 meters high, was the tallest building in the world until 2010. It has 101 floors above ground and five underground. It is regarded as a must-see item on Taipei tourist itineraries.—Xinhua

**CEO tells paper Daimler to build Mercedes compact cars in Brazil**

FRANKFURT, 7 Sept — German carmaker Daimler (DAIGN.DE) plans to build a new Mercedes factory in Brazil to benefit from growing demand for compact cars in the country, its chief executive told a German newspaper.

*Stuttgarter Zeitung* cited the luxury carmaker's CEO Dieter Zetsche as saying Daimler would choose this year between two or three lo-

cations it had shortlisted for the plant in Brazil. He told the daily's Saturday edition it would not have been profitable to export compact cars to Brazil. "With the new compact class we have cars on offer that are attractive and can be produced at low costs, making them a good fit for this market," Zetsche said.

"It was simply a question of either producing in Brazil or not to be present

there at all in this segment. Our decision is: We want to take part." Zetsche did not specify the model to be built there. Daimler defines its compact class as comprising the A-class and B-class as well as GLA and CLA models. Daimler said last month it was considering such a move but had made no decision yet.

Luxury carmakers are flocking to Brazil in an attempt to exploit growing demand. Brazil's government complicated their plans, however, with an effort to protect local jobs by increasing a tax on foreign-made cars last year. Brazil's auto industry lobby group on Thursday raised its 2013 production outlook helped by exports, mainly to the United States.—Reuters



**Study finds fewer female soccer injuries on artificial turf**

NEW YORK, 7 Sept — Female soccer players suffered fewer severe injuries while competing on an artificial surface called FieldTurf than when playing on natural grass fields, in a new study. Researchers found women's college teams had an average of 7.7 injuries — both minor and serious — for every 10 matches played on FieldTurf, compared to 9.5 injuries per 10 matches on grass.

Most competitive collegiate soccer seasons consist of 20 to 25 matches.

The findings suggest "FieldTurf is a practical alternative to natural grass," study author Michael Meyers of Idaho State University in Pocatello told *Reuters Health*. Early versions of synthetic turf that appeared in the late 1960s and 1970s were sometimes little more than a layer of thick, carpet-like material

laid over concrete, he said. In today's US artificial surface market, more than 30 companies compete with proprietary mixes of what the industry calls "infill systems," which can include rubber, silica sand and polyethylene fibers. Montreal-based FieldTurf, which funded 40 percent of the current study, relies on a blend of silica sand and cryogenically ground rubber for its fields. Estimates

vary, but artificial field turf surfaces can last up to 10 years, with initial installment costs ranging from \$800,000 to \$1 million and annual maintenance fees of about \$2,500.

"As the impact of the game increases, as the adverse weather worsens, FieldTurf provides a more consistent surface," than grass fields, said Meyers, who does not own any stock in the company.—Reuters

**UNSG's message on International Literacy Day**

8 September 2013

More than 773 million young people and adults around the world cannot read this message. They are among the ranks of our fellow citizens who have not yet gained full literacy skills. They may not be able to fill out a job application, decipher a bus timetable or read a story aloud to their children. Two out of three are women who are denied this essential ingredient to full participation in society.

In our knowledge-based era, literacy is a foundation for a more just, inclusive and sustainable world. It can advance all the Millennium Development Goals. Literacy enables people to gain access to information to improve their health and nutrition, widen their livelihood options, cope with environmental change and make informed choices.

When we invest in learning and literacy, we invest in human dignity, development and peace. That is why I launched the Global Education First Initiative, which focuses on ensuring that every child can go to school. Worldwide, at least 250 million primary-school-age children cannot read, write or count. Half of these girls and boys never make it to school or are pushed out before their fourth year. Another 200 million adolescents, including those who completed secondary school, do not have basic literacy skills — and so our initiative also focuses on improving the quality of education as well as fostering global citizenship.

I urge all countries to make education and literacy national priorities and to work with partners across society to advance these goals. By promoting literacy, we can help millions of people write their own chapter of opportunity in their lives and our common future.

UNIC/Yangon



**Cookies and cakes can be seen at a booth during the 2013 World Food fair in Istanbul on 6 Sept, 2013. More than 400 food producers and companies from 28 countries and regions participated in the exhibition opened here on Friday.—XINHUA**

**Harman CEO says worst over for European car market**

BERLIN, 7 Sept — US audio systems maker Harman International Industries Inc said that Europe's automotive industry, which accounts for most of its sales, has already bottomed out and may show modest recovery in the current fiscal year. There are indications that the European car market, where sales dropped to a two-decade low, might be turning the corner, with the region's two top carmakers — Daimler and Volkswagen — reporting healthy profits for the second quarter.

"The rate of decline has slowed down and is close to zero now," Chief Executive Dinesh Paliwal told *Reuters* on the sidelines of IFA, Europe's largest consumer electronics trade show,

which opened its doors on Friday." For the current fiscal year we assume in our planning for the European auto sector a flat to 1 percent decline from last year. We hope it will be zero to 1 percent plus." Harman, whose brands include JBL and Harman Kardon, is the largest player in the in-car entertainment market, which accounts for more than half its sales. It caters to luxury carmakers such as Daimler AG, Fiat SpA's Ferrari sports cars and Volkswagen's Audi brand.

Harman's sales to German carmakers accounted for 43 percent of its revenue for the year ended June 2012, with carmakers in the rest of Europe bringing in another 20 percent.

Reuters



## WORLD

## France seeks EU backing for Syria stance but meets scepticism

VILNIUS, 7 Sept—France, which backs military action to punish Syria for a deadly chemical weapons attack, tried to rally support from its European Union partners on Friday but met scepticism from governments wary of turning their backs on the United Nations.

French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius sought agreement from EU counterparts meeting in the Lithuanian capital Vilnius that President Bashar al-Assad's government was responsible for an 21 August gas attack that the United States says killed more than 1,400 people, a source close to Fabius said.

But he was rebuffed by German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle and other ministers who said countries contemplating military action must await the findings of UN chemical weapons inspectors,

which could take weeks.

After British Prime Minister David Cameron failed to win parliamentary backing for military strikes, France is the only major military power lining up behind US President Barack Obama, who is seeking a go-ahead from Congress.

Some EU nations oppose a military strike, making it hard for the 28-nation bloc to forge a common position.

US Secretary of State John Kerry is due to join the EU ministers in Vilnius on Saturday to discuss Syria and the Middle East peace process. "We believe that it is necessary to wait for the report of the UN chemical weapons experts before taking any further decisions, also on possible measures of a military nature. That's our appeal to those who talk and think about military measures," Westerwelle told reporters in Vilnius.

## US spy agencies decry latest Snowden revelations



NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden, an analyst with a US defence contractor, is seen in this still image taken from video during an interview by *The Guardian* in his hotel room in Hong Kong on 6 June, 2013.

REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 7 Sept—US spy agencies said on Friday that the latest media revelations based on leaks from former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden will likely damage US and allied intelligence efforts.

On Thursday, the *Guardian*, the *New York Times* and journalistic non-profit ProPublica published stories saying the security agency has secretly developed the ability to crack or circumvent commonplace Internet encryption used to protect everything from email to financial transactions. The stories were based on documents made public by Snowden, now a fugitive living under asylum in Russia.

The reports also said the NSA had worked with Government Communi-

cations Headquarters, its British partner, and had used a variety of means, ranging from the insertion of "back doors" in popular tech products and services, to supercomputers, secret court orders and the manipulation of international processes for setting encryption standards.

In a statement on Friday, the Office of the US Director of National Intelligence, which said it was speaking on behalf of all US spy agencies, did not confirm details of the media reports.

The statement did acknowledge that the US intelligence community "would not be doing its job" if it did not try to counter the use of encryption by such adversaries as "terrorists, cybercriminals, human traffickers and others."—Reuters



Germany had urged UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to speed up publication of the report, Westerwelle said.

He also said Germany was in "extraordinarily close talks with the Russians" to try to make progress on the diplomatic track.—Reuters

## New York proclaims September as Preparedness Month

NEW YORK, 7 Sept—The US state of New York proclaimed September as Preparedness Month on Friday, encouraging individuals, families and businesses to take this opportunity to review their disaster plans and become better prepared for any emergency.

"New York has experienced some of the most devastating natural disasters in our state's history in recent years, as well as the worst terrorist attack on US soil in our nation's history," New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo said.

"This September, I urge all New Yorkers to

France's President Francois Hollande (R) speaks with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius (L) and Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault before a National Security Council meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris on 28 Aug, 2013.

REUTERS

form emergency plans and make sure they are prepared in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. Doing so is an important way to protect your family and can make all the difference in an emergency."

Preparedness Month is a national effort, now in its ninth year, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Ready Campaign in partnership with Citizen Corps.

It is designed to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and communities.—Xinhua

## Syria, Egypt turmoil nudges Israel, Palestinians toward peace

VILNIUS, 7 Sept—Turmoil in Syria and Egypt is nudging Israelis and Palestinians toward peace, a US official said on Friday as Secretary of State John Kerry flew to Europe for talks about that conflict and a possible US strike on Syrian targets.

While the chief US diplomat's three-day trip was originally designed to focus on Israeli-Palestinian peace talks and will include a lengthy meeting with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in London on Sunday, Syria is sure to consume many of his conversations with European and Arab diplomats. Kerry will meet Euro-

pean Union foreign ministers in the Lithuanian capital on Saturday as the US Congress weighs whether to give President Barack Obama the authority to conduct military strikes on Syria following an 21 August attack in which Washington accuses Damascus of using sarin gas to kill at least 1,400 Syrians.

The White House has argued that any strike would aim to deter Syria, and others, from using chemical weapons and it has denied any intention of getting enmeshed in Syria's civil war.

A senior US State Department official said Syria's civil war, as well as upheaval in Egypt, whose

## Message from Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of the International Literacy Day 8 September 2013

Literacy is a basic right and an essential motor for human development. It paves the way to autonomy, the acquisition of skills, cultural expression and full participation in society.

Illiteracy in the world has fallen over the two decades, thanks to international efforts and work towards the Millennium Development Goals. Today, 84% of the world's population can read and write, compared to 76% in 1990. In 20 years, the illiterate population has been reduced by more than 100 million people.

This is still not enough. Behind these figures there are still serious inequalities. Two thirds of the 774 million illiterate adults in the world are women. Most of the children and young people who do not go to school are girls. Fifty-seven million primary school-age children and 69 million secondary school-age children do not have the opportunity to attend. Children lucky enough to go to school do not always leave being able to read and write. Even in economically developed countries, the proportion of the population lacking basic reading and writing skills is too high. This is a serious obstacle to individual fulfillment, to the development of societies and to mutual understanding between peoples.

This situation is exacerbated by the rise of new technologies and modern knowledge societies that make the ability to read and write all the more essential. Literacy is the first condition for dialogue, communication and integration into new connected societies. Young people need new skills to enter and succeed in the job market: knowledge of several languages, understanding of cultural diversity, lifelong learning. Literacy is the key for acquiring knowledge, interpersonal skills, expertise and the ability to live together in community – all skills that are the foundations of modern society. In the twenty-first century, more than ever before, literacy is the cornerstone of peace and development.

Literacy is much more than an educational priority – it is the ultimate investment in the future and the first step towards all the new forms of literacy required in the twenty-first century. We wish to see a century where every child is able to read and to use this skill to gain autonomy. On this International Literacy Day, we call on governments to work together to achieve this dream. This requires new funding, policies drawn up with the populations concerned, new and more innovative forms of action, taking full advantage of new technologies. The progress made in recent years shows that this is possible, and UNESCO is committed to doing all that it can to make it happen.—UNIC/Yangon



A boy stands near an Israeli flag in the West Bank Jewish settlement of Ofra, north of Ramallah on 18 July, 2013.—REUTERS

army ousted Islamist Mohamed Mursi, its first freely elected president, gives Israelis and Palestinians an incentive to end their conflict.

"Both sides have made clear to us and to each other

that they do not want the turmoil to engulf them and that therefore it motivates them to try to resolve their conflict to prevent that from happening," the official told reporters with Kerry.

Reuters



LOCAL NEWS

Anti-Narcotic Drives

Talks on drug menace given to children

YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talk on prevention of drug abuse was organized by General Administration Department in Yankin Township in Yangon East District at the hall of menace Education High School No (2) on 5 September morning. Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Aye Kyaw,

Police Inspector Nay Lin Tun and Township Health Officer Dr Tun Thura gave talks on dangers of drugs. *MMAL-Thin Maung (Yankin)*

Educative talks on dangers of drugs given



YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talks on dangers of drugs was held in Mya Wutyi Hall of Basic Education High School No (1) in Kyimyindine Township here

on 31 August morning. Township Administrator U Kyaw Ye Thway delivered an address at the ceremony.

Police Inspector Soe Thin of Township Police Force gave talks on minor rape cases and Supervising Officer of West District Anti-Narcotics Squad Police Sub-Inspector Khin Maung Thein on the abuse of drugs. *MMAL-Kogyi Tin*

Festival

130<sup>th</sup> PhaungtawU Pagoda festival to be organized on 12-19 Sept



MEIKTILA, 7 Sept—The 130<sup>th</sup> Pagoda Festival of historic PhaungtawU Pagoda will be organized in Meiktila in Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 12-19 September.

traditional boat races will be held in the ceremony of the landmark PhaungtawU Pagoda of Meiktila.

Displaying shops at the corners of Yangon-Mandalay road and urban roads were permitted in

the pagoda festival period. To prevent traffic jams and other traffic accidents, the shops will not be allowed at the corner of the road.

*MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)*

Road in Thanlyin Tsp upgraded

YANGON, 7 Sept—Bogyoke Ne Win Road is a major road in Thanlyin Township in Yangon South District. The road was damaged by heavy rain in the township on several days. The Township Development Affairs Committee has upgraded the road to a concrete one. *MMAL-Township IPRD*



TWANTAY, 7 Sept—Twantay is the western township with largest area among five townships in Yangon South District.

Three motorized boat named Myat Thanda, Cittathukha and Cedana as ambulances provide free services round the clock.

U Nay Lin Htaik of Ngwe Pan Su Village in Twantay Township has donated three motorboats to be used as ambulances for villages accessible through waterways.

Local people in Twantay welcomed the move as it could save many lives in the region with poor transportation.—*MMAL-Myo Hlaing (Twantay)*

Prevention of violence against women

YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talk on prevention of violence against women was organized by Botahtaung Township Women's Affairs Organization in Yangon East District at the Township General Administration Department office on 31 August. Chairperson of Women's Affairs Organization Daw Cho Zin Thant delivered an address at the ceremony, calling for awareness of the people.

Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Sein Ngwe gave talks on ways to prevent



violence against women with examples.

Secretary of Township WAO Daw Mi Mi Aung gave talks on dos and don'ts for ladies to distance themselves

Talks

from violence. Members of WAO and teenage participated in discussion.

*MMAL-Aung Than (Mingala Taungnyunt)*

Kalay University organizes bodybuilding contests

KALAY, 7 Sept—Kalay University in Sagaing Region organized Mr and Ms Bodybuilding contests at Zalatni Hall of the university on 31 August.

The Champion

Bodybuilding club and Kalay University Bodybuilding Club fielded nine contestants in Mr Bodybuilding contest.

A total of 19 contestants participated in

Ms Bodybuilding contest. The rector and wife, the pro-rector, professors, heads of departments and instructors presented prizes to winners.

*MMAL-Shin Nay Min*

Mini book corners updated monthly

YANGON, 7 Sept—Book corners are opened in various public places to broaden horizons of the people by keeping books in their easy reach.

Publications from various genres of politics, economics, sociology, education, health, agriculture, civic responsibility, religion, sports, biography and science and technology are updated at the mini book corners each month.

Staff Officers and staff of Information and Public Relations Departments in Pabedan and Seikkan townships in Yangon Region are busy refreshing mini book corners at Pagoda Road



Station, Region Health Department, Nan Thida Jetty, Pansoedan-Dalla Jetty, Sin-O-Dan Jetty, Inland Water Transport ticketing booth, Botahtaung jetty with new books this month. A new mini book corner has been established

at the office of Kyauktada Township Immigration and National Registration Department.

Publications donated wellwishers are also kept at the book corner.

*MMAL-Swe Swe Naing (MNA)*

Health

Three motorboat to serve as ambulances in Twantay





## Shamanism in Myanmar (Part I)

(Continued from  
yesterday)

As a result, Vedas and astrology became the most popularly believed and consulted subject till today in Myanmar.

According to Hindu astrology, our Earth has eleven directions—east, west, north, south, north-east, north-west, south-east, south-west, up [above or heaven], below [down or hell] and centre [kate]. A man is born in harmony with the position of planets and heavenly bodies at the exact date and time of his delivery from the womb of his mother. Thus these astrological positions, date and time of birth are recorded on a specially prepared palm leaf in astrological diagrams, numbers and letters by a Hindu Brahmin astrologer [shaman of astrology]. Such birth certificates are called horoscopes. Your name is inscribed on the horoscope according to the day you were born. These are two variations of Monday and Wednesday. Born on Monday morning is Monday-born but Monday afternoon is called “Kate”. Born on Wednesday morning is Wednesday-born but born on Wednesday afternoon is called “Rahu”. These two days are the only ones which have two astrological names depending upon times.

Regardless of his professed religion, almost every Myanmar has that horoscope made and kept with him for life. When he wants to know about his future, when he is sick or, when he is in trouble or difficulty, or in distress, or when he is making a plan, he will go to consult a shaman astrologer easily found in a pagoda compound or at market place or at his own house. Shaman astrologer will examine your horoscope. He will work out the astrological mathematical formula of old Vedic Treatises he has with him. Based upon the results of his calculations, he will prescribe the dos and the don'ts to you. There are two types of prescriptions—

short term prescription directs you to do merits such as offering flowers, fruits, water, candle, incense to the planet post of your birthday. Planet posts with

Buddha statues on the top and planet animal statues below are always found at almost all pagodas and temples in Myanmar. Names of planets and their numbers are given in print or carvings at planet posts. There are stalls nearby which supply all sorts of offertories you need at reasonable price. There are agents [Shamans] who will chant and pray for you. They are hanging around planet posts. You tip them for their shaman's service. But you can perform your prescription yourself.

### Maha Saddhamma Jotika dhaja Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt

Long term prescription will tell you which days are lucky and which days are unlucky, which planet-born people are your friend and which planet-born are your enemies, auspicious days and time for your business, planning and travel etc, etc.

Only after your performing of the short term prescription, you pay respect to the Buddha. Finally you go to nearby bell or gong to strike or beat three times to announce to all sentient beings your good deeds and invite them to take their share of your good deeds. After these performances, you feel psychologically released of all your worries and you gain self-confidence to face all difficulties.

There are seer shamans in Myanmar. They are of any age- old, middle, young or even child of both genders, monk or layman. There was a special type of shaman seers in Myanmar history. To cite two most prominent ones are (1) Bo Bo Aung and (2) Aung Min Gaung. They have their own shrines and consulting rooms separately or in the compound of pagodas and temples.

In Buddhism, there are two types of meditation (1) Samatha and (2) Vipassana. Samatha is concentration of mind. Vipassana is insight meditation to find and observe reality behind all illusions. People who practice Samatha meditation for a long period and have reached an advanced stage, acquire the power of seeing the future and can predict. Such people are known as Bo-daws who keep on meditating Samatha. If they

are consulted, they will help the consulter only for good cause, never for evil cause. They would not practice their power for profit motive. They must not or will not commercialize their power of seeing and prediction. The two Bo-daws mentioned above are no more. But their statues are kept in special houses. There are shamans to contact with these Bo-daws. You are required to give a standard offertory of three bunches of bananas with a green coconut in the middle decorated with flowers,

fruits and candles. Shaman agent will invite Bo-daw and offer your offertories in mantra-like chanting. Through him you ask what you like to the Bo-daws, but only for good cause—your health, success, prosperity, marriage, business, etc. Bo-daws, through shaman agent will tell you to do good merit, such as keeping five moral precepts [Pancha Sila], meditate every day, do some charity works, promise never to do evil deeds. Shaman agent will tell you what he hears the whispers of Bo-daws. Cash and kind donated go to religious and social welfare funds. You tip the shaman.

In this connection, we should also mention foreign Bo-daws who co-exist with native Bo-daws. The late Hindu seer Sai Ba Ba was and is still popular in Myanmar. His photographs or statues are found in shrines where believers go to consult for their present and future. Like Myanmar Bo-daws, Sai Ba Ba will help only for wholesome cause and purpose, never for evil ones. Cash and kind donated must be used for communal welfare. Similarly Chinese god Fat “Laughing Buddha Hoti” and Goddess of Mercy “Gyanyinn” are also worshipped, and consulted directly by you originally. But today a sort of shaman appeared in their temples. Believers come and kneel in front of their idols and pray. Then shake a container with wooden or bamboo sticks on which letters and numbers are written until one stick comes out and drops. Pick it up and take it

to the counter in the temple a man or a woman, a priest or a nun in-charge reads the letter and number on the stick and issues to you the paper of prescription and prediction according to the letters and number of your stick. You carry out what the prescription directs you. Cash and kind donated go to the upkeep of the temple and community welfare. Those at the counter are not shaman. They are only in-charge by turn at the temple.

*Hindu gods, goddesses and shamans in Myanmar:* Hindu deities—Vishu, Siva, Brahm, Ganesh [Maha Peinne] Swaravati are worshipped by Myanmar people. There are Hindu temples across the country. You may directly contact and consult these deities. But there are Hindu priests who act as agent between you and deities. Ganesh [known to Myanmar as Maha Peinne] the elephant headed god as worshipped by Myanmar kings who held state festival to honour Ganesh annually in the month of December. It is believed that Ganesh brings you prosperity, longevity, glory, good rain, good harvest and immunity from all dangers and diseases. There is another Hindu goddess of learning culture, fine and performing arts “Swaravati”. She rides a beautiful bird – peacock or Hamsa or a Bramany duck or a pheasant. Students sitting for examinations, and all artists, actors, singers, film stars, fashion designers worship and consult her. There is a woman or a girl acting as a shaman agent at the temple. She will beat or ring a bell or a gong chanting mantra to invoke her and pray for the consultant. She will give you flower, costume jewellery or scarf from the idol of Swaravati. You keep it with you as charm or amulet.

We all know that alchemy is the pioneer or father of chemistry. But alchemy in Myanmar is also associated with shamanism. Myanmar alchemy has four specializations—(1) compounding all base metals by experiment on fire to turn them all into gold (2) concocting panacea to cure all diseases and for longevity

(See page 9)

## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 8 September, 2013

### Tangible benefits of democratic reforms

**The ultimate goal of the government in office is a democratic society, where freedom, justice and equality flourish in every corner of the country. Here, harmonious efforts of the legislative, executive and judiciary estates, political parties. Armed Forces and the people is a must for a new political landscape witnessing the burgeoning democracy culture, the ongoing political changes and progress, and the developing political process that is becoming an integral part of our national process for change.**

**The prevailing political process the ongoing reforms are shaping under the government proves that there are now concrete changes in some parts. We must also recognize that the friction between the executive and legislative branches that have played out is a natural corollary to this new political landscape and climate, especially in the early stages of transition. However, instead of blaming each other in counter-productive ways, we must learn from this experience to establish new approaches, communication channels and frameworks that allow us to work together better.**

**Both the executive and legislative branches must keep this constructive perspective in mind as they exercise their constitutional authorities within the boundaries of deference to reach a common goal of building a democratic society. Moreover we would encourage all political leaders to work together despite differences in opinion, find lessons from this political friction, discuss and negotiate equitably, and strive to construct a stronger political process and more vibrant political culture. As the government continues its work of laying these foundations, and in the coming thirty months, it will also strive hard to prioritize and improve the livelihoods and day to day needs of the people.**

**We must continue our reform and development efforts as well as reestablish important social values such as the will to live in peace and harmony among the different faiths and ethnicities for the people to enjoy the tangible benefits of democratic reforms.**

### Slight earthquake hits inside Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.2 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 30 miles northeast of Homalin), about 235 miles north-northwest

of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 09 hrs 56 min 44 sec M.S.T today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

### Water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha may reach danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—According to the observation at 14:30 hr M.S.T today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha is observed as 94 cm (about 3 ft) below

its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA



NATIONAL

Poem

LITERACY FOR ALL

- \* To produce intellectuals is top priority  
Literacy achievement be a national duty  
Human resource development is fundamental requirement  
Meant for facilitation of national development.
- \* Second priority to build learning society  
Citizens will have access to literacy  
International Standard Education to be promoted  
Literacy for all programmes be implemented.
- \* 3-Rs literacy movement is being waged  
Momentum of literacy is being raised  
Literacy programmes are being extended yearly  
Necessary assistance has been provided properly.
- \* Myanmar strives to increase literacy rate  
Education opportunities not to be vague  
Education is a matter of development  
Should be connected with our environment.
- \* "Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Prize" and "Noma Prize"  
Stood for the glory and pride  
Education on eradication of evil illiteracy  
Brings about tangible changes in history.
- \* Education for children of displaced families  
Ensures rights for children with disabilities  
Mobile schools are also kept open  
For the sake of rejected children.
- \* To build a constant learning society  
Enable citizens to pursue basic literacy  
September Eighth is designated as International Literacy Day  
Every nation celebrates the Day in own way.

Maung Swe Ngae

Shamanism in Myanmar ...

(from page 8)  
of your life (3) concocting aphrodisiac for sex energy and attraction to opposite sex and (4) making a ball of mercury compound [philosopher's stone] by which you can fly in the air and dive into to the water and earth and conquer all your enemies.

Shamanism comes into all four categories. A beginner in alchemy must be highly educated in classical languages such as Pali and Sanskrit, well versed in all treatises and literature on metals, metal smelting, herbal medicine, and occult science, must have vast experience in experimenting with metals on fire.

Accomplished alchemists would not live in the community. They shun public and crowd. They live isolated, away from madding crowd, at remote places in hills, mountains, caves, forests or deserted pagodas and temples. Especially alchemists of the 4<sup>th</sup> type who have produced mercury compound ball [philosopher's stone] may

give one of such balls to whomsoever he favours. Good, kindhearted, religious, honest and observing five moral precepts [Pancha Sila] man can get such ball. Such alchemists can be invoked and consulted through shaman agent. Cash and kind received should be used for religious works and communal welfare.

Alchemy is still practiced in the country. But Theravada Buddhism does not favour it. Alchemists keep a special workshop for experimentation in a fire place operated by old style bellows blowing and using earthen containers in which metals are melt or compounded. Remains of their workshop, experimenting fire places are found on sacred mountains such as Mount Popa, Hpo Win Taung, Hpo U Taung, Kyaik Hti Yoe, Zwegabin Taung, etc.

Here the writer wishes to beg the readers' indulgence to wait for the second part of this article in the next issue of The New Light of Myanmar.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Thai Ambassador

YANGON, 7 Sept—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received Thai Ambassador Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) on Inya Road in Kamayut Township, here, this morning. Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo and officials from the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Thai Ambassador Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata.—MNA



Plan to build embossed print factories

YANGON, 7 Sept—According to the recent news, Directorate of Road Administration will extend the Embossed Print Plate Factories.

The department plans to build more factories to produce embossed print plates for vehicles.

Under the supervision of respective governments, open tenders will be invited to construct the embossed print factories since the number plates of the

vehicles have been changed with English alphabets and regional signs.

"After building the factories, job opportunities will be created for the local people.

In consequence, the transport charge will decline," said an official of the directorate.

Arrangements are being made to build the embossed print factories in the directorates (Ywathagy) and (Mandalay).

Educative talks on drug-resistant malaria given

MYITKYINA, 7 Sept—An educative talk on drug-resistant malaria was organized by Health Department in Kachin State at Myitkyina General Hospital on 26 August.

The State Social Affairs Department at present, the embossed print factory is located at the Directorate of Road Administration (Myintha) of Yangon Region.

Kyemon-K Thein Swe

Minister delivered an address at the talk entitled "Myanmar Arte and Drug-Resistant Malaria Control".

Project Coordinator Dr Min Min Zin of World Health Organization briefed on the conditions of malaria infection in Kachin State and plans for control of drug-resistant malaria.

Officials answered queries raised by those present at the ceremony.

MMAL-Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

Pathein, glory of Ayeyawady Region

Byline: Maung Tin Hlaing (H&T)



Pathein, capital of Ayeyawady Region sees a lot of progress and development. It is easily accessible by train, ship and car. Better transport contributes to equitable development across the country, thereby promoting educational, social and economic standards of the regions. As a prioritized task, the government is building motor roads, rail roads and bridges throughout the country. For better transport, Union

Highway, roads linking the states and the regions, inter-township roads, inter-village roads and inter-district roads are being built. With the emergence of the road networks, the country sees more progress in transport, tourism and industries.

The newly-opened Thetkelchaung River-crossing Bridge that was put into services on 7-7-2013 is 60<sup>th</sup> of its kinds in Ayeyawady Region.

In 2012-2013 FY, 39 roads were built under the

management of Ayeyawady Region Government. The number of roads has increased to 52 in 2013-2014 FY. The total road miles have increased to 1601 miles and seven furlongs in 2013-2014 FY from 1582 miles and two furlongs in 2012-2013 FY. Township Development Affairs Committee carries out beautifying and greening tasks in the region.

For smooth and better transport, Kinmalinkyun Highway Bus Terminal was upgraded. There are

20-25 bus lines running to Mandalay, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw through Pathein. The township DAC upgraded roads to concrete ones. A total of 304 roads (88.2 miles)—33 concrete roads, 65 tarred roads, 58 gravel roads and 30 laterite roads and 108 earth roads—were built. Thanks to infrastructural development, Pathein sees more progress like that of other regions and states.

Kyemon: 5-9-2013  
Trs: MT



Red Cross

First-aid Course (Basic) concludes at Sagaing University of Cooperative



SAGAING, 7 Sept—The first-aid cour (basic) No 1, jointly Red Cross Society of Cooperative University (Sagaing) and Sagaing Region Red Cross Society, concluded at Mya Tharaphu Hall of the university (Sagaing) on 4 September. Rector-in-Charge Dr Yi Yi Win of the university delivered a speech. The trainee students demonstrated first-aid

Shwe Zeyar invitational monsoon football tourney successfully concludes in Sagaing

SAGAING, 7 Sept—The final match of the Shwe Zeyar invitational monsoon football tournament was held in conjunction with the prize presentation for the winners at People’s Sports Ground in Sagaing on 5 September.

In the final match, White Pearl team secured champion in the tournament by winning over Western team with a 1-0 result.

Myanma Railways and Marn Cell teams stood joint

third positions.

Thiri Pyanchi U Khin Maung Myint awarded K 200,000 and trophy to first prize winner White Pearl team.

Chairman of Zeyar Shwemyay FC U Thurein gave K 200,000 to first prize winning team.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Win Tint and Chairman of the Townselder Committee U Zaw Win presented K

150,000 and Chairman of Zeyar Shwemyay FC U Thurein K 100,000 to second prize winning Western team.

Chairman of District Management Committee U Myint Wai and Organizing Committee Chairmanu Tin Tun (Nyein Thiri) gave third prizes and K 50,000 each to Myanma Railways and Marn Cell teams.

Officials handed best player awards and man of the match awards to the

National Sports

respective winners.

Ju Ju Sports Suits and Sports Gear Shop owner U Soe Hla gave prizes to first and second prize winning teams.

The tournament ran from 15 July to 5 September with the sponsorship of Union Minister for Construction (Rtd) Thiri Pyanchi U Khin Maung Myint for uplifting sports standard in Sagaing.

Kyemon-Nanda Min Lwin

rescue of the snake-bite patients.

Pro-Rector U Aung Khaing presented completion certificates to the trainees. The Rector-In-charge presented prizes to outstanding trainees and gave gifts to instructors.

Chairman of the Univeristy Daw Thi Thi Aung spoke words of thanks.

The basic course was conducted from 26 July to 4 September, attended by 150 trainees.

Kyemon-225

Livestock Breeding

Pyapon District striving for enhancement of livestock breeding

PYAPON, 7 Sept—With the aim of ensuring poverty alleviation and rural development and raising production of meat and fish sector in Pyapon District and Township, a ceremony to distribute DYL pidgee pits was held in Gyowa Kyangin Village of Pyapon Township on 4 September.

Head of Pyapon District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Daw Kyi Kyi Thein presented 100 pigs to domestic pig breeding farm and provided health care of



pigs free of charge.

Pyapon District and Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Departments fed milk to

the school children, gave educative talks and organize the livestock breeding farms.

Kyemon-Thabye Tun

Drug elimination, human trafficking prevention disseminated



SINGAING, 7 Sept—Under the arrangements of Mandalay Region Anti-Narcotics Association, the talks on drug elimination and trafficking in person was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Singaing on

3 September morning.

Vice-Chairman of Kyaukse District Committee for Drug Abuse Control and Anti-Human Trafficking Committee Commander of District Police Force Lt-Col Myint Aung made a

speech.

Chairman of Mandalay Region ANA Police Col Hla Myint (Rtd) extended greetings.

In-charge of Mandalay Region HIV/AIDS Disease Control Dr U Kyaw Soe gave talks on HIV and AIDS and SIP Zaw Min Oo of Anti-Human Trafficking Squad (Mandalay) prevention against trafficking in person.

It was attended by students and members of social organizations.

After the talks, Township Education Officer U Nyunt Wai spoke words of thanks.

Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing (District IPRD)

Confiscated farmlands handed over to farmers in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 7 Sept—A ceremony to pay back farmlands confiscated by regiments and units and departments to farmers was held at Hopin Administrator Office in Mohnyin District on 4 September afternoon.

It was attended by District Deputy Commissioner U Aung Soe Moe, Township Administrator U Myat Yu, Hopin Administrator U Toe

Kyaw Thu and officials, military officers, townselders and farmers.

“We thank the government, Hluttaw and Tatmadaw for receiving our farmlands,” said a farmer.

Mohnyin Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Kyaw Soe Lay remarked, “Hluttaw placed emphasis on handing over the confiscated

farmlands and other lands to the farmers. The farmers who received the farmlands should do their works under the law.”

At the ceremony, 51.92 acres of farmlands of 164.01 acres confiscated by regiments, units and departments were handed over five farmers.

Kyemon-K Hsai Naw (Phakant)

It was attended by students and villagers from Kyaogyi, Kyaolay, Metzaw and Htonpo villages of Thamantalin Village-tract Chairperson of the organization Daw Aye Aye Win made an opening



Anti-Human Trafficking Drives

Prevention against trafficking in girl talked

KYAUKSE, 7 Sept—With the aim of preventing trafficking in girls and children, Kyaukse District Women’s Affairs Organization held an educative talk at the Dhammayon of YwaU Monastery in Thamantalin Village of Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Region on 3 September morning.

address.

Township Law Officer Daw Khin Soe Win explained children and anti-human trafficking law.

Member of the organization Staff Officer of District Information and Public Relations Department Daw Wai Wai Phy explained advantages of reading for prevention of human trafficking and root

causes for incidents of human trafficking.

The District WAO is steadfastly striving for prevention against human trafficking.

It plans to disseminate knowledge about anti-human trafficking to those from villages, schools, factories and workshops.

Kyemon-Tun Tun Naing (District IPRD)



REGIONAL

# Hokkaido mulls revamping museum to feature Ainu minority perspective

TOKYO, 7 Sept—The Hokkaido government is considering overhauling historical displays at its prefectural museum to put a greater emphasis on the indigenous Ainu people who were deprived of their livelihood and culture through the development of the northern island, according to Hokkaido officials familiar with the matter.

The Historical Museum of Hokkaido, whose Japanese name, Hokkaido Kaitaku Kinenkan, literally meaning “Hokkaido Pioneer Memorial Hall,” would be renamed Hokkaido Museum in the spring of 2015, the officials

said on Monday.

The Ainu consider the development of Hokkaido as a negative aspect of their history, as they were forced from their ancestral land by settlers from the mainland. Hokkaido is home to around 24,000 Ainu people, according to latest estimates.

“Changing the name and reviewing the display contents would be a big step forward,” said Kazushi Abe, assistant executive director at the Ainu Association of Hokkaido. The Hokkaido government is expected to present a museum renovation plan at the prefectural assembly in October at the earliest. The

renaming of the museum would be formalized through an ordinance to be introduced next spring.

The central government is also considering building a national museum in Hokkaido to promote a correct understanding of the history and culture of the Ainu and plans to develop a basic plan for the museum during the next fiscal year.

The current Hokkaido museum opened in Sapporo’s Atsubetsu Ward in 1971.

It has displays on traditional Ainu costumes and dwellings, but the Hokkaido government has judged that it needs to expand these to incorporate

the perspective of the Ainu. This is due in part to the recent surge of interest in the indigenous people, according to the officials.

The plan will include Japan’s assimilation policy toward the Ainu, which is currently not mentioned in detail at the museum. Exhibits would also explain how the 1899 Hokkaido Former Aborigines Protection Act banned the Ainu language and established special schools to force the Ainu to adopt the Japanese language and lifestyle. The law was repealed in 1997.

Kyodo News



An employee checks radiation levels of fish at a fish corner of a market near Seoul Station on 4 Sept, 2013. South Korea said on 6 Sept, 2013, it has banned the import of any fisheries products from eight Japanese prefectures, including Fukushima. KYODO NEWS

## S Korea, China complete first-stage FTA talks

SEOUL, 7 Sept—South Korea and China had completed first-stage negotiations on the bilateral free trade agreement (FTA), setting foundations for more in-depth talks over mutual opening and liberalization, South Korea’s trade ministry said on Friday.

“Both sides wrapped up the first-phase negotiations for the Sino-Korea FTA by agreeing on the modality (or basic guidelines),” Woo Tae-hee, South Korea’s assistant trade minister and a chief negotiator for the FTA with China, told a Press briefing.

South Korea and China held the seventh round of first-stage FTA negotiations in Beijing for three days through Thursday. The two countries started such talks in May last year.

Woo noted that the first-stage talks set the foundation for the

upcoming second-phase negotiations, which will discuss items allowed to be liberalized by lowering or removing tariff barriers.

FTA talks tend to start item-by-item negotiations directly, but the Sino-Korea FTA talks divided it into two phases given concerns over protection of the agricultural sector in South Korea and of the manufacturing sector in China, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) said in a statement.

The first-stage talks agreed on basic guidelines for four areas, including products, service/investment, regulations and economic cooperation.

On the product front, the two countries agreed

to abolish tariffs within a certain period of time on 90 percent of all products in terms of the number of items, and on 85 percent of imports in terms of their monetary value.

Tariffs on normal items will be removed immediately or within 10 years after the implementation of the FTA, while those on sensitive products will be abolished within 10-20 years after the deal takes effect.

Highly sensitive items, which will be excluded from tariff removal, took up 10 percent of the total in the first-stage talks, but the two countries agreed to lower the “reference number” during the second-phase negotiations, the ministry said.—Xinhua

## Firing leaves eight dead in Pakistan’s Peshawar

ISLAMABAD, 7 Sept—At least eight people including a child were killed when some unknown gunmen attacked passenger vehicles in Pakistan’s northwestern provincial capital of Peshawar on late Friday night, local media and official said on Saturday.

Station House Officer of Police Abidur Rehman told media that the incident took place at the Kohat road in Peshawar’s Mattni area, a zone between provincial capital and restive tribal region of Dara Adamkhel.

According to the police officer, unidentified gunmen sprayed bullets indiscriminately at the vehicles including a passenger bus that were travelling to southern

districts.

Four people including a child were killed on the spot while four others got injured in the attack.

Police, security forces and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and the wounded to the Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar where all wounded succumbed to their injuries Saturday morning. Police and other law enforcement forces cordoned off the area and launched a search operation to search for the miscreants.

Police and security forces had exchange of fire with the attackers that lasted for one hour, but the assailants managed to run away to unknown place.

Xinhua



Chinese delegate Lu Aihui holds certificate of appreciation for the rigorous support as young woman innovator in economic development during the 3rd Women and the Economy Forum in Bali, Indonesia, on 6 Sept, 2013. The event will be held from 6 to 8 September.

XINHUA

## Heavy floods claim 190 lives in India’s eastern state of Bihar

NEW DELHI, 7 Sept—At least 190 people have died in heavy floods due to incessant rains in India’s eastern state of Bihar, local reports said on Friday.

Fear looms large of more rain in the coming days as a result of which the death toll is likely to rise. Some 6 million people have been affected by the

flooding.

After conducting an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said as many as 20 districts of the state have been badly affected.

Most of the flood-affected areas are located near the Nepali border, with water gushing down from

the hills in Nepal causing most of the destruction.

According to a Press Trust of India report, the chief minister assured that his government had readied all arrangements to meet the challenge of heavy rains next week, as forecast by the meteorological department.

Kyodo News

## Singapore best in Asia for intellectual property protection

SINGAPORE, 7 Sept—Singapore is the best in Asia for intellectual property protection and the second best in the world, the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore said on Friday, citing a report by the World Economic Forum.

The latest Global Competitiveness Report, with intellectual property protection as one of the criteria, covered nearly 150 countries and regions. It is the third year in a row for Singapore to retain the top

ranking in Asia. Singapore’s Intellectual Property Office said its business-friendly intellectual property regime has bolstered business confidence of international conglomerates and attracted long-term investment in research and development by multinationals.

Singapore came in the second place in the overall global competitiveness ranking, trailing Switzerland. China’s Hong Kong was the seventh, while Japan came in the 9th.—Xinhua



A girl adorns her friend with a flower during the second army recruitment 2013 at Long My District, southern Vietnam’s Hau Giang Province, on 6 Sept 2013. A total of 550 young people were recruited in Hau Giang Province in the second recruitment. Vietnam holds army recruitment twice a year.—XINHUA



**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR  
KYAUK PHYU SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE  
BID EVALUATION AND AWARDING COMMITTEE (BEAC)**

**INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM  
CONSULTING FIRMS**

The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been identifying the economic potentials to contribute to the country's economic development. In so doing, Kyauk Phyu Special Economic Zone in Rakhine State, endowed with a deepsea port, is included as a key project to be developed in Myanmar, with a vision to become a logistic hub in the region.

The Kyauk Phyu SEZ BEAC hereby would like to invite Expression of Interest from domestic and international consulting firms for the services to develop comprehensive strategy for promoting Kyauk Phyu SEZ in line with international norms including marketing strategies, in consultation with BEAC to prepare tender documents for the potential developers, to assist BEAC in evaluation and selection process from the financial and technical aspects. In addition, the consulting firms must include project monitoring and quality control during implementation stage in their proposed services.

The Expression of interest in original and duplicate copies shall be submitted to the BEAC Office, Kyauk Phyu SEZ Management Committee, Ministry of Rail Transportation, Building No. 29, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, not later than 14:00 hrs, 25 September 2013.

Interested consulting firms may obtain further information from the BEAC office or from the website [www.kpsez.org](http://www.kpsez.org). Enquiries can be made by contacting e-mail: [beac@kpsez.org](mailto:beac@kpsez.org) or calling telephones: 09 431 71024 and 09 550 5351.

**The Chairman  
Bid Evaluation and Awarding Committee (BEAC)**



*People buy vegetable which can grow in a balcony at the Australian Garden Show in Sydney, Australia, on 5 Sept, 2013. The event is underpinned by the philosophy-celebrating gardening, flowers, sustainability and design, and offers something for all garden lovers.*

XINHUA



*Curator of Mammals Rebecca Snyder prepares to weigh newly-born giant panda twin cub B at the Atlanta Zoo in Atlanta, the United States, on 4 Sept, 2013. Giant panda "Lun Lun" gave birth to twins on 15 July, 2013 at the Atlanta Zoo and both male cubs are growing in good condition.*

XINHUA

## Al-Qaeda assassinate two Yemeni intelligence officers

SANAA, 7 Sept — Al-Qaeda militants assassinated two senior Yemeni intelligence officers in the southern part of the country, government officials said on Friday.

Colonel Abulmajid al-Salmi, of a military intelligence body, was shot in the head near his home in the southwestern province of Lahj, a local security official told *Xinhua* by phone on condition of anonymity. He said that the assailants rode a motorcycle to al-Salmi's home and killed him late on Thursday.

The 50-year-old was also head of a social, sport and youth club in al-Majhafa area in Lahj's District of Tibn.

A provincial spokesman of the Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) told *Xinhua* that "their investigations in the

past weeks in Lahj and nearby provinces of Abyan and Shabwa revealed that Colonel al-Salmi was one of the officials responsible for recruiting local youths to place electronic chips on targets to instruct the US drone strikes."

US drones increased air raid last month against the AQAP in Yemen's southern regions after Washington temporarily closed its embassy in Sanaa due to security threats. The Yemeni government said more than 40 suspected terrorists were killed in the strikes.

Meanwhile, the Yemeni Defence Ministry said that Colonel Omar Bdyee bin Amro, with the Political Security Agency's branch in the southeastern province of Hadramout, was killed on Friday afternoon.—*Xinhua*

## China mulls changing Teachers' Day to birthday of Confucius

BEIJING, 7 Sept — China is considering moving the present Teachers' Day to 28 Sept, believed to be the birthday of Confucius (551-479 BC), the most important educationalist and philosopher in Chinese civilization.

The idea was made public on Thursday when the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, China's Cabinet, released a draft amendment on a package of education laws to canvass public opinion.

From 1985, Teacher's Day was designated as 10 September every year, only a few days after the new school year begins. It is an

important day in China, where a high value has traditionally been put on education and where teachers are widely respected.

For some years experts and legislators have been promising to change the date of Teacher's Day. Li Hanqiu, a scholar in traditional Chinese culture, suggested in 2004 that Teachers' Day should have historical and cultural associations and should fall on the birthday of Confucius.

There is little agreement in academic circles on the exact date of Confucius' birth. Some believe he was born on 28 September in

551 BC, while others reckon 8 September or 9 October. However, since 1913, Chinese people have held rituals to commemorate Confucius on 28 September, and in Taiwan, where the Chinese traditional culture is jealously safeguarded, Teachers' Day is on 28 September.

In an online survey at Sina.com, one of the country's major web portals, almost 70 percent of people support the change, as it avoids the hectic beginning of new school year. The 30 percent who oppose the change mostly believe it is nothing but formalism.

*Xinhua*

## NZ legislators concern with C African Republic situation

WELLINGTON, 7 Sept — The head of an international group of legislators on Friday called for greater global action to prevent a deterioration in the conflict in the Central African Republic.

New Zealand Member of Parliament and president of Parliamentarians for Global Action Ross Robertson said the African nation had been facing a security and humanitarian crisis since a coup in March, with rebel forces committing serious human rights violations and international crimes.

"Hundreds have been killed and more than 200,000 forced to flee their homes. The nutritional and health status of the population is seriously deteriorating, with the UN estimating that there are 1.5 million Central Af-

rican Republic nationals in need of protection and humanitarian assistance," Robertson said in a statement.

"Given this extremely worrying situation, international bodies are struggling to find an adequate answer and to ensure appropriate humanitarian response to the population," he said.

"Parliamentarians for Global Action is continuing

to support its members in the Central African Republic, who were democratically elected, but currently are unable to play any part in the governance of their country."

Robertson said he had lodged a notice of motion in the New Zealand Parliament calling on the government to work with the United Nations towards a lasting peace in the Central African Republic.—*Xinhua*



*Afghan men work at a peanut factory in Nangarhar Province of eastern Afghanistan on 5 Sept, 2013.*

XINHUA

## Iraq to impose traffic restriction in Baghdad to stem violence

BAGHDAD, 7 Sept — The Iraqi government on Thursday announced a traffic restriction will be imposed on the streets of Baghdad in an apparent move to combat the increasing car bombings in the capital. The measure imposed by the General Directorate of Traffic of the Iraqi Interior Ministry will come into effect on Saturday and last until further notice, allowing cars with even and odd license numbers to take daily turns to go out, the Iraqiya TV channel reported.

The report did not give any specific reason for the measure, but it is widely regarded as a move to deal with the increasing violence in the country, in particular more and more frequent car bomb attacks in Baghdad.

Taxis, trucks and certain government vehicles will be exempt from the regulation, according to the report. On Tuesday evening, at least a dozen of car bombs struck across Baghdad, mostly in Shiite neighbourhoods, killing 47 people and wounding 163 others.

Iraq's monthly death toll from violence in August was 841, according to a statement released by the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq on Sunday. Also, almost 5,000 civilians have been killed and 12,000 injured since the beginning of 2013.

*Xinhua*



ENTERTAINMENT



Cast member Naomi Watts of Australia, who plays the title role, signs autographs before the world premiere of "Diana" at Leicester Square in London on 5 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

### Critics savage 'cheap and cheerless' Diana film as tawdry soap

LONDON, 7 Sept — Film critics have savaged a new movie of the late British Princess Diana's relationship with a Pakistani doctor as an intrusive and embarrassingly cheap soap opera. British-born Australian actress Naomi Watts plays the jilted princess trapped in a gilded cage. English actor Naveen Andrews is heart surgeon Hasnat Khan, who gives her the love she craves in "Diana", which held its world premiere in London on Thursday.

The British tabloids — who followed every twist and turn from Diana's 1981 marriage to Prince Charles, to their divorce and her death in a 1997 Paris car crash — were scathing about the film from German director Oliver Hirschbiegel. "The Queen of

Hearts has been recast as a sad-sack singleton that even Bridget Jones would cross the street to avoid," wrote the *Mirror's* David Edwards in a one-star review dubbing the film a "cheap and cheerless effort".

The movie is based on "Diana: Her Last Love", a book by author Kate Snell published in 2000, which argues that the estranged wife of the heir to the British throne had a clandestine affair with Khan in the last two years of her life. "Diana" focuses on the vignettes of their assignments in hospitals, cars, his flat and Kensington Palace, interspersed with the public Diana campaigning against landmines and giving her infamous 1995 interview about her relationship with Charles in

which she said there were "three of us in this marriage".

The Diana character tells Khan on their first "date" that she loves television soap operas and some of the movie scenes, including their final break-up in a London park in the middle of night could be straight out of one. The dialogue, which includes Persian poetry and lines such as "Now that I have been loved, I don't feel lonely anymore", has been met with a spate of one-star reviews. "Even when these lines are delivered by the fragrant Naomi Watts, doing her level best with a squirmingly embarrassing script, this film is still atrocious and intrusive," wrote Kate Muir in the *Times* newspaper.

Reuters



Ranbir and Pallavi will be seen together in the upcoming film Besharam. PTI

### Ranbir Kapoor, Pallavi Sharda wrap up wedding song in a day

MUMBAI, 7 Sept — Dancing seems to come naturally to Besharam actors Ranbir Kapoor and Pallavi Sharda. The two will be seen grooving to wedding number, Lut Gaye in the film, which they reportedly wrapped up in just a day.

"Director Abhinav Kashyap had kept three days aside for the shoot of the song, but to his and entire unit's surprise, Ran-

bir and Pallavi finished the song in just one day. When they started shooting for the song, the two got in to the groove and decided to finish the song the same day," said a source from the film.

A peppy wedding number, Lut Gaye is sung by Mamta Sharma and Aishwarya Nigam. Its music is composed by Lalit Pandit, while the lyrics are penned by Nikhat Khan.—PTI

### Weevils and all, Rome ring-road film marks documentary comeback

VENICE, 7 Sept — A portrait of life along Rome's ring road is emerging as the quirkiest of a flurry of documentaries making waves at two of the world's top film festivals. Italian director Gianfranco Rosi's "Sacro GRA" — a pun on the ring road's name which evokes the Italian for Holy Grail — delves into the lives of a dozen characters, including a weevil-fighting tree scientist, but their names, personalities and occupations only gradually become clear.

At the Venice Film Festival, it is one of an unprecedented two documentaries in competition for the Golden Lion award for best picture, due to be awarded

### Japanese anime master Miyazaki hangs up director hat

TOKYO, 7 Sept — Oscar-winning Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki said on Friday he will make no more of the full-length films that have brought him global fame, confessing that his real love is drawing and — at age 72 — he is tired of directing. Miyazaki's latest film, "The Wind Rises", claimed a coveted competition slot at the current Venice Film Festival. He won an Academy Award for "Spirited Away" and many other Japanese and international prizes.

But Miyazaki told a packed news conference that the stresses of directing long films made with the hand-drawing techniques he swears by were starting to wear him down. "I have never once thought

I was glad I became a director but I have been glad I'm an animator many, many times," he told about 600 journalists gathered at a Tokyo hotel.

"To be an animator, if you are able to perfectly



Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki speaks during a news conference held to announce his retirement from film in Tokyo on 6 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

capture the water or the wind, you'll be really happy for the next few days ... But if you're the director, you have to make all the judgments. It's not good for my stomach." A bit of a break lies ahead but Miyazaki said he intended to work "for the next 10 years or so, as long as I can still drive a car to the studio". He has numerous projects in mind, including renewing the exhibits at the popular Ghibli Museum west of Tokyo that showcases the work of his studio.

"The Wind Rises," Miyazaki's 11th feature film, is based on the life of the man who designed Japan's feared Zero fighter plane used in World War Two and highlights the dangers of war and nationalism.—Reuters

### Mallika Sherawat: Taj Mahal is most beautiful



Mallika will be seen in the reality TV show The Bachelorette India - Mere Khayalon Ki Mallika.—PTI

AGRA, 7 Sept — Bollywood actress Mallika Sherawat, who was in Agra to shoot a promotional trailer of TV reality show The

Bachelorette India — Mere Khayalon Ki Mallika, says the Taj Mahal is the most beautiful creation.

Mallika, dressed in a

dark green sari with a red border, was appreciated by Vijay Rijhata of Dharamshala, while she was shooting the promo of the Indian version of the American reality dating game show The Bachelor.

After revealing her fitness secrets and eating habits, when she was asked who was more beautiful, she said: "The Taj of course. For centuries, it's been the most beautiful structure."

The shooting began early on Thursday (September 5, 2013) at the Mehtab Bagh, behind the Taj Mahal across the Yamuna.

PTI



Director Gianfranco Rosi (2nd R) poses with his cast during a red carpet for the movie "Sacro Gra" at the 70th Venice Film Festival on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

on Saturday. The other is director Errol Morris's "The Unknown Known", a portrayal of former US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. Meanwhile "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.

Often seen as the poor relation of feature films, documentaries are enjoying a resurgence. "Documentaries are entertaining and they can be just as stimulating" as conventional feature films, said Charles McDonald, a London-based publicist promoting Morris's

movie, and had overcome "the stigma that they were rather dry". Also being screened at both festivals — considered testing grounds for the Oscars — are "The Armstrong Lie", about disgraced cyclist Lance Armstrong, and "Walesa, Man of Hope" a biopic of the Polish Solidarity union leader.—Reuters



## SPORTS

## Djokovic, Nadal aiming for US Open showdown



Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates defeating Mikhail Youzhny of Russia during their quarter-final match at the US Open tennis championships in New York, on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 7 Sept—Novak Djokovic and Rafa Nadal can set up a delectable US Open final between the top two players in the world with 2013 grand slam bragging rights at stake by posting victories in Saturday's semi-finals.

Australian Open champion Djokovic and French Open winner Nadal have designs on adding a second grand slam to their honours this year but first must get past familiar foes in Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka and France's Richard Gasquet, respectively.

Top-seeded Djokovic, who advanced to his 14th successive grand slam semi-final with a four-set

victory over Mikhail Youzhny, and Nadal, a straight-sets winner over fellow-Spaniard Tommy Robredo, have both lost only one set in the tournament.

The darkhorse challengers, however, are at the top of their games, both wielding lethal one-handed backhands as a key part of their arsenal.

Nadal said there was no danger of him looking past longtime friend Gasquet and at a possible marquee clash with Djokovic.

"I hope to be ready to play a good match against Richard. If not, I will not have the chance to play the final," the second-seeded Spaniard said.—Reuters



Rafael Nadal of Spain looks up at the crowd after defeating compatriot Tommy Robredo following their men's quarter-final match at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 4 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo (C) celebrates with teammates Joao Moutinho (L) and Miguel after scoring against Northern Ireland during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Windsor Park Stadium in Belfast on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS



LONDON, 7 Sept—Cristiano Ronaldo rescued Portugal with a speedy hat-trick to avoid a slip-up in Northern Ireland, while Netherlands dropped their first points as Spain and Germany took easier steps towards World Cup qualification.

England moved level on points at the top of Group H with Montenegro after

## Ronaldo rescues Portugal, Spain and Germany win

marching to a 4-0 home win over Moldova that came as their rivals were held 1-1 in Poland.

Italy and Belgium were among the group pacesetters to take full points, while Group E leaders Switzerland could only

draw 4-4 with Iceland and Group G table-toppers Bosnia surprisingly lost 1-0 at home to Slovakia.

In Belfast, Portugal were in serious danger of being knocked off the top of Group F, after second-placed Russia had earlier thumped Luxembourg 4-1, as they found themselves trailing 2-1 to Northern Ireland.

Their hosts had previous form for upsets having stunned Russia 1-0 last month and it looked like they were heading for another when Portugal's Helder Postiga was shown a straight red card for a headbutt on Gareth McAuley just before halftime.

Northern Ireland, already out of qualifying contention, made the man advantage count early in the second half when Jamie Ward scored after a corner but Portugal's fortunes turned when Kevin Brunt was shown a second yellow

to make it 10 against 10.

Then followed 15 minutes of trademark Ronaldo brilliance as he headed in two goals and scored another from a free kick to turn the match around and put Portugal on 17 points from eight games with Russia on 15 having played one game fewer.

There were more individual plaudits in Germany's 3-0 win over Austria in Group C as forward Miroslav Klose opened the scoring in the 34th minute to equal Gerd Mueller's record of 68 goals for the

country.

The clean sheet banished concerns over recent German defensive frailties as they stayed in control of



Italy's goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon (C) makes a save during the World Cup qualifying soccer match against Bulgaria at the Renzo Barbera Stadium in Palermo on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

the group on 19 points from seven matches, five ahead of Sweden who beat Ireland 2-1. Austria dropped to third on 11, level with the Irish.

"We did our homework, we defended well, we played with the right aggression and intensity," Germany coach Joachim Loew told ZDF television.

The same could not be said of Group E leaders Switzerland, who let slip a

4-1 lead to draw 4-4 with Iceland, allowing second-placed Norway to close the gap on them to four points after they beat Cyprus 2-0.

Netherlands also had defensive questions to answer after they saw a first-minute lead secured by Arjen Robben evaporate in Tallinn where they stood seconds away from an embarrassing 2-1 defeat after a Konstantin Vassiljev double for the hosts.—Reuters



England's Jack Wilshere (C) is challenged by Moldova's Simeon Bulgaru and Alexandru Onica (R) during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Wembley Stadium in London, on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

## Serena books US Open rematch with Azarenka



Victoria Azarenka of Belarus makes a heart symbol as she celebrates defeating Flavia Pennetta of Italy at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 7 Sept—Defending champion Serena Williams slugged her way to a US Open title rematch against Victoria Azarenka as the top two seeds scored straight-sets knockouts in their semi-finals on Friday.

World number one Williams thrashed a rattled Li Na 6-0, 6-3, overcoming some staunch resistance at the end, while Azarenka returned to the Flushing Meadows final with a 6-4,

6-2 win over unseeded Italian Flavia Pennetta.

"Just to be able to defend a title for once would be really awesome," said French Open winner Williams, who will get her chance on Sunday after failing to go back-to-back following her 1999, 2002 and 2008 titles in New York.

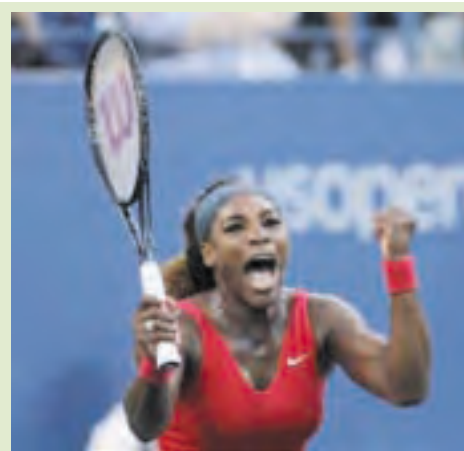
Although overpowered in the opening set, Li battled valiantly in the second, saving six match points to hold serve before the top

seed finally closed the deal on a seventh with an unreturned serve.

"It was a good match. It was tough at the end," Williams said. "I got a little nervous but I was able to close it out."

Former French Open champion Li, China's first semi-finalist at the US Open, admitted that she experienced a bout of nerves when she hit the Arthur Ashe Stadium court.

"I should not be, like,



Serena Williams of the US celebrates after defeating Li Na of China at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 6 Sept, 2013.

REUTERS

nervous because (it was) not (the) first time to play semis," said Li, twice an Australian Open finalist. "But when I walked to the

court I was feeling the court (was) so big. I mean, even my side, it was feeling like a football court.

Reuters



GENERAL



An Afghan man looks at the wrecks of a damaged car at the blast site in Kirkuk, Iraq, on 5 Sept, 2013. Three car bombs ripped through Iraq's ethnically mix city of Kirkuk on Thursday, killing two people and wounding some 25 others, police said.—XINHUA

## Canada hopes to sell more wood, wood products to China

VANCOUVER, 7 Sept — Canada's Minister of International Trade Ed Fast Friday vowed to export more Canadian wood and wood products to China.

Welcoming a business delegation of 60 buyers from China to the annual Global Buyers Mission (GBM) and Wood First Forum, Fast said, "Having a strong business delegation from China here in Whistler, British Columbia (BC), complements our effort to continue to grow our exports to China."

"Canada is now China's largest supplier of imported lumber and among the fastest-growing markets for Canadian wood prod-

ucts. The value of Canadian wood exports to China has increased more than 10 times in the last five years, to over 1.4 billion Canadian dollars in 2012," he said.

Canadian wood and wood products exports to China are being facilitated by the government strategic investment and partnerships in building the Asia-Pacific Gateway infrastructure, said Fast, who visited one of China's top importers of Canadian wood products in Tianjin during his most recent trade mission to China last April.

"To date, we have invested over 1.4 billion Canadian dollars in projects that are making it easier,

faster and more efficient for our exporters to reach the Chinese market. In fact, Canada's west coast ports are more than two days closer to Asia than any other ports in North America," he said. "We want to continue to grow our exports to China and we will continue helping our forestry exporters reach new markets," he said.

The 10th GBM started on Friday in Whistler in Canada's westernmost province of British Columbia. The three-day event attracted 240 buyers from 22 countries, who are expected to buy 48 million Canadian dollars worth of wood products.—Xinhua

## MYANMAR TV

(8-9-2013, Sunday)

<b>6:00 am</b>	<b>12:35 pm</b>
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw	18. Myanmar Movies
<b>6:20 am</b>	<b>3:00 pm</b>
2. Physical Exercise	19. News
<b>6:30 am</b>	<b>3:15 pm</b>
3. Pyi Thu Ni Ti	20. Cartoon
<b>6:50 am</b>	<b>3:25 pm</b>
4. Documentary	21. Documentary
<b>7:00 am</b>	<b>4:00 pm</b>
5. News/Weather Report	22. News/Weather Report
<b>7:20 am</b>	<b>4:15 pm</b>
6. Teleplay (Htar)	23. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (Botany)
<b>7:45 am</b>	<b>4:35 pm</b>
7. Documentary	24. Documentary (Weather)
<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
8. News	25. News/Weather Report
<b>8:25 am</b>	<b>5:15 pm</b>
9. Amazing World	26. Sing & Enjoy
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
10. News/International News	27. News/Weather Report
<b>9:25 am</b>	<b>6:20 pm</b>
11. Documentary	28. Cartoon Series
<b>9:50 am</b>	<b>6:40 pm</b>
12. TV Drama Series	29. TV Drama Series
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
13. News	30. News
<b>10:15 am</b>	<b>7:15 pm</b>
14. TV Drama Series	31. TV Drama Series
<b>11:15 am</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>
15. New Melody	32. News/International News/Weather Report
<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>8:35 pm</b>
16. News/International News/Weather Report	33. Pyi Thu Ni Ti
<b>12:25 pm</b>	<b>9:00 pm</b>
17. Round Up of The Week's International News	34. News
	35. Tamyetmar Takwetsar
	36. New Melody

## MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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

- \* Local News
- \* Travelling in Shan Mountain Plateau (Pin Loung Gyi Shwe Chan Thar Phaung Daw U Pagoda Festival)
- \* World News
- \* Goldsmith
- \* Local News
- \* Those Who Never Give Up (Episode-3) -Zaw Win Myint
- \* World News
- \* Dengue Fever
- \* Local News
- \* The Most Prominent Resort And Residence-Ngapali
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Railways City Circular Train
- \* Local News
- \* Youth of the Future (Episode-11) Hair Designer
- \* World News
- \* A visit to Ye
- \* 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

## 6.5-magnitude quake hits Guatemala

MEXICO CITY, 7 Sept — An earthquake measuring 6.5 degrees on the Richter scale on Friday rocked Guatemala with its epicenter 244 km southwest of the capital. The quake, recorded at about 06:13 pm local time (00:13 GMT), was sensitive in at least six geographic districts but the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction has not yet reported any significant damage and casualties. But the Coordinator has declared an institutional orange alert.

The quake was felt strongly in the capital, but the authorities have not reported any damage immediately. At the time of the quake, many people rushed out of their homes and several were treated by

firefighters due to nervous breakdown. In all these areas, as reported by firefighters, people were evacuated from building. In San Marcos, where a 7.2-magnitude quake in November last year killed at least 40 people, cries and screams of panic were heard. Eddy Sanchez, director of the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology and Meteorology, told Xinhua that they have detected an aftershock three minutes later after the main quake and the results of the seismographs are being analyzed to determine the possible cause of the quake.

The Traffic Department of National Civil Police have reported several landslides in the west and south of the country.—Xinhua

## Ukraine thrash San Marino 9-0 in record victory



Ukrainian players celebrate a goal during their teams' World Cup qualifying soccer match against San Marino at the Arena Lviv stadium in Lviv on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

KIEV, 7 Sept — Ukraine earned their biggest ever win by beating San Marino 9-0 at a packed Lviv Arena on Friday before they host England in a key World Cup Group H qualifier in four days' time.

Serbia's emphatic victory over a San Marino side

who have now conceded 38 goals and scored none in seven matches came courtesy of eight different goalscorers with Evhen Khacheridi scoring twice with a goal either side of the break.

The win left Ukraine in third place a point be-

hind England, who are top with 15 points after a 4-0 win over Moldova, and Montenegro, who have played a game more and are second after a 1-1 draw away to Poland who have 10 points.

Ukraine's Serbia-born striker Marco Devic opened the scoring after 11 minutes, shooting low into the far corner following a fine headed pass inside the area by right back Artem Fedetskiy.

Striker Evhen Seleznyov headed the second from close range in the 26th minute after an assist from centre back Khacheridi got above his marker in the penalty area.

Brazilian-born playmaker Edmar slotted home to make it 3-0 from the centre of the area six minutes

later before San Marino keeper Federico Valentini failed to clear the ball and Khacheridi nodded in at the end of the first half.

Ukraine's scoring spree continued after the restart when Evhen Konoplyanka curled in the fifth goal and a prone Khacheridi tapped the ball in following a corner kick.

Roman Bezus needed just three minutes to score after coming off the bench on the hour and Artem Fedetskiy added an eighth goal before centre back Yaroslav Rakitskiy wrapped up the 9-0 victory by curling home a freekick in added time.

Ukraine's previous highest score was 6-0 in wins over Andorra and Azerbaijan.

Reuters



## All national races need to join hands in attempt to widen scope of people

### Coord meeting on test broadcasting of National Races Channel held

NAYPYITAW, 7 Sept—A coordination meeting on test broadcasting of National Races Channel was held at Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) in Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) this morning with an address by Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi.

In his speech, the Union Minister said that test broadcasting of national race channel will be done in mid-October. The meeting is aimed at seeking the advice from national races ministers from the Region/State and members of national races cultural troupes.

All national races need to join hands in an attempt to widen the scope of people. It is hoped that the channel would serve the interests of all national races. For national races development, dissemination of knowledge is crucial not only for the people in urban areas but also for those in remote areas. Sharing of accurate and knowledgeable information calls for help of media in national races regions. It can be done only by non-commercial community services.

The Public Service Media Bill which has been submitted at the Hluttaw covers the prescriptions



*Test show at coordination meeting on test broadcasting of National Races Channel was held at Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) in progress.*

MNA

that can help support non-commercial community services to a greater extent. Since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the PSM has been widely accepted by all world countries as a media mechanism that can share information equally to the four corners of the country including national races regions. He urged those present to make collaboration in successful transmission of the channel.

Next, the sample

videos of national races programme were shown. Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut touched upon national races programme at the second session. After that, Director-General U Tint Swe explained arrangements made for trial transmission. Those present gave suggestions on the programme.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remark by the Union

Minister.

Those present held a round table discussion with MRTV staff who will serve duties in the regions and states.—MNA

## Union S&T Minister attends Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo delivered an address at the Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation held at Guangxi Wharton International Hotel of Nanning of China on 3 September.

He invited investments in science and technology sector in Myanmar and said that through efforts made by China and ASEAN and sharing of China's experience, cooperation between China and ASEAN contributes much to socio-economic development of peoples in the region. The speech also includes establishment of joint Myanmar-China laboratory, sending of Myanmar scholars to China for research and opening of China-ASEAN Technology Transfer Center (branch) in Myanmar.

It was also attended by Minister for Science and Technology Dr Wan Gang of China, ministers and deputy ministers from the Ministry of Science and Technology and officials. Respective companies inked agreements on science and technology cooperation projects.

The Union Minister held talks with the Chinese Science and Technology Minister on cooperation in science and technology sectors of the countries and programme to recognize norms and standards by both sides. Then, the Union minister looked round production process of traditional medicines in Pura Pharm Cooperation Factory and production and assembly of digital hardware and electronics in Guangxi Leader Digital Technology Co, Ltd.

MNA



*Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo holds talks with Chinese Science and Technology Minister Dr Wan Gang.—MNA*

## MJA marks its founding anniversary



*Ceremony to mark founding anniversary of Myanmar Japan Association (MJA) in progress.—MNA*

YANGON, 7 Sept—A ceremony to mark the founding anniversary of Myanmar Japan Association (MJA) was held at Sedona Hotel, here yesterday evening, with an address

by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mikio Numata extended greetings. Patron U Htay Oo and MJA Chairman

U Saw Hla Min accepted donation of K 99.2 million and 5300 USD for the association by MJA patrons, CEC members and donors.

MNA

## Last Hitler bunker witness Misch dies at 96

BERLIN, 7 Sept—Rochus Misch, the last surviving witness of Adolf Hitler's final days in the Berlin bunker who always referred to the Nazi dictator as "the Boss", has died in his home at the age of 96, his book agent said on Friday.

He was captured after the war and spent nine years in Soviet prisons. Back home, he launched a house-painting business.

Misch said he stayed in



the bunker even after Hitler let others leave. He said it

was his duty as a soldier. With the war clearly lost, Hitler killed himself on April 30, 1945.

Later, Misch saw Hitler's corpse covered by blankets and with only his shoes protruding. "There was a complete silence," he said. "I went to the commander and said: 'The Fuehrer is dead'. My colleague then said, 'Now the boss is to be burnt'.

Reuters