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Vice-President U Nyan Tun attends Fourth Global Entrepreneurship Summit-GES 2013



Vice-President U Nyan Tun attends opening of Fourth Global Entrepreneurship Summit-GES 2013 at International Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.—MNA

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Oct — Vice-President U Nyan Tun attended the opening of Fourth Global Entrepreneurship Summit-GES 2013 at International Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 11 October morning.

Also present at the opening ceremony were the Malaysian prime minister, the Cambodian minister for finance and deputy prime minister, the Laotian deputy prime minister, the Viet-

namese deputy prime minister, the US state secretary, ministers and entrepreneurs from Southeast Asia, South Asia and Middle East.

First, Malaysian Finance Minister Dato' Sri Hji.Ahmad Husni Mohamad Hanadzlah extended greetings.

Next, US State Secretary Mr. John Kerry delivered an address and a video address sent by the US President was shown at the summit.

Afterwards, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak made an opening address.

Next, Professor W Chan Kim gave talks on challenges and opportunities of entrepreneurial cooperation.

Then, the Vice-President and party viewed round booths on display at the centre.

US President Barack Obama initiated the first

GES in 2009. The first Global Entrepreneurship Summit-GES was held in 2010 in Washington D.C and the second and third GES took place in Istanbul of Turkey and Dubai of UAE in 2011 and 2012 respectively. A total of 400 entrepreneurs around the world took part in the 4th Global Entrepreneurship Summit-GES 2013.

The aim of holding the GES is to encourage exchange of views and co-

operation between world business leaders and entrepreneurs.

The Vice-President together with the distinguished delegates to the Summit also attended the luncheon hosted by the Malaysian prime minister and took part in the informal meeting covering bilateral relations and progresses in the region and globe.

On his arrival at Petronas Twin Tower in Kuala Lumpur, the Vice-President heard reports on activities of Petronas Corporation in economic, education and social sectors in Myanmar presented by officials.

The Vice-President and party yesterday visited Myanmar Embassy where he spoke words of encouragement to staff and families of embassy and students under scholarship program and presented them gifts.

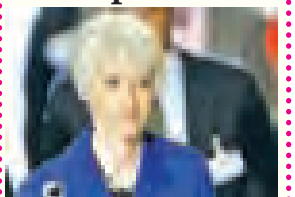
On his return to Myanmar this morning, the Vice-President was seen off at Kuala Lumpur International Airport by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia and Myanmar Embassy.

The Vice-President and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by the chief minister of Yangon Region and officials. — MNA

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Annual per capita income in Yangon Region targeted to reach over K 3.1 million

By Khin Yadanar

Yangon Region Government has planned to create more job opportunities in the region in an attempt to increase the annual average per capita income of people in the region to K 3,185, 330.

Yangon Region Government sets the target as the population density and GDP of the commercial city of Myanmar is higher than other regions and states, said U Than Myint, Yangon Region Minister for Economic and Planning.

According to statis-

tics, the annual per capita income of people across the country is targeted to reach K 761, 851 in the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year and the annual per capital income of people in Yangon at K 1, 502, 092.

Yangon Region Government has been working for establishing more vocational training schools in the region as part of efforts for creating more job opportunities to achieve the target.

"Job opportunity in Yangon is higher than other regions because of industry zones, but it's not sure for

a person to earn K 2000 per day as a basic payment. So, it is difficult to achieve the target. Yangon Region Government should find the answer to the jobless problem first," said U Soe Than Nyein, a garment entrepreneur.

According to the statistics, the GDP of Yangon Region accounts for 23 percent of the national GDP while Ayeyawady Region 12.8 percent and Mandalay Region 12.1 percent of the national GDP.

Yangon Region Government has vowed to raise its



Photo shows Thilawa Port No (4) in Thanlyan Township in Yangon Region.

GDP to 28.3 percent of the national GDP in the 2015-2016 FY.

The Gross Domestic Product of Yangon Region was recorded at K 8924.7

billion last year.
Myanma Alin 13-10-2013
Trans: AMS

Public announcement for MRTV's transition from analog to digital broadcasting system

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct — With advancements in broadcasting technology, Myanmar Radio and Television will introduce an ASEAN digital standard, Digital Video Broadcasting-Terrestrial-2 (DVB-T2), to the country under Free to Air (FTA) system phase by phase.

Following the switch from Analogue to Digital, the first phase will start on 15 October, covering four broadcasting stations in Yangon, Mandalay (Sagaing), Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) and Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon). A total of 21 TV broadcast stations in Myitkyina, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Lashio, Sittway, Minbu, Kalay (Kennedy), Falam, Popa, Meiktila, Toungoo, Nyaunglebin, Bago, Pyay, Loikaw, Mawlamyine, Hpa-an, Kyaunggon, Pathein,

Hinthada and Dawei will be included in the second phase in which all stations will be equipped with digital devices during the period from November 2013 to May 2014.

The third phase will include 56 stations during the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the fourth phase, 110 in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and the fifth phase, 66 in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

People will be able to receive the digital broadcasting system (DVB-T2) with the use of digital televisions with DVB-T2 MPEG-4 tuner and by joining the analogue television with DVB-T2 MPEG-4 Set-top Box. Programmes will be broadcast from 6 am to 11 pm daily through five channels—MRTV Channel, Myanmar International (MI) Channel,

Hluttaw Channel, National Races Channel and Farmers Channel. It is planned to increase the number of channels to eight.

Transmitting signals from Yangon station at 3 KW with frequency (CH-23) will cover Hmawby and Hlegu Townships to the north, Kungyangon and Kawhmu Townships to the south, Thongwa and Kayan Townships to the east and Twantay Township to the west, from Sagaing station at 3 KW with frequency (CH-31) Madaya to the north, Wundwin to the south and Patheingyi to the east and Myaung to the west, from Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana) at 3 KW with frequency (CH-30) Shwemyo in Tatkon Township to the north, Thagara Town to the south, Yezin and Thaikchaung to the east and Taungnyo to the

west and from Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) station at 1 KW with frequency (CH-23) the junction at the entrance to Pyawbwe to the north, Kyitaungkan to the south, Thabyekon and Nauk Both-O villages to the east and Myaungmyeik and Thayatkwin to the west.

Moreover, the above-mentioned channels will be available in Cable TV line in Nay Pyi Taw.

Through digital TV and Set-top Box, viewers will have access to 16 channels— five channels of MRTV, seven channels of MWD and four channels of Forever— without paying any monthly fees.

For the sake of the people using Analogue TVs, the analogue system will be available till next three years.

Myanmar Radio and Television

Shwepanngu Village gets electricity

PATHEIN, 13 Oct—A ceremony to launch supply of electricity to Kyaunggon Village-tract on a self-reliant basis was held in Pathein District of Ayeyawady Region on 28 September.

K y a u n g g o n Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Htein Win, U Win Kyaing of Township Electrical Office and wellwisher in-charge

of Mawgunthit bus line U Myo Win formally opened the electrification.

Shwepanngu Village is 4000 feet distance from the transformer.

So, a total of 53 concrete lamp-posts have been erected and 45 electric meters were installed for supply of electricity to the local people as of 28 September.—*Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)*

Anti-Human Trafficking

Action taken against human traffickers

MUSE, 13 Oct— According to the information, members of Muse Anti-Human Trafficking Squad placed Maung Khant Ko Ko and Ma Myat Su Mon (a) Mi Pon who stayed at Sunflower Lodging under interrogation on 6 October.

Under the investigation, they confessed they sent a woman of Yangon Region to house of Ma Thi Thi Aung in Shanywa Village of Ruili from China at 9 am on 6 October. They purposed selling her as wife for a Chinese citizen.

Therefore, Muse Anti-Human Trafficking Squad connected with Ruili Anti-Human Trafficking Squad and raided the house of Ma Thi Thi Aung and found the victim. Ruili Anti-Human Trafficking Squad handed over Ma Thi Thi Aung (a) Moe Lay and the victim to Muse Anti-Human Trafficking Squad.

According to the investigation, Maung Khant Ko Ko and Ma Myat Su Mon (a) Mi Pon worked at the plate factory in Shangdon

Prefecture of China. Ma Myat Su Mon had married with a Chinese citizen. Maung Khant Ko Ko and Ma Myat Su Mon (a) Mi Pon returned home on 12 September and lived at the home of Ma Myat Su Mon's parents in Hmawby.

Then, they persuaded a woman of neighbouring house with a promise of K 1 million for marrying a Chinese man. And, she must share K 200,000 to the couple as transport charge. The woman agreed it.

The couple took the woman to Muse on 4 October.

On 6 October, she arrived the house of human trafficker Ma Thi Thi Aung from Shanywa Village of Ruili in China.

Ma Thi Thi Aung persuaded the victim to marry with Chinese man to get 13000 yuans. If so, the victim must pay 2000 yuans to Ma Thi Thi Aung, she said.

After Maung Khant Ko Ko and Myat Su Mon (a) Mi Pon had returned home, Ma Thi Thi Aung connected with another woman, saying that one woman arrived there to marry with a Chinese man. It must pay 20000/30000 yuans as broker charge, if the plan is completed.

Muse Myoma Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Maung Khant Ko Ko, 18, son of U Kyaw Zin Latt, Ma Myat Su Mon (a) Mi Pon, 22, daughter of U Ko Oo and Ma Thi Thi Aung (a) Moe Lay, 25, daughter of U Sai Aik Maung under Sections 28(a)/32 of Anti-Human Trafficking Law.

Zaw Myo Naing (Yadanabon)

Diamond brand cement bags flow into market



YANGON, 13 Oct — Tet Nay Wun vessel carrying 32000 bags of cement running Kawthoung-Yangon route arrived at Wadan Jetty in Yangon on 8 October. The cement bags are ready to be distributed to Yangon market. So, the bags of cement were sent to the market with th price at K 5000 per bag.

Merchants arrange smooth and swift sales of cement to the retailers and wholesalers.—*Kyemon Kyaw Myint Aye (IPRD)*

Bags of cement being unloaded from the vessel to distribute it to market.

Basic mechanics special course concludes

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct — The basic mechanics course (Labutta) of Mechanical Training School under Education and Training Department under the Ministry of Border Affairs concluded at the training hall in Labutta on 4 October.

It was attended by the deputy commissioner of Labutta District, officials, townsenders, the principal and instructors, trainees totalling 100.

Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Khaing Soe made a speech and presented award to all-round outstanding

student Maung Htet Wai Aung of Thayetchaung Village in Mawlamyine Township.

The commander of District Police Force presented prizes to other outstanding trainees.

Principal U Thein Oo gave certificates to trainees.

The training course was conducted from 7 August to 4 October. It was taken by 35 trainees.

The department provided food and accommodation and teaching aid to trainees.

MNA

Pollination being carried out at Palethwe-2 hybrid paddy plantation in Ward 3 of Mongyai Township on 5 October.

KYEMON-HAN HTAY



WORLD

US delegation to Iran talks includes sanctions expert



US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman arrives for a meeting on Syria at the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva on 25 June, 2013. —REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 13 Oct — The US delegation to next week's talks about Iran's nuclear programme includes one of the US government's leading sanctions experts, a hint that Washington may be giving great

er thought to how it might ease sanctions on Teheran.

Undersecretary of State Wendy Sherman, effectively the State Department's third-ranking diplomat, will lead the US delegation to negotiations between Iran

and six major powers in Geneva on Tuesday and Wednesday, the State Department said.

The central issue at the talks, which will involve Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia, the United States and Iran, will be to explore what, if any, steps Iran might take to curb its nuclear programme and what, if any, sanctions relief the major powers may offer in return.

Western powers are concerned that Iran is seeking to develop atomic bombs. Iran denies that, saying its nuclear program is solely for peaceful purposes.

The US delegation will include Adam Szubin, the director of the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, or

OFAC, and among the US government's foremost experts on sanctions.

Szubin has led OFAC since 2006 and is responsible for administering and enforcing the US government's economic sanctions programs to advance foreign policy and national security objectives.

The US team also includes James Timbie, senior adviser to the undersecretary of state for arms control and international security; Puneet Talwar, senior director for Iran, Iraq and the Gulf States on the White House National Security Staff; and Richard Nephew, principal deputy coordinator for sanctions policy at the State Department, a US official said.

Reuters

Australia's Labour elects new leader after big election defeat

CANBERRA, 13 Oct — Australia's Labour Party on Sunday elected Bill Shorten to lead it in opposition, help it rebuild support and end bitter divisions after suffering its worst election defeat in a century.

Shorten will be the party's third leader in four months and takes over as new conservative Prime Minister Tony Abbott prepares for the first sitting of parliament since winning a general election on 7 September.

Labour was thrown out of office after six years in power after the party

dumped the country's first female Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and restored a former prime minister, Kevin Rudd, to power just weeks before the election.

Shorten's win follows a month-long vote by the party's 40,000 members, with the results combined with the vote of Labour's lawmakers.

"Today the entire Labour Party chose a leader and chose an alternative prime minister," acting opposition leader Chris Bowen said.

The ballot of the party's wider membership was a first in Australia, but



Labour new leader Bill Shorten

follows a trend to make parties more democratic in Britain, Canada and New Zealand.

Shorten's victory marks a win for the party's right wing faction in his home state of Victoria, where he had built a strong following as a union leader before he entered parliament.

Shorten, 46, came to national prominence as

head of the powerful Australian Workers Union.

He was elected to parliament in the 2007 election that ended almost 12 years of conservative rule and resulted in Rudd becoming prime minister for the first time. Gillard left parliament at the September election, but Rudd is still a member and could take up a senior role in opposition.—Reuters

Syria's Red Crescent evacuates 1,500 civilians in Damascus

DAMASCUS, 13 Oct — The Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC) on Saturday evacuated as many as 1,500 civilians from a conflict zone in the countryside of Syria's capital of Damascus.

Most of the evacuees were women and children who were stuck in the hot-spot of Muadamieh, west of Damascus, SARC said in a statement, adding they were relocated into shelters in the countryside of Damascus.

The news came as lo-

cal media said that the Syrian army opened routes for civilians to leave Muadamieh, which has emerged as a battlefield for intense clashes between the rebels and the Syrian troops.

SARC has been carrying out its work amid tough security conditions in the war-torn country. The non-governmental organization has lost about 22 of its volunteers while trying to reach the needy people across Syria.

Xinhua

Car bombing kills 14 in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 13 Oct — As many as 14 people were killed and 22 others wounded in a car bomb explosion in Samarra, some 120 km north of Iraq's capital of Baghdad on Saturday evening, police said.

The car bomb exploded in an outdoor market in Samarra as people were shopping in preparation for the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, which begins on Tuesday, a police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Many of the victims

are women and children, the source added.

Iraq is witnessing its worst eruption of violence in recent years, which raises fears that the country is sliding back to the full-blown civil conflict that peaked in 2006 and 2007, when monthly death toll sometimes exceeded 3,000.

According to the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq, almost 6,000 civilians were killed and over 14,000 others injured in Iraq from January to September this year.—Xinhua

Cyclone Phailin pounds India, rescue workers start to assess damage

BHUBANESWAR/SRIKAKULAM, 13 Oct — Cyclone Phailin powered its way inland over eastern India on Sunday leaving a swathe of destruction but the loss of life appeared limited after more than half a million people sought safety in storm shelters.

Phailin was the strongest storm to hit India in 14 years. Torn branches littered a road running past destroyed huts and twisted electricity poles along a large stretch of the east coast.

At least five people were killed — four people by falling trees and one when the walls of her mud house collapsed as the storm roared in off the Bay of Bengal, authorities said.

The cyclone was one of three major storms over Asia on Sunday. The smaller Typhoon Nari was approaching Vietnam and Typhoon Wipha loomed over the Pacific.

More than half a million people in India spent the night in shelters, some built after a storm killed

10,000 people in 1999. Others took refuge in temples.

By first light, winds had slowed to 90 kph (56 mph) from top speeds of 200 kph (124 mph) when the storm made landfall near the town of Gopalpur in Odisha state on Saturday night.

Television images showed cars flipped on their sides and debris-strewn streets in the silk producing city of Brahmapur, one of the hardest hit. A few trucks and motor-bikes returned to the city's streets as residents emerged to survey the damage.

Large swathes of Odisha, including its capital, were without electricity for a second day after the storm ripped down power cables, and officials said it was too early to give an accurate damage assessment.

"We will assess after the cyclone eases ... even now the cyclone is on," said Odisha's chief secretary J.K. Mohapatra.

"There has been pretty severe devastation in Brahmapur town."—Reuters



People stand around the burnt cars after two mortar rounds hit the Abu Roumaneh neighbourhood of the Syrian capital Damascus, on 12 Oct, 2013. According to Syria's Arab News Agency SANA, two mortar rounds fell in front of the Dar al-Salam school in the Abu Roumaneh neighbourhood in Damascus, causing casualties and damages.

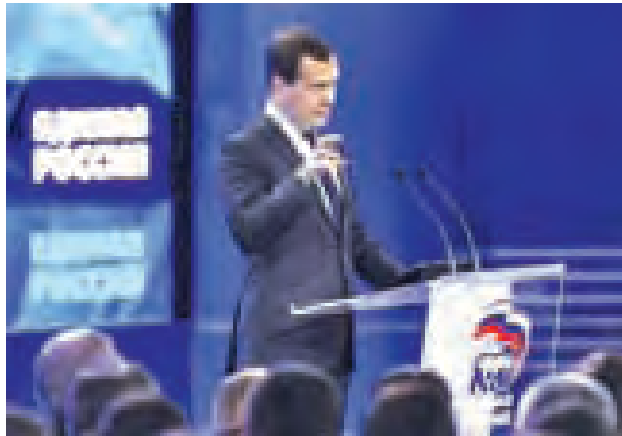
XINHUA



A man tries to cover himself with an umbrella during heavy rain brought by Cyclone Phailin as he moves towards a safer place at the village Donkuru in Sri-kakulam District in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh on 12 Oct, 2013. —REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Russia's Medvedev fires space agency chief



Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev speaks during the United Russia political party convention in Moscow on 5 Oct, 2013.

REUTERS

MOSCOW, 13 Oct — Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev dismissed the country's space agency (Roskosmos) chief Vladimir Popovkin on Thursday, three months after the latest botched satellite launch.

"I hope that a number of problems that we have unfortunately seen in Roskosmos' activity will be overcome with your appointment," Medvedev told Popovkin's successor to the post, former deputy defence minister Oleg Ostapenko.

Popovkin, a former

senior defence ministry official, denied media reports earlier this year saying that he had been hospitalised after a drunken brawl in the Roskosmos office.

Russia lost roughly \$200 million after a rocket carrying satellites crashed shortly after lift-off from the Russian-leased Baikonur launchpad in Kazakhstan in July. Medvedev at the time said that Russia had lost 10 satellites in seven failed launches in less than a year.

Russian Deputy Prime

Broadcasters could bring Aereo fight to Supreme Court

NEW YORK, 13 Oct — The broadcasters involved in a high-profile lawsuit with online TV service Aereo could file a petition to the US Supreme Court as early as Friday, according to two sources familiar with the matter.

Aereo, backed by Barry Diller's IAC/Interactive Corp, charges about \$12 a month to watch live or recorded TV channels on computers or mobile devices.

In federal court in New York, Walt Disney Co's ABC, Comcast Corp's NBC, Fox and CBS Broadcasting are among those claiming that Aereo's service amounts to stealing their proprietary content. In April the US 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that Aereo could continue to operate while the New York litigation moves forward.

The television industry is closely watching the case to see whether it could disrupt the traditional TV model. The TV industry sees the service as a threat

to its ability to control subscription fees and generate advertising income, its two main sources of revenue.

The main question in all the suits is whether Aereo's technology provides users with a "public performance" of the plaintiffs' content. Copyright owners have the exclusive right to public performance of their works.

The news that the broadcasters were considering appealing to the Supreme Court was previously reported by Variety and the Wall Street Journal.

A representative from CBS declined to comment. Representatives from Fox, Disney, NBC and Aereo did not immediately respond to requests for comment. On Thursday, Online TV service Aereo Inc logged another court victory, with a federal judge refusing to temporarily shut down the IAC-backed start-up in a lawsuit brought by a Boston station owned by Hearst Television Inc.

Reuters

Minister Dmitry Rogozin, who oversees defence industry in the cabinet, wrote on Twitter that Popovkin would be given a senior post in Russia's space industry.

The practice to rotate officials regardless of their failures dates back to the Soviet political system dominated by the Communist Party, operating as a one-class club with internal disagreements rarely coming to light.

Russia is increasing spending on space and plans to send a probe to the moon in 2015. But the pioneering Russian programme that put the first man in space in 1961 has been plagued in recent years by setbacks, including abortive satellite launches and a failed attempt to send a probe to a moon of Mars.

Reuters

Brazil investigates Google over antitrust charges

SAO PAULO, 13 Oct — Brazil is investigating Google Inc for anticompetitive practices alleged by Microsoft Corp and Brazilian rivals, adding to government pressure in one of Google's fastest-growing major markets. Brazilian antitrust watchdog Cade said on Friday it is looking into accusations that Google has unfairly used rivals' content, discouraged their advertisers and favoured its own product listings in search results. A Google spokeswoman in Sao Paulo said in an email that the company would cooperate with Brazilian regulators.

Microsoft filed a complaint charging Google with obstructing advertising campaigns across multiple search engines to give an unfair advantage to its highly profitable AdWords service, according to a Cade statement. AdWords is Google's main source of advertising dollars, which

STOCKHOLM, 13 Oct — A fake Press release claiming electronics firm Samsung (005930.KS) was buying Sweden's Fingerprint Cards (FINGb.ST) sent shares in the biometrics company soaring on Friday, prompting an investigation into suspected market manipulation.

The Swedish Economic Crime Authority said it would launch a preliminary fraud probe after company news distributor Cision (CISI.ST) published a statement saying Samsung Electronics Co Ltd was buying Fingerprint Cards for \$650 million in cash.

Both Fingerprint Cards, which develops and makes fingerprint scanners used to access computers and mobile phones, and South Korea's Samsung said the Press release was a fake and denied they had been in talks. Shares

in Fingerprint Cards rose more than 50 percent on the false statement, before the Stockholm bourse suspended trading. Cision said its preliminary investigation showed it had been the subject of a "sophisticated fraud".

Fingerprint Cards' Chief Executive Johan Carlstrom criticized controls at Cision saying it should have checked that information it was sending out was correct.

"With a bigger Press release, they should call to make sure," he said. "There are only two people authorized to send Press releases and that is the CEO and financial officer. In those cases they are sent from our e-mail addresses, and this one was not." Cision said it had followed its guidelines but was making immediate changes to some of its procedures. Chief Executive

Magnus Thell said staff had called a contact number to verify the authenticity of the release and had reached a person who had identified himself as Fingerprint's CEO.

"When it comes to fraud, you cannot protect yourself 100 percent," Thell said. The contact information in the fake Press release included the e-mail address "investrel@fingerprint-cards.se". That domain name, fingerprint-cards.se, was created on Thursday, a search of records on the website of .SE, Sweden's Internet Infrastructure Foundation, showed.

The .SE organization is responsible for Sweden's top-level domain ".se", including the registration of domain names. A phone number in the release was not available when called by Reuters.—Reuters



A Google logo is seen at the entrance to the company's offices in Toronto on 5 Sept, 2013. — REUTERS

make up 95 percent of revenue. Brazilian comparison shopping sites Buscapé and Bonfardo also accused Google of reproducing product reviews from their users, a practice known as "scraping," without allowing the competitors to do the same with its website Google Shopping.

Cade is also looking into complaints from Buscapé and Bonfardo that Google gives unfair prominence to Google Shopping on its general Web search, making it the only price-comparison tool that appears with photos, prices and evaluations. The regulatory pressure comes as Brazilian authorities take a closer look at major US Internet companies such as Google and Facebook Inc after revelations the United States spied on digital communications by President Dilma Rousseff and state-run oil company Petrobras.

Rousseff has pushed

new legislation that would force major Internet companies to store locally gathered data inside Brazil, requiring the construction of costly new data centers. Communications Minister Paulo Bernardo recently suggested tech companies were not paying enough taxes. Google is moving closer to settling a three-year antitrust dispute with the European Union on grounds similar to those raised by the Brazilian investigation.

Last year, Google won an initial ruling from a Sao Paulo court in a lawsuit filed

by Buscapé and Bonfardo covering the same practices they outlined in their Cade complaint. The court found that Google did not have a monopoly over Brazil's search engine market and was not a direct competitor with comparison shopping websites. Buscapé appealed the ruling. Google is facing increased scrutiny at a time when Brazilian regulators are working to ramp up the enforcement of competition laws following years of complaints from consumer advocates of lax oversight and antitrust abuses by companies.—Reuters

One third firms exit tighter pre-IPO checks

BEIJING, 13 Oct — About one third of Chinese firms lining up for initial public offerings (IPOs) have sounded the retreat since the securities watchdog tightened checks before restarting IPOs. China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) said among 622 enterprise which have filed

IPO applications, 268 have withdrawn, according to Saturday's Shanghai Securities News.

The new checking regime began at the end of last year and includes self-checks of financial statements by underwriters and accounting firms, and spot checks by the CSRC.

IPOs on China's Shanghai and Shenzhen stock markets have been suspended for nearly a year. Market expectations have climbed in anticipation of the resumption.

The CSRC takes an active but prudent attitude toward IPOs on the Chinese stock market, a spokesman

of the CSRC said in late September. The CSRC began seeking public opinion in June on IPO reform. The plan provides greater freedom in launch timing, as well as pricing of new stock issues by allowing qualified individual investors to participate in offline placements. — Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

AstraZeneca to co-promote J&J prostate cancer drug in Japan

LONDON, 13 Oct—AstraZeneca has signed a deal to co-promote Johnson & Johnson's novel prostate cancer medicine in Japan, giving the British company a new drug revenue stream and bolstering its Japanese presence.

Financial terms of the agreement, announced by AstraZeneca on Friday, were not disclosed. The drug, abiraterone, was submitted for regulatory approval in Japan in July 2013. It is already on the market in the United States and Europe, where it is sold under the brand name Zytiga.

"This deal is a strong strategic fit for AstraZeneca, reinforcing both our focus on oncology as a core therapy area and Japan as one of our key growth drivers," said Marc Dunoyer, executive vice president for global products and portfolio strategy at AstraZeneca.—Reuters

Nissan to sell Infiniti brand cars in Japan market



A man looks at a Nissan car at its showroom in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, on 18 Dec, 2012.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 13 Oct—Japan's Nissan Motor Co (7201.T) will sell its Infiniti luxury brand autos in its home market, seeking to capture growing demand for upscale cars and to better compete with German rivals such as BMW, the Japanese business daily *Nikkei* reported. The company will release the redesigned Skyline luxury sports sedan under the Infiniti brand as early as this winter, *the Nikkei* said.

The Skyline is sold as the Infiniti Q50 in the United States for a base price of \$36,700 (3.6 million yen). The price and sales target in Japan have yet to be set. A plant in Tochigi Prefecture will handle production, *the Nikkei* said. A Nissan spokesman could not be immediately reached for comment on the report. The automaker intends to sell the new Infiniti-brand cars at existing Nissan dealerships, with no plan to establish an

China's September export growth in surprise slide

BEIJING, 13 Oct—China's export growth fizzled in September to post a surprise fall as sales to Southeast Asia tumbled, data showed, a disappointing break to a recent run of indicators that had signaled its economy gaining strength. China's exports dropped 0.3 percent in September from a year earlier, the Customs Administration said on Saturday, sharply confounding market expectations for a rise of 6 percent, and marking the worst performance in three months. Imports fared better, rising 7.4 percent in September from a year ago, better than forecasts for a 7 percent increase, shrinking China's monthly trade surplus to \$15.2 billion.

Analysts said weak exports underscored worries about flagging global demand, which may crumble further in coming months—especially in emerging markets—when tighter US monetary policy pushes

investors away from developing economies. Indeed, the data showed Chinese exports to Southeast Asia, China's fastest-growing export market in the past year, dived to a 17-month low in September. Capital outflows from the region on bets that the US central bank will cut its bond purchases had hit demand, said Louis Kuijs, an economist at RBS in Hong Kong.

"Looking ahead, export data may be quite weak in the coming months," Kuijs said, adding that financial turmoil in several emerging markets had dragged on global demand. The dismal exports performance comes after the world's No 2 economy showed encouraging signs of stabilization, having fought a slowdown that lasted in 12 of 14 quarters. Trade, factory production and the services sector all picked up in the past two months. Attention now turns to China's third-quarter



A worker rides his bicycle past piles of steel coils for export at a port in Yingkou, Liaoning Province on 9 Aug, 2013.—REUTERS

gross domestic product data and other figures for September due next week.

The median forecast of 21 economists in a *Reuters* poll showed economic growth is expected to quicken to 7.8 percent in the third quarter from a

year ago, up from 7.5 percent in the previous three months. "Developed economies have shown signs of recovery but they are still unstable. The global economic situation is still complicated," Zheng Yuesheng, a spokesman for the cus-

toms office, told a media briefing on Saturday. Albeit patchy, the rebound in the global economy helped lift China's total trade growth to 6 percent in the third quarter, from 4.3 percent the previous three months, Zheng said.—Reuters

Extra-padded shoes may not blunt running injuries

NEW YORK, 13 Oct—Soft cushioning in shoes has been marketed to runners as extra shock-absorption to prevent injuries, but in a new study the added padding made no difference in who got hurt.

Researchers tested identical-looking shoes with different levels of cushioning in a blind trial with nearly 250 regular runners and found factors like body weight and overall fitness made some difference to injury rates, but shoe-softness did not. "The results do not support the common argument from the running shoe industry that

runners with higher body mass should be recommended shoes with greater shock-absorption characteristics," said lead author Daniel Theisen of the Sports Medicine Research Laboratory of the Department of Public Health in Luxembourg.

Based on research showing that cushioning can relieve certain mechanical stresses on the body, Theisen, a physical therapist with a PhD in sports science and a runner himself, says he fully expected to see a difference. But past tests of extra cushioning under real-world

conditions, such as US Air Force recruits in basic training, have not shown a clear benefit, Theisen and his colleagues write in *the British Journal of Sports Medicine*. So Theisen's team set up what it believes to be the first randomized, double-blind controlled trial of whether shoe sponginess affects running-related injuries in leisure runners. The researchers recruited runners through newspaper advertisements and Internet sites and randomly divided the 247 participants into two groups.

The men and women were all between the ages

of 30 and 50 years old, had body mass indexes (a measure of weight relative to height) ranging from normal to slightly overweight and all ran a minimum of 10 miles a week. Participants got shoes provided by "a renowned sports equipment manufacturer," according to the report, which were customized versions of a model sold in stores. There were no identifying decorations on the shoes, and all appeared identical except that half of the pairs had a soft midsole - a spongy layer beneath the insole of the shoe's interior.—Reuters

BMW's China sales up 20 percent in Jan-Sept, eyes record sales



A worker mounts the logo on a rim at the serial production BMW i3 electric car in the BMW factory in Leipzig on 18 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

BEIJING, 13 Oct—German luxury car maker BMW (BMWG.DE) said on Saturday its China sales rose more than 20 percent in the first nine months of this year, paving the way for another year of record sales in the world's biggest automobile market.

The company sold 284,964 BMW and MINI vehicles in China in the January to September period, up 20.2 percent from a year earlier. That compares with a 12.7 percent growth in China's vehicle market

and a nine percent growth in BMW's global deliveries during the same period.

"The stable growth ... laid a solid foundation for achieving another sales record for the year of 2013," Karsten Engel, chief executive of BMW Group China said in a statement. China, which is expected to surpass the United States as the biggest premium car market by the end of the decade, is key to other luxury marques such as Ferrari, Lamborghini and Bentley.

Reuters

US, Afghanistan agree on draft security pact

KABUL, 13 Oct—US Secretary of State John Kerry and Afghan President Hamid Karzai on Saturday reached a preliminary agreement on a bilateral security pact that now depends on approval by Afghanistan's tribal leaders.

The pact, announced jointly by Kerry and Karzai after two days of talks in the capital, Kabul, would keep some US forces in Afghanistan after 2014.

It includes a key US demand to retain legal jurisdiction over the troops that will remain in Afghanistan, which would give them immunity from Afghan law.

It will be up to the country's Loya Jirga, an assembly of elders, leaders

and other influential people, to decide whether to accept it. "Tonight we reached some sort of agreements," Karzai told a news conference, speaking through an interpreter.

US officials said they wanted the pact finalized by the end of October and Kerry's visit was seen as a last-ditch effort to push the deal through before the deadline.

The United States is insisting it cannot agree to a deal unless it is granted the right to try US citizens who break the law in Afghanistan at home in the United States.

A senior US administration official said the sides had agreed on language in



Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai (R) shakes hands with US Secretary of State John Kerry after a news conference at the Presidential Palace in Kabul on 12 Oct, 2013. —REUTERS

the draft deal that covers the issue of immunity and "that can be put to his Loya Jirga for their consideration."

"We need to say that if the issue of jurisdiction cannot be resolved, then unfortunately there cannot be a bilateral security agreement," Kerry told a

news conference.

Karzai said the talks had focused on protecting Afghan sovereignty and that major differences had been resolved, including a US request to run independent counter-terrorism missions on Afghan territory.—Reuters

Truck crash kills 51 people in Peru

LIMA, 13 Oct—At least 51 people were killed when a truck plunged off a cliff in the southeastern Peru on Saturday, the National Police said.

A total of 51 bodies have been found, and search and rescue operation was still underway, an official of the National Police was quoted as saying on local television.

The victims included 12 children in the accident in the southeastern Prov-

ince of La Convencion, media reported, citing local police.

An investigation was underway to determine whether drunk driving was involved in the accident.

Due to a shortage of buses, people often travel by truck in the province.

Peru has been plagued with poorly maintained roads and inexperienced drivers, a lethal combination behind many road accidents.—Xinhua



Photo taken in September 2013 shows a guest room of a luxurious hotel that opened in the summer of the same year near a beach resort in Wonsan, North Korea. KYODO NEWS

Philippines, Muslim rebels end talks without signing of annexes

MANILA, 13 Oct — Negotiators of the Philippine government and the country's largest rebel group Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) ended on early Sunday the 41st round of formal exploratory talks in Malaysia without signing any of the two remaining annexes of the framework agreement on the Bangsamoro (FAB). But both sides said that they have made substantial progress on the remaining annexes on power-sharing and normalization.

"They have proceeded in exhaustive, honest discussions in order to identify the best formulations for an agreement that would respond to the aspirations of both Parties," they said in a joint statement.

The remaining challenges and the time constraints demand that the

panels remain focused on completing the annexes following a break for Eid'Ul'Adha, the statement added. The government and the MILF said that they have a full understanding of their responsibility as they strive toward a sustainable and inclusive solution for the benefit of all people in the Bangsamoro.

Both sides signed early this year the annexes on transitional arrangements and modalities and wealth-sharing. The four annexes and the FAB will form part of a comprehensive peace deal that both sides hope to sign before the end of the year. The peace agreement aims to end the four-decade armed conflict in southern Philippines by creating a Bangsamoro government that will replace the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.—Xinhua

Uzbek translates novel to keep friends with Japan

TSUKUBA, Japan, 13 Oct—A young woman from Uzbekistan has published the first translation in her native language of a famous Japanese novel, inspired by her late grandfather's wish to deepen the friendship between the two countries.

Aminova Nodira, 26, translated "Kokoro," by Meiji-era novelist Natsume Soseki (1867-1916), into Uzbek over a roughly two-year period. Her translation ran in the May issue of a monthly Uzbek magazine that introduces literature from around the world.

"I'm so happy because Japanese literature is not very well known back home," Nodira said during a recent interview in Tsukuba, Ibaraki Prefecture.

While enrolled at university in western Japan in 2005, Nodira visited a bookstore where she noticed the title "Kokoro,"

meaning "heart," a Japanese word her grandfather taught her as a child.

Her grandfather, who was an architect, was engaged in construction of the Alisher Navoi Opera and Ballet Theatre in the capital of Tashkent, which was completed in 1947.

The theater project involved Japanese war prisoners who were sent from Siberia after the end of

Official campaigning for Kobe, Kawasaki mayoral elections starts

KOBE, 13 Oct—Official campaigning for the Kobe and Kawasaki mayoral elections started on Sunday, with neither of the incumbents seeking a further term. In the western Japan city of Kobe, the four candidates include Yasuko Morishita, 48, a former member of the Kobe city assembly, and Yuna Nukina, 61, a representative of a civic group who is supported by the Japanese Communist Party.

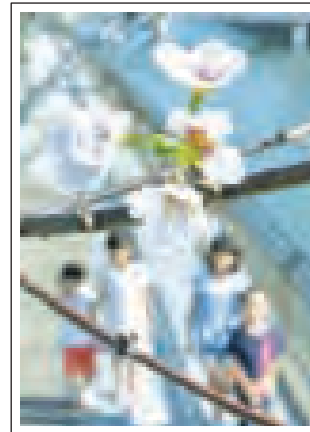
The two other candidates are Kizo Hisamoto, 59, the former deputy mayor of Kobe who is recommended by the Liberal Democratic Party, the Democratic Party of Japan and the New Komeito party, and Takahito Kashino, 50, a company executive.

The four are running as independents. Incumbent Mayor Tatsuo Yada, 73,

named Hisamoto, a former official of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, as his political heir and is not running in the race, which is seen as a two-man race between Hisamoto and Kashino, who lost the previous election to Yada by 8,000 votes.

In Kawasaki, just southwest of Tokyo, the candidates are Yoshio Hideshima, 44, a former official of the ministry, backed by the LDP, DPJ and the New Komeito, Chikako Kimishima, 63, a branch head of the New Japan Women's Association, a major Japanese non-government organization for women's rights, backed by the JCP, and Norihiko Fukuda, 41, a former member of the Kanagawa prefectural assembly.

Kyodo News



Cherry blossoms bloom due to unseasonable heat in Tokyo's Edogawa Ward on 12 Oct, 2013. The temperature in central Tokyo reached 31.3 C the same day, setting a record for the second day in a row for a temperature of over 30 C to be observed in the capital at this time of year, the Japan Meteorological Agency said. KYODO NEWS

Protestors hold banners and national flags of Azerbaijan during a protest rally in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan, on 12 Oct, 2013. About 6,000 opposition supporters gather on the outskirts of Baku to protest against alleged violations during the presidential election in the oil-rich Caspian country this Wednesday, in which the incumbent president Ilham Aliyev won his third term. —XINHUA



LOCAL NEWS

KBZ Bank donates cash to fund for construction of Seikkantha Bridge in Kalay

KALAY, 13 Oct—The heavy rain that hit Kalay in the last week of September caused damage to 2149 acres of farmlands, 35 buildings and 11 bridges worth K 400 million, said Sagaing Region Minister U Sein Moun in meeting with officials on 9 October.

Among the damages, the northern part of Seikkantha Bridge that linked Pinlon Lanmadaw Street and Bogyoke Street floated in the water.

“Students of Basic Education High School No. 3 are relying on Seikkantha Bridge in going to the school.

Due to lack of bridge, they went round it along Sanpya Road and the road in front of the hospital. Parents of the students are worrying about traffic accidents,” said a local people.

“It needs to ensure approach structures of the bridges across rivers or creeks for long term durability of the bridge. The construction tasks should be placed under care. Moreover, retaining walls should be built for prevention of erosion to the approach structures,” said a local.

It was estimated

that when the cost was calculated for construction of the bridge, it may cost K 5.3 million. Therefore, the coordination was held between Township Supportive Committee and Township Management

Committee. Then, they made request to the KBZ Bank for construction. The bank funded the construction cost, according to the Township Supportive Committee. At present, the wellwishers donated cash to the fund for rehabilitation and reconstruction of Kalay.—*MMAL-Shin Nay Min*

Distinction winners honoured in Hsipaw

Hsipaw, 13 Oct—A ceremony to honour the distinction winning students in the 2012-2013 academic year matriculation examination was held at the hall of Basic Education High School No. 1 in Hsipaw of Shan State (North) on 6

October.

Township Education Committee Chairman Township Administrator U Myo Tint Zaw made a speech, and Township Education Officer Daw Myint Myint explained the purpose of holding the ceremony.

Next, the township administrator, the township education officer, the deputy township administrator and officials presented prizes to outstanding students individually.

Township Education Officer Daw Myint Myint presented gifts to 25 teachers through Headmaster of BEHS No. 1 U Kyi Min.

MMAL-Sai (Hsipaw)

Theoretical drama scholars elected for Five Thiri Tsp Thabin Organization

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—The Thabin Organization was reformed with theoretical drama scholars from five Thiri townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, at a ceremony held on Yazahntani Road in Aungthaya ward of

Pobbathiri Township on 4 October morning.

The election was based on those of Pobbathiri, Zabuthiri, Zeyathiri, Ottarathiri and Dekkhinathiri townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

It was attended by the Chairman of Myanmar Thabin Organization and members. Those present at the ceremony elected U Yar Tin as Chairman, U Mya Win as secretary and five patrons and nine executives.

About 30 attendees from five Thiri townships discussed reformation of the organizations.

Five Thiri Township Thabin Organization will discharge duties assigned by Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture, Nay Pyi Taw Council, Myanmar

Thabin Organization (Central) and township administrators from five thiri townships. They will assess progress of theoretical drama performers and forge unity among the scholars of the organizations, said Chairman U Yar Tin.

MMAL-Zaw Myo Naing

Compensation given to farmers in Zalun Township

ZALUN, 13 Oct—A ceremony to present compensation for farmers who lost farmlands in the area of constructing the embankment was held on 7

Lwin of Hinthada District Irrigation Department made speeches.

Next, Staff Officer of Zalun Township Irrigation Department U Aung Swe gave K 12,456,000 for 10.38 acres of farmlands to four farmers of Zalun Township.—*MMAL-District IPRD*



The 49th Anniversary Myanmar Police Force Day was observed at Myanmar Drugs Museum in Kamayut Township, Yangon Region, on 1 October. Patron of Yangon Region Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Khin Thet Htay presents first prize for sanitation of quarters to the wife of Police L/Cpl Than Swe Oo from Hline Myoma Police Station. *MMAL-MEE MEE (HLINE)*



The ash of Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja U Goenka, Patron of International Dhammagiri Vipassana Organization, was set adrift in Ayeyawady River on 10 October evening. Members of the Sangha, nuns, disciples and families led by Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanissara recited Dhamma verses on board vessels from Gawwein Jetty of Mahaangmye Township in Mandalay Region to Sagaing Bridge. *MMAL-TIN MAUNG (MANDALAY)*

Anti-rabies vaccine given to pets in Mayangon Tsp

YANGON, 13 Oct—As a case that some persons were bitten by a male horse with rabies virus happened in Ward 1 of Mayangon Township recently, Assistant Director Dr Kyaw Naing Oo and party of Research and Disease Control Branch of Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department,

Head of Mayangon Township LBVD Dr Sein Sein Gyi and staff, injected anti-rabies vaccine to pet dogs and cats free of charge on 9 October.

They also gave anti-rabies vaccine to 186 pet dogs and 436 pet cats and enquired condition of outbreaks of diseases.

MMAL-015



Census-taking process clarified in Pyay

PYAY, 13 Oct—A ceremony to clarify process of taking census 2014 was held at Thiri Khittaya Yadana hall in Pyay recently.

Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint explained matters related to the taking census nationwide in 2014.

The deputy minister and Director-General U Myint Kyaing of Population Department replied to queries raised by those present.

The talks were attended by over 610 departmental personnel and local people.

MMAL-Kyaw Kyaw

Landslide causes in Falam Township

FALAM, 13 Oct—The recent heavy rain caused landslide at 12 noon on 8 October, 100 feet from Lyanyi Village of Falam Township in Chin State.

The local authorities and local people evacuated two houses in danger to safe place and provided necessary assistance to them.

MMAL-District IPRD



The Accounts of Suvannabhumi Culled from Various Literary Sources

(Continued from yesterday)

In addition to the modern scholars' identifications, some Indian old treatises also mention the accounts of Suvannabhumi. *The Ramayana Epic* relates that five hundred monkeys led by Sugriva went over to Suvannadvipa in quest of Sitadevi. This Suvannadvipa is mentioned as Sumatra by Moorkerji.

The Bihakatha describes Kalasapura as the capital of Suvannabhumi, which is located in Lower Myanmar or in the part of Malaysia by Majumdar. *The Dviparatra* mentions Kanakapuri as the capital of Suvannabhumi. It is identified with Bago by Moorkerji.

Ceylonese Sources

Although India was the cradle of Buddhism, Ceylon was the main catalyst for its oversea propagation. It is accepted that Buddhism, in Mahavihara tradition, started to take a firm root on the soil of Ceylon from the time when Ven. Mahinda reached it during Asoka's time. Thenceforth, Buddhism gained more strength and continued to survive up to the 1st century B.C. Then due to a 12-year famine, the Fourth Buddhist Council was convened at Aloka Cave in Malaya district in Ceylon under the auspices of Ven. Mahadhammarakkhita in 94 B.C during the reign of king Vattagamani. It lasted for one year and the Buddha's discourses were first inscribed on palm-leaves in the mean time. Therefore, needless to say, a plethora of Buddhist texts have appeared in Ceylon since. Among these books, *the Dvipavamsa* (4th century A.D) and *the Mahavamsa* (6th century A.D) the most celebrated Ceylonese Chronicles, are the first to have described the visit of Sona and Uttara to Suvannabhumi. However, some scholars threw doubts over the authenticity of these chronicles due probably to their great antiquity. In 1837, a British scholar James Prinsep could successfully decipher the scripts engraved on an edict of King Asoka. Thenceforth, other edicts of Asoka were found recording the names of missionary monks and the countries they went to and most of them are

found identical with those mentioned in *the Dvipavamsa and the Mahavamsa*. Thus did the edicts of Asoka authenticate the claim made by the Ceylonese chronicles, silencing the scholars who voiced doubts about their validity.

The names of leaders of the missionary groups and of the countries they were deputed to record by

confessed his doubt about this identification. However, *the Mahavamsa* describes a visit of a group of monks from Kelasa Vihara headed by Ven. Suriyagutta to ceremony of construction of the Mahaceti in Ceylon during the time of king Dutthagamani the 2nd century B.C. The site of Kelasa Vihara, which is traditionally believed to have been

Among the accounts are the book of Pomponipus Mela (43 A.D), *the Geography of Ptolemy* (140 A.D), Pliny's *Natural History* (77 A.D) and the *Periplus of Erythrean Sea* (100 A.D). Pomponius Mela placed Chryse Chora (Gold Land) and Argyra (Silver Land) on the east of the mouth of the Ganges.

Pliny considered that Chryse Chora was either a peninsula or an archipelago in South-east Asia. He put it on the border of the country of the Silks (Chinese).

The Periplus of the Erythrean Sea did not clearly refer to any direct voyage between South-India and golden peninsula (Chryse Chersonese) but misplaced the Malay Peninsula near the mouth of the Ganges. This suggests that the writer of this book had not been to South-east Asia personally.

Ptolemy who himself reached South-east Asia endorsed Rakhine coast as Argyra (Silver Land), the coast of Lower Myanmar as Chryse Chora (Gold Land) and the Malay Peninsula as Chryse Chersonese (Golden Peninsula). He found the towns named Barakura and Sada in Argyra and Tamala, Sabara, Besynga and Sarabai in Chryse.

Gerini who did research on Ptolemy's Geography says that Ptolemy's Chryse Chora is partly identical with Svaannabhumi. He identified Barakura with Dhannavati near present Mrauk U, Sada with Thandwe, Tamala with Pathein, Sabara with Dala near Yangon, Besynga with the mart near Singuttara Hill or with Thaton and Sarabai with Mergui.

Chinese Sources

It is believed that a trade land-route between India and China via ancient Myanmar was in use about 300 years before the birth of Christ. The Chinese are said to start to use the Silk Road linking China with Roma in about 2nd century B.C. During the 1st millennium, Chinese pilgrims made difficult land journeys to India and collected Buddhist scriptures and visited the sites of important events of the Buddha's life. (To be continued)

Dr. Saw Mra Aung

the Mahavamsa are:

- (1) A group led by Ven. Majjhantika was deputed to Gandhara
- (2) A group led by Ven. Maharevata was deputed to Mahimsakamandala
- (3) A group led by Ven. Rakkhita was deputed to Vanavasi
- (4) A group led by Yonaka Dhammarakkhita was deputed to Aparanta
- (5) A group led by Ven. Mahadhammarakkhita was deputed to Maharaththa.,
- (6) A group led by Ven. Maharakkhita was deputed to Yonaka.
- (7) A group led by Ven. Majjhima was deputed to Himavanta.
- (8) A group led by Ven. Mahimda was deputed to Tambapanni.
- (9) A group led by Vens. Sona and Uttara was deputed to Suvannabhumi.

This chronicle does not locate these countries exactly. Subsequently, modern Scholars tried to identify them. According to them, Gandhara is identified with Afghanistan, Mahimsakamandala with Mysore, Vanavasi with Melabar, Aparanta with Gujarat, Maharaththa with Maharashtra, Yonaka with Greek, Turkish and Southern Russia, Himavanta region with Bhutan, Tibet, etc. Tambapanni with Srilanka and Suvannabhumi with Ramanna province. Especially, scholars argue heatedly over the identification of Suvannabhumi. Although Ven. Mahanama, the author of the Mahavamsa, did not pinpoint Suvannabhumi, Wilhelm Geiger, the translator of this book, mentioned Lower Myanmar with its adjacent districts as Suvannabhumi in the footnote but

built to accommodate Sona and Uttara, is still extant on the site of Mt. Kelasa near Thaton. Therefore, this extract from *the Mahavamsa* serves as convincing evidence proving that Thaton (Taikkala) is the very Suvannabhumi visited by Sona and Uttara. A Ceylonese scholar Malalasekera in his *magnum opus* named "Dictionary of Pali Proper Names" express that Suvannabhumi is generally identified with Lower Myanmar, probably Bago and Mawla-myaing District. It probably included the coast from Yangon to Singapore. The chief place is Sudhammangara (Thaton) at the mouth of the Sittaung River.

Greek and Roman Sources

There had been relations between India and the West during about the 8th century B.C.55. When Alexandria the Great conquered the northern part of India, Greek and Roman traders and adventurers frequented the eastern Asia more than before. During the Andra Period (200 B.C.-250 A.D), there was trade both overland and by sea, between western Asia, Greece, Roma and Egypt as well as China and the East. Discovery of the monsoon wind by Hipal as in 45A.D resulted in progress of maritime trading between India and the West as well as the East. Finding of a Roman lamp dating back to the 2nd century A.D and Buddha statue of Amaravati style showing the Greek drapery in the robes belonging to the 4th and the 5th A.D certifies the arrival of the Greeks and Romans in South-east Asia during the early Christian Era. There Greeks and Romans who set their feet on the soil of South-east Asia recorded the accounts of the eastern countries.

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 14 October, 2013

"Healthy and active lifestyle"

Experts, say that everyone needs healthy food and healthy lifestyle as well as regular physical exercise to be always in good physical shape and to enjoy longevity. Here we do not mean heavy exercises, but just a light exercise to maintain your good blood circulation. This we can call domestic health activity or individual health activity.

In fact, individual health activity is nothing more than a five-minute or a 10-minute physical exercise or a warming-up exercise after bed or before bath. Walking is also included in this kind of activity. The main thing is to have the benefits of sweating.

Inactive lifestyle increases cholesterol in the blood, which can slow down the blood flow and make you listless. On the other hand, even a light physical exercise can help improve the blood stream, and strengthen bones and joints. So people should pursue an active lifestyle or do some light exercises.

But many people forget or even not have awareness of the correlation between a healthy and active lifestyle and health. So, the number of people pursuing a healthy and active lifestyle is very few.

And there are other people who are very busy that they cannot think about their own health at all. Mostly, these people apply quick-fix means to cure themselves for any minor health problems. Such means are not good for long-term health. The best advice for your lasting health and fitness is a five-minute or a 10-minute exercise or a warming-up exercise after bed or before bath.

METDC seeks economic prospects in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation is seeking economic opportunities for investing in various sectors including energy sector of Myanmar, said Chief Executive Officer Ybhg Dr. Wong Lai Sum Datuk External Trade Development Corporation of Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation of Malaysia at a call paid to Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw at Prince Hotel in Kuala Lumpur of Malaysia.

He continued that the corporation plans to submit the proposal on Smart City Planning in cooperation with Myanmar companies while observing prospects to make cooperation in hotel and tourism industries.

They discussed interests of the corporation in prospects of tourism industry in Myanmar, short-term scholarship awards of Malaysia Technical Cooperation Program of Malaysia, application of Myanmar youths to the trainees of the program and preparations for opening the branch of the corporation in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Condition of Southwest monsoon withdrawal

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—During the past 24 hours, Southwest monsoon had withdrawn from the Andaman Sea, South

Bay of Bengal and the whole country, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

NATIONAL

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann being welcomed back by officials at Yangon International Airport.



Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann back...

(from page 16) Hluttaw Office and Swiss Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw committees, officials from Yangon Region Hluttaw and the

Together with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (IPU) Joint Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, Committee Vice-Chairman Dr Mya Oo and officials of the Hluttaw Office arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

Respects paid to elders from film community held



50th respect paying ceremony to elders of film community in progress.—MNA

YANGON, 13 Oct—Ceremony of 2013 Myanmar Film Day and 50th paying respect to elders of film community was held at the compound of Myanmar Motion Picture Organization in Bahan Township, here, this morning, attended by Union Minister at President Office U Soe Thane, Deputy Minister for Infor-

mation U Pike Htwe and officials, film stars and artists. Chairman of MMPO U Lu Min extended greetings. Then, film artist Bogale Tint Aung and artists cut the ribbon to open the commemoration of Myanmar film day. Next, the Union minister, deputy minister, officials and artists presented cash and kind to

the elders. The 13th October 1920 was designated as Myanmar film day that "Myitta and Thuyar" movie has been shown at the cinema for the first time. It is learnt that Myanmar film day is annually held by those from film community without fail and the ceremony is 93th anniversary.—MNA

Power outage shuts US food stamp programme for hours in 17 states

SACRAMENTO, (California), 13 Oct—A brief power outage caused food stamp recipients in 17 states to lose access for much of Saturday to the electronic system used by stores to verify their benefits, leaving many unable to buy groceries, the company that manages the system said.

The power outage that started the problem was fixed within 20 minutes, Xerox Corp spokesman Kevin Lightfoot said, but shoppers kept running into difficulties through the day. People enrolled in the government food assistance program use plastic vouchers similar to debit cards. Starting at about 11 am EDT, some of those cards

stopped working, Lightfoot said. Shortly before 10 pm EDT, the company said access was restored, and promised to work to improve its system so that similar events do not occur. "We realize that access to these benefits is important to families in the states we serve," the company

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife ...

(from page 16) and the commander of Chengdu Military Region exchanged commemorative medals and souvenirs.

The Senior General and party left the Military Air Base of Changdu Military Region by special

flight of PLA and arrived at Jiuhuang Airport in Sichuan Province at 3.45 pm. They were welcomed there by Vice-Chairman Wang Ming Hui of Political Consultant Conference of Arba Prefecture of Sichuan Province and Commander of

Arba Sub-Military Region Senior Colonel Lui Gui Zhong. They proceeded to the mountain resort of Jiuzhaigou, 500 km north of Chengdu of Sichuan Province. In the evening, the Senior General and party enjoyed the dance and entertainments of national ethnics at the ballroom of Sheraton Jiuzhaigou Resort.—Myawady

UEC Chairman and party leave for ROK

YANGON, 13 Oct—At the invitation of National Election Commission Chairman Mr Lee In-Bok of the Republic of Korea, Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye, Secretary U Tin Tun and Assistant Director U Kaung Myat Hein left here by air this morning to attend the Association of World Election Bodies (A-WEB) and the Global Elections Organizations (GEO) Conference to be held in the Republic of Korea.

They were accompanied by Country Director of IFES Mr Paul Guerin.

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Chairman of Yangon Region Election Sub-Commission U Ko Ko and party and officials of the Union Election Commission Office.—MNA



UEC Chairman U Tin Aye being seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials.—MNA

Lt-Gen Hla Min inspects fire-ravaged village in Thandwe

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—Lt-Gen Hla Min of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) together with Western Command Commander Maj-Gen Ko Ko Naing and State Transport Min-

ister U Hla Han inspected fire-ravaged sites in Megyun Village in Thandwe Township this morning. They met the villagers at village basic education primary school and clarified matters on stability,

rule of law and rehabilitation.

They then presented cash assistance and food-stuff provide by the Union government for rehabilitation task to the villagers.

Myawady

Bomb blast at bus stop, no injury reported

The blast left a hole of three inches in depth and one feet in diameter and caused damage to a bus stop bench and an advertisement billboard nearby.

According to reports, police also discovered a home-made bomb with a C-4 detonator, a clock wires at a garbage near the scene.

The police has probed into the blast.—NLM



Photo shows damages caused by bomb blast.

said in a statement provided by Lightfoot. "We continue to investigate the cause of the issue so we can take steps to ensure a similar interruption does not re-occur."

The glitch was unrelated to the partial federal government shutdown that began on 1 October, Lightfoot said, adding it was unclear how many beneficiaries were affected.

Xinhua

Inlay PhaungdawU Buddha Images conveyed to Atthadisa Dhamma Vihara Prayer Hall



Conveyance of Inlay PhaungdawU Buddha images in progress by boat on a grand scale.

TAUNGGYI, 13 Oct—A ceremony to convey Inlay PhaungdawU Buddha Images to Atthadisa Vihara prayer hall was held at Phaungdawbyan guest house on 11 October

morning.

It was attended by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat, the chief justice of the State High Court, state ministers, the state advocate-general, the

state auditor-general, the Inn national race minister of the state, the secretary of the state government, departmental officials, traditional dance troupes, local people and pilgrims.

The Chief Minister of the state, the State Minister for Finance and Revenue, the State Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Minister, the State Minister for Planning and Economic and the State Minister for Inn National Races Affairs conveyed the first PhaungdawU Buddha image.

The second Buddha image, the third Buddha image, the fourth and fifth Buddha images were conveyed the State ministers and state level government members.

Next, the Buddha images were carried to Nyaungshwe and went round it. The Chief Minister and wife went back to the guest house and enjoyed competition of boat race.

Later, officials presented prizes to the winning boat teams.

Kyemon-Intharlay (Taunggyi)

Cambodian cane-ball players taking practice at Gold Camp

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—Cambodian cane-ball players are taking exercise in cane-ball event at Nay Pyi Taw Gold Camp up to the XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar in December.

The Cambodian team comprises 16 players who arrived in Myanmar on 1 October. Now, they are taking practice of cane-ball event as joint training together with Myanmar players under control of Myanmar coaches.

It was reported that Cambodian team is allowed to take joint training with

Cambodian players seen with Myanmar players in training of cane-ball event at Gold Camp in Nay Pyi Taw.



Myanmar players at the Gold Camp with the aim of attracting players of ASEAN countries in the cane-

ball event of Myanmar.

Now, they are under training of Myanmar coaches supervised by Ministry

of Sports and Myanmar Traditional Cane-ball Federation.—*Kyemon-Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)*

Motor road repaved in Ottarathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—The motor way is being repaved at mile post 12/0 between Mingon and Kyweshin villages in Mingon

Village-tract on Nay Pyi Taw-Chaungnet-Taung-dwingyi Road in Ottarathiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on 12

October.

Assistant Engineer U Htay Aung of Ottarathiri Township Public Works said, "At present, the township Public Works is taking responsibility for upgrading the road."

Kyemon-Kyaw Thura (Nay Pyi Taw)



Workers of Township Public Works at repaving of road in Ottarathiri Township.

Dawei Sitagu Arojadana Hospital to give free eye care

DAWEI, 13 Oct—Eye patients will be provided free eye care at Sitagu Arojadana Hospital in Dawei under the aegis of the Sitagu Sayadaw.

With the assistance of Global Community Service Foundation (GCSF) USA, the eye specialists team of the US will give free eye surgical treatment to the patients from 18 to 26 October.

Po Thee Cho Electric

Service Co will sponsor the cost of the surgical operations.

While eye surgical operations are being performed at the eye patients, the hospital will suspend out-patient treatment.

The eye patients wishing to receive surgical treatment may contact 059-23454 and 098750179.

Kyemon-Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)

Sanitation marked MPF Day



MAWLAMYINE, 13 Oct—In honour of the 49th Myanmar Police Force Day, a total of 130 policemen of Mon State Police Force carried out sanitation tasks in cooperation with 40 health staff at Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital of Mon State General Hospital in Pabedan Ward of Mawlamyine, Mon State, recently.

supervised by Mon State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Hla Oo, Commander of Mon State Police Force Police Col Myo Swe Win, Deputy Commander Police Lt-Col Win Bo, Commander of Mawlamyine District Police Force Police Lt-Col Than Tin and Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Nyo Hla.

Kyemon-Kyaw Than (Mawlamyine)

The sanitation task was

Collective sanitation held at Kayan Hospital

KAYAN, 13 Oct—The collective sanitation was held in the compound of Kayan Township Hospital on 11 October morning with the aim of enabling the people to receive the situation free from infectious diseases.

Kayan Township Administrator U Tin Myint and departmental officials, Yangon Region Hluttaw representatives U Myint Oo and U Kyaw Aung, Medical Superintendent Dr

Saw Thurein of the hospital and health staff, Chairperson of Township Women's Affairs Organization and Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Maw Maw Aung and members, ward administrators, social organization members, workers of Township Development Affairs Committee and local people, totalling 300 actively participated in the sanitation tasks.—*Kyemon-Ko Min (Kayan)*



World Teachers' Day observed in Mudon

MAWLAMYINE, 13 Oct—Mudon Township Education Department organized the World Teachers' Day at Mudon Basic Education High School No 1 in Mudon on 5 October.

The Township Administrator and the Township Education Officer awarded 12 outstanding students. They paid respects to 282 older teachers and provided K 5 million to them.—*Kyemon-Kyaw Than (Mawlamyine)*

REGIONAL

China-Thailand railway cooperation to boost regional interconnectivity

BANGKOK, 13 Oct—Chinese Premier Li Keqiang said here on Saturday that enhancing China-Thailand railway cooperation would bolster regional interconnectivity and benefit the two nations and the region at large.

Li, who is in Thailand for an official visit, made the remarks as he opened an exhibition about China's high-speed railways together with Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

The event, sponsored

by China Railway Corporation, is aimed at introducing China's high-speed railway technology to the Thai public and promoting bilateral railway cooperation.

The current more-than-11-hour train ride from Bangkok to Chiang Mai could be shortened to three hours with China's state-of-art high-speed railway technology, the exhibitors said. Yingluck was impressed.

Li said closer two-way cooperation on railways will improve Thailand's

infrastructure, boost its economic and social development, and advance the bilateral win-win cooperation of mutual benefit.

He said China has attained advanced technology for building safe and reliable high-speed railways at competitive costs.

Yingluck lauded China's achievement on high-speed railways and said that Thailand welcomes Chinese enterprises to vigorously take part in the construction of high-speed railways in Thailand.

She also briefed Li about Thailand's high-speed railway development plan and its role in building regional interconnectivity.

Li arrived here Friday for an official visit to Thailand, the second leg of his maiden trip to Southeast Asia since he took office in March. The Chinese premier attended a series of meetings with East Asian leaders in Brunei and paid a visit to the country. He will also travel to Vietnam.

Xinhua



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (2nd R front) and his Thai counterpart Yingluck Shinawatra attend the opening ceremony of an exhibition on China's high-speed railways in Bangkok, Thailand, on 12 Oct, 2013.—XINHUA

China, Vietnam gear up to further advance bilateral relations

HANOI, 13 Oct—Chinese Premier Li Keqiang arrives here Sunday for an official visit to Vietnam, bringing along a fresh opportunity to further consolidate mutual trust and boost bilateral cooperation.

During his stay, Li will meet leaders of the neighbouring country for discussions on promoting bilateral friendship and deepening strategic cooperation, and the two sides are expected to ink multiple cooperation documents. Particularly, the premier's visit will help push forward bilateral cooperation along three main lines: maritime cooperation, onshore cooperation and financial cooperation, said Qu Xing, president of the China Institute of International Studies.

Maritime cooperation covers such areas as environmental protection and safety of navigation, onshore cooperation pertains to law enforcement, interconnectivity and infrastructure, while financial cooperation is aimed at jointly coping with the impact of the international financial crisis, he added.

Vietnam is the last leg of Li's first Southeast Asia tour as premier, which has taken him to Brunei and Thailand. While in Brunei, he attended a series of East Asian leaders' meetings and expounded China's policy on promoting regional cooperation and development.

The trip, Vice Foreign Minister Liu Zhenmin said Monday, will bear rich fruit and lift China's relations

with the three countries and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) at large to a higher level. China and Vietnam are linked by land and sea. Both sides pay great attention to the development of their relationship, which features a bond as "good neighbours, good friends, good comrades and good partners."

This year has witnessed frequent high-level contact between the two countries. Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang visited China in June, and Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung traveled to the southern Chinese city of Nanning for the 10th China-ASEAN Expo in early September.

During the intensive interaction, the two sides



Experts and scholars participate in the first cross-strait peace forum in Shanghai, east China, on 12 Oct, 2013. The two-day forum concluded here on Saturday. According to a summary of the forum, organizers will discuss the possibility of establishing a permanent institution for the forum.—XINHUA

Thai flood claims 39 lives

BANGKOK, 13 Oct—The flood, caused by monsoon and depression, has affected Thailand since mid September, killing 39 people and affecting 26 of 77 provinces, officials said Saturday.

A total of 120 districts of 26 provinces, mostly in the north, northeastern and central are hit by floods, affecting about 990,000 people, the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department said.

More than 7,300 peo-

ple are evacuated due to the inundation.

The Meteorological Department on Saturday issued a warning for people in northeastern provinces to embrace for Typhoon Nari which was expected to bring heavy rainfall Tuesday and Wednesday.

Deputy Prime Minister Plodprasop Suraswadi said that the flood conditions are easing.

He assured that there would be no great flood in Bangkok as happened

in 2011 when flood killed more than 500 people across the country.

Meanwhile, Tourism and Sports Minister Somsak Phurisisak revealed that flooding has cost tourism about 22.6 million U.S. dollars.

Somsak said reports about flooding had discouraged tourists from visiting these provinces despite the fact that most destinations and resorts had not been damaged by floodwaters.

Xinhua



South Korean President Park Geun Hye (L) holds talks with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (R) in Jakarta on 12 Oct, 2013.—KYODO NEWS

Six killed in fireworks factory explosion in northern Vietnam

HANOI, 13 Oct—A fireworks factory exploded in Vietnam's northern province of Phu Tho on Saturday morning, killing at least 6 people and injuring 10 others, according to local media.

Starting at 7:55 am local time, consecutive explosions were heard from the fireworks factory in Thanh Ba District of Phu Tho Province, 90 km from capital Hanoi, said the newspaper VNEExpress.

Teacher Nguyen Nhu Quynh, who lives about 3 km from the explosion site, was quoted as saying that

she heard a string of explosions, which strongly shook her house's windows.

The loudspeaker called for people living nearby to run away, she added. At 11.30 am local time, the explosion was put under control, said the report, quoting Major General Le Quang Dai, chief of Phu Tho provincial military headquarters, who was present at the site. Dai said that the explosion broke out at the production line 17A in Factory 4 of the Z212 Plant, under the Industrial Defense Department (of Ministry of National Defense).

On working days, there are normally about 300 workers in the factory, but as it is weekend today, there are fewer workers at the site, he said.

The exact number of workers at work was not clear when the blast happened, Dai said, but rescuers found six people dead and another 10 injured, who were brought to hospitals.

Local authorities are looking into the cause of the explosion.

The factory is the sole fireworks producer in the country, said VNEExpress.

Xinhua

Electrical fault seen as cause of Fukuoka hospital fire

FUKUOKA, 13 Oct—An electrical fault in a piece of treatment equipment apparently caused Tuesday's predawn fire at an orthopedic hospital in Fukuoka, southwestern Japan that killed 10 people including eight elderly inpatients, police sources said Saturday.

Traces of a short circuit were found in the plug of one of two humidifiers used for thermotherapy in a treatment room on the first floor of the four-story building, they said.

The humidifiers, which are used to warm up "hot packs" used in thermotherapy, are believed to be the only equipment that was on at the time, they said.—Kyodo News

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THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(10/2013)

Open tenders are invited for supply of the following respective items in United States Dollars.

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Qty	Remark
(1)	IFB -076(2013-2014)	G-250 Ton Hook Block Assy Spares	(5) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB -077(2013-2014)	4 5/8" & 3/8" Flat Bottom Junk Mill Bits	(2) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB -078(2013-2014)	Adaptor Spools	(2) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB -079(2013-2014)	Quick Exhaust & Relief Valves	(4) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB -080(2013-2014)	Spares for Kenworth Truck Engine CATC - 15	(6) Items	US\$
(6)	IFB -081(2013-2014)	Spare for CAT D 3306 PC Lighting Set Engine	(9) Items	US\$
(7)	IFB -082(2013-2014)	28 VC 650 Clutch Elements for Drawwork Drive Clutch Ex TM 3500 Drilling Rig	(1) Item	US\$

-Tender Closing Date & Time - 13-11-2013, 1300 Hrs.

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 14th October, 2013 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No (44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise
Ph: +95 67 - 411097/411206

Chinese martial art serves as magnet which brings people together

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct — For Elizabeth Telford, participating in a martial art event is by no means an easy task.

The teenage girl, who lived in Northern Virginia on the east coast, United States, has to take one day off and travel a distance of some 4,300 kilometers and a five-hour flight to get here.

Along with the tall, slender girl were 10 of her classmates at a martial art center run by masters from Shaolin Temple in Central China's Henan Province.

Showing off her skills with her fellow students at a packed hall at the Los Angeles Convention Center in downtown Los Angeles on

Saturday, Telford excelled with excellent and skilful strokes, kicks and gestures, drawing a loud applause from referees and onlookers.

It's hard to imagine the teenager has only practised the discipline for one and a half years.

"I really like to be able to see other people compete, and I liked to be able to learn all different versions of Shaolin kungfu together," she told *Xinhua*.

Improvement of focus and self-discipline was major factors which pushed the girl to learn the skills originated from China thousands of years ago.

"The masters are very

patient and they are also helpful," she commented on the teachers at the local Shaolin center.

According to Telford, there are three martial art centers run by masters sent from Shaolin Temple in the United States. Aside from the two in California, there are another one in Virginia.

The event, which is the first of its kind held by Shaolin Temple in North America, drew more than 2,000 competitors from the United States, Canada and Mexico, Shi Yanxu, the leading master at the Los Angeles-based center, told *Xinhua*.

"We originally estimated that there would be some 700 participants," he

Eight villagers killed in NW China forest fire

XI'AN, 13 Oct — Eight villagers died when they were trying to put out a forest fire in northwest China's Shaanxi Province, said local authorities on Saturday.

The forest fire broke out on Saturday afternoon near Fodong Village, Xunyang County, said the Xunyang county government.

Eight out of nine villagers suffered serious injuries while they were trying to quench the blaze. They died despite doctors' efforts

All residents near the fire scene have been relocated to safe areas. Fire fighting efforts continued late Saturday night.

Due to the poor telecommunications services in the remote village, authorities are still checking the situation. The cause of the fire is unclear.—*Xinhua*



Craftswoman Lu Shoumei presents Buzha, a traditional handicraft, in Jianchuan County of Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture, southwest China's Yunnan Province, on 11 Oct, 2013. Buzha, listed as a China's intangible cultural heritage, is a unique handicraft of the Bai ethnic group in Jianchuan. A Buzha is made of vivid colorful cloth, stuffed with fragrant herbs and embellished with fine embroidery.

XINHUA

UN envoy slams rebel attack on UN helicopter in eastern DRC

UNITED NATIONS, 13 Oct — Mary Robinson, the special envoy of the UN secretary-general for the Great Lakes region, on Saturday "strongly condemned" an attack on a UN peacekeeping helicopter in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), saying that such an attack is "unacceptable."

"I learned with deep concern that a MONUSCO helicopter came under direct fire from positions held by the 23 March (M23) rebel movement in the Rumangabo region," Robinson said in a statement issued here, referring to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC.

Rumangabo, in the resource-rich but unstable province of North Kivu, is about 40 kilometres north

of the provincial capital of Goma. It is near an important military base occupied by the rebel group.

"I strongly condemn this serious incident that threatens the security of MONUSCO personnel," said the statement. "I wish to remind the M23 leadership that any act aimed at obstructing MONUSCO in the exercise of its mandate, as stipulated by the United Nations Security Council resolution 2098, is unacceptable."

The rebel group, known as M23, is composed of a breakaway faction of soldiers from the DRC's national army. It seized seven towns in North Kivu province in eastern DRC in October 2012 and intensified attacks on schools, hospitals, homes and other civilian targets.—*Xinhua*

African nations say sitting head of state immune from ICC charges

ADDIS ABABA, 13 Oct — African leaders emphasized on Saturday the immunity of a sitting head of state from charges and prosecutions by any international court, effectively precluding a trial against Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta by the International Criminal Court (ICC).

In closing remarks after a two-day African Union (AU) summit here, AU Chairman Hailemariam Desalegn said the meeting has adopted the decision to speak with one voice and

send a strong political message on Africa's relationship with the ICC.

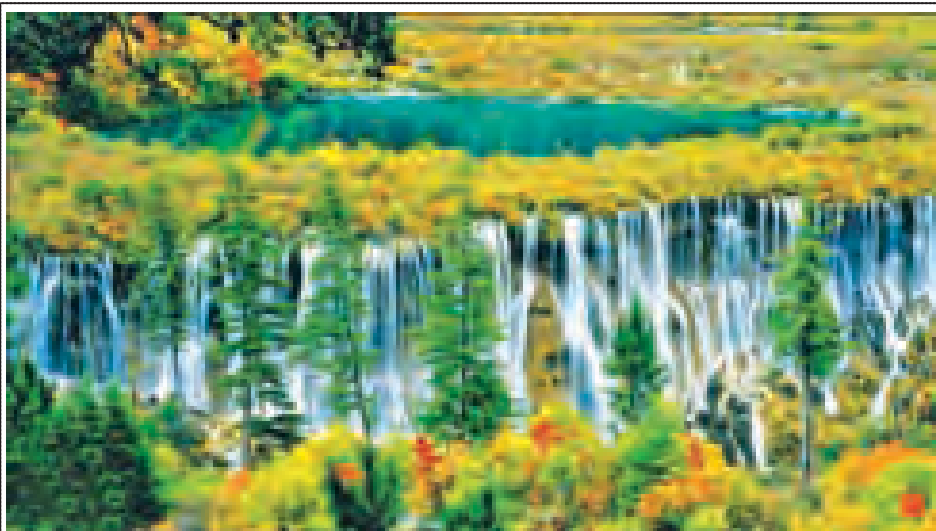
"In this regard, we have reaffirmed the principles deriving from national laws and international customary law by which sitting Head of State or Government and other Senior State Officials are granted immunities during their tenure of office," said Hailemariam, who is also the Ethiopian Prime Minister.

"Accordingly, we have agreed that no charges shall be commenced or continued before any international

al court or tribunal against any serving Head of State or Government or anybody acting or entitled to act in such capacity during his or her term of office," he said.

"To safeguard the constitutional order, stability and integrity of member States, we have resolved that no serving AU Head of State or Government or anybody acting or entitled to act in such capacity, shall be required to appear before any international court or tribunal during his term of office," he stated.

Xinhua



Jiuzhaigou Valley is a nature reserve and national park located in the northern part of Sichuan Province. It is part of the Minshan Mountain range on the edge of the Tibetan Himalayan Plateau, extending across 72,000 hectares. The area is known for its crystal lakes, multi-level waterfalls, colorful forests, snow-capped peaks and Tibetan culture.—REUTERS

ENTERTAINMENT

Alex Pettyfer to play hero in Lee Daniels' action movie



Alex Pettyfer in a still from *The Butler*.

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct— Actor Alex Pettyfer will reunite with filmmaker Lee Daniels in his next film, an interracial action movie.

The director revealed that he's developing an "interracial love affair action

movie" revolving around a gay couple with the Magic Mike star attached to play one of the male leads.

Daniels describes the untitled project a gay Mr and Mrs Smith, but with the two good-looking guys as

the action heroes.

The filmmaker is happy to have scored Pettyfer for the movie. "He's so hot, isn't he? So hot. And so aware of his hotness in a way that's so...I love him to death."

The Oscar-nominated helmer says the film is in early development and he is still searching for an African-American actor to star opposite Pettyfer.

Pettyfer played a supporting role in the historical fiction drama Lee Daniels' *The Butler*, playing the role of a hot-tempered farm owner Thomas Westfall who is shot to death after raping the wife of his sharecropping tenant.

PTI

Miley Cyrus offered USD 1 million to direct adult movie

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct— Singer-actress Miley Cyrus has been offered USD 1 million deal to direct an adult movie.

The offer comes from an adult movie retailer, who say that they are ready to pay a hefty amount for Cyrus' work behind the camera, reported *TMZ*.

According to a letter obtained by the website, the company will give Cyrus full creative control at the work and even takes an aim at Sinead O'Connor who told Miley to stop "pimping" herself and focus on her music.

"This gives you a

chance to show the world you are not a little girl anymore, and you won't bow to pressures of the likes of Sinead O'Connor, who is jealous of your success," the letter reads.

Cyrus has been in the headlines for her steamy MTV VMA performance and Wrecking Ball video where she appears nude.

PTI

Miley has been making headlines her steamy MTV VMA performance.



Actor Cumberbatch says Assange letter affected his film portrayal

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct— British actor Benedict Cumberbatch says a letter from WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange asking him not to do a movie about the emergence of the anti-secrecy website affected his portrayal of him in the upcoming film "The Fifth Estate."

Cumberbatch, 37, said in an "ask me anything" interview on content-sharing site Reddit on Friday that he was concerned with playing the part after Assange sent him a letter in January declining an invitation to meet in person and urging him to rethink his involvement in the film.

"To have the man you

are about to portray ask you intelligently and politely not to do it gave me real cause for concern, however, it galvanized me into addressing why I was doing this movie," Cumberbatch said in response to a user asking him whether Assange's letter affected his role in the film.

Assange's letter, dated January 15 and published on the WikiLeaks website on Wednesday, called the actor a "hired gun" and criticized Walt Disney Co's DreamWorks studio for using "toxic" source material as a foundation for the film, based partly on the 2011 book "Inside WikiLeaks"



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

by Assange's former lieutenant Daniel Domscheit-Berg.

The WikiLeaks founder is holed up at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London after being given political asylum by Ecuador. He faces immediate arrest and extradition to Sweden to face accusations of rape and sexual assault if he leaves the embassy.

Cumberbatch rejected Assange's comment, saying: "He accuses me of being a 'hired gun' as if I am an easily bought cypher for right-wing propaganda. Not only do I NOT operate in a moral vacuum but this was not a pay day for me at all."

Reuters

Angelina Jolie's opening scenes in Maleficent to be re-shot

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct— Actress Angelina Jolie's introductory scenes in Robert Stromberg's debut film *Maleficent* will be re-shot. The makers have roped in The

Blind Side filmmaker John Lee Hancock to oversee the shoot.

Contactmusic.com reports that producer Joe Roth told *The Hollywood Reporter* that it was good to have Hancock on the set of the film.

"We asked (Hancock) to be on set. He's not directing. He wrote pages and I hired a first-time director and it's good to have him on set," he said.

The actress plays the sleeping beauty's evil nemesis in the upcoming project, which will tell the *Sleeping Beauty* tale from the perspective of the villainous *Maleficent*.—PTI



Angelina Jolie

Beyonce films new video in bomb shelter

LONDON, 13 Oct—Pop star Beyonce has filmed a new video in a bomb shelter at Greenham Common, Newbury, in the UK.

The Halo hitmaker made a video at Greenham

Common near London, which is a former Royal Air Force (RAF) base and the alleged site of a nuclear accident back in 1958, reported Contactmusic.

"Beyonce is shooting a music video for every track on her new album."

"The record has been delayed, so she wants to make a big splash when it eventually comes out. She wants to be in the UK with baby daughter Blue Ivy as Jay Z tours, so this was a good chance to shoot a video in the UK. It's an amazing location for a music video," a source said.

Beyonce also recently completed her 'The Mrs Carter Show World Tour'.

PTI



Beyonce

George Clooney denies writing any scene in Gravity



Superstar George Clooney

LOS ANGELES, 13 Oct— Superstar George Clooney has denied that he wrote a scene in the sci-fi film *Gravity*.

Clooney, 52, said the scene was there from the very beginning and he merely suggested something as director Alfonso Cuaron and the team was struggling with it, reported E! online.

"I didn't write any scene. That scene was there

from the minute I was handed the script. The problem they were having was afterward," he said.

The scene is the one in which Sandra Bullock's astronaut dreams that she is having a conversation about her daughter with Clooney's character as she prepares to head back to earth.

The space disaster movie has crossed the USD 100 million at the global box office.—PTI

Del Potro sinks Nadal to set up final with Djokovic

SHANGHAI, 13 Oct—Rafa Nadal failed to reach a final for only the second time during his incredible 2013 season after being blown off court by Argentine whirlwind Juan Martin Del Potro at the Shanghai Masters on Saturday.

The Spaniard had been hoping to celebrate his return to the top of the world rankings this week by setting up a final showdown for the second time in as many weeks with chief rival Novak Djokovic.

But Nadal, one of the fastest athletes on the tour, found

Juan Martin Del Potro



himself outpaced 6-2, 6-4 after a breathtaking semi-final display of power and touch by the 2009 US Open champion. Serb Djokovic continued his love affair with the hard courts of China as he swatted aside the challenge of Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-2, 7-5. The defending champion stretched his unbeaten run in China to 19 matches by overcoming Frenchman Tsonga.

Del Potro's 1.98-metre frame usually prevents him from threatening Nadal's unshakable ability to run the ball down at every corner of the court and the Spaniard's 8-3 head-to-head record before the semi-final

bore testament to that. On Saturday though Del Potro barely allowed Nadal, winner of 10 titles this year, a chance as he raced into a 4-0 lead in the first set before bagging it with a scorching ace. Nadal thought he had broken for the first time to level at 2-2 in the second but Hawkeye disagreed and from then on the world's best player was chasing shadows as Del Potro produced one of the best performances of his career.

The Spaniard fired a service return long on match point to leave a jubilant Del Potro leaping high into the air in celebration.

The result condemned French and US Open champion Nadal to his earliest defeat since a shock first-round exit from Wimbledon in June, the only other time this year he failed to reach the final of an event he had featured in.

Del Potro's first win over Nadal since 2009 also handed him a place in the season-ending World Tour Finals.

The Argentine became the fifth player

to qualify for next month's elite eight-man tournament in London but four spots are still up for grabs as Wimbledon champion Andy Murray has ruled himself out following back surgery. Nadal, Djokovic and David Ferrer are the other confirmed participants.

Djokovic lost the world number one ranking to Nadal last week despite beating the Spaniard in the final of the China Open to claim his fourth Beijing title in five years. The Serb could add another Chinese title to his name after another slick display of returning in Shanghai heaped too much pressure on Tsonga who unraveled with 35 unforced errors.

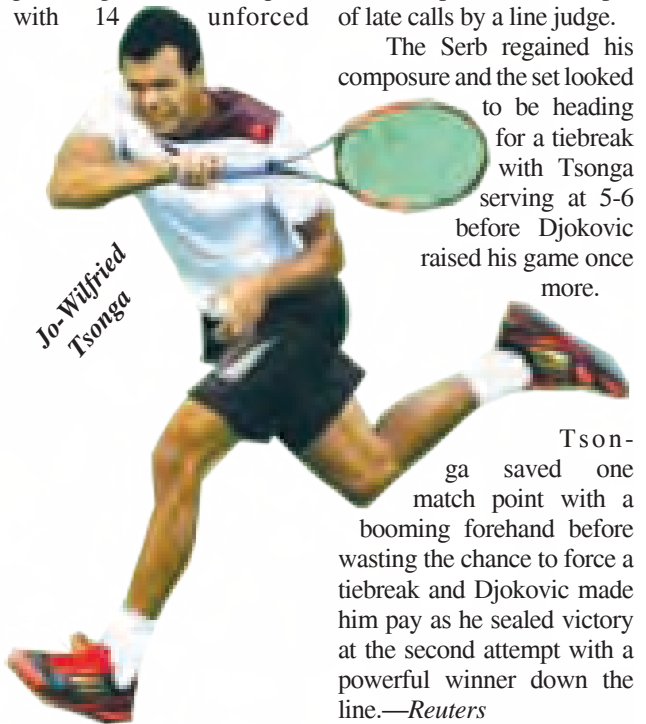
The world number two and Australian Open champion was quick out of the blocks, racing into a 3-0 lead after breaking Tsonga to love in his opening service game. The Frenchman looked like dropping another service game but some heavy hitting helped him get on the board before a sumptuous backhand crosscourt resulted in him breaking Djokovic in the next.

That was as good as it got for Tsonga, who is in a close race with Roger Federer, Stanislas Wawrinka, Richard Gasquet and Milos Raonic to grab one of the last remaining places at the ATP Tour Finals.

Djokovic claimed the next three games to wrap up the set as Tsonga's first serve percentage fell to 46, coupled with 14 unforced

errors in comparison to just four by the Serb. A change of shirt and a renewed focus helped Tsonga stay on terms at the start of the second set before another misplaced volley handed Djokovic a break and a 4-2 lead. The Frenchman broke back immediately as Djokovic returned to his chair to scream at the umpire after a couple of late calls by a line judge.

The Serb regained his composure and the set looked to be heading for a tiebreak with Tsonga serving at 5-6 before Djokovic raised his game once more.

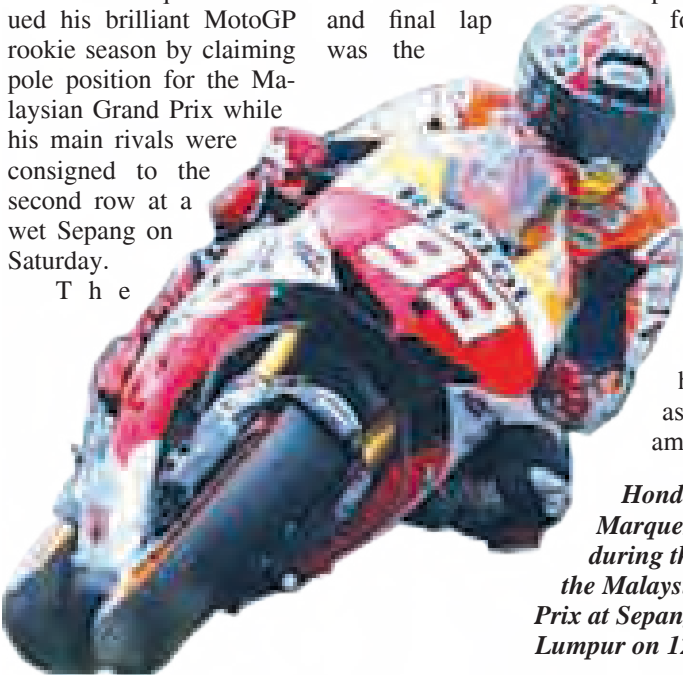


Tsonga saved one match point with a booming forehand before wasting the chance to force a tiebreak and Djokovic made him pay as he sealed victory at the second attempt with a powerful winner down the line.—Reuters

Marquez on pole for Malaysian Grand Prix

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Oct—Championship leader Marc Marquez continued his brilliant MotoGP rookie season by claiming pole position for the Malaysian Grand Prix while his main rivals were consigned to the second row at a wet Sepang on Saturday.

Th e



20-year-old Honda rider's time of two minutes 0.011 seconds on his seventh and final lap was the

quickest ever at the circuit and gave him his eighth pole of the season and a fourth in a row.

"I'm really happy with this pole position particularly as earning it was a little different to my previous poles," Marquez told MotoGP.com.

"At the start of qualifying there were two completely wet corners which made it hard to put in a hot lap as we had to calculate the amount of risk whilst still

Honda Moto GP rider Marc Marquez of Spain takes a curve during the qualifying session of the Malaysian Motorcycle Grand Prix at Sepang circuit outside Kuala Lumpur on 12 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

maintaining our speed.

"I knew the final lap of the session would be definitive because the surface was drying out and conditions were getting better by the minute," said Marquez.

"Things worked out for us and I set a time I really wasn't expecting."

The Spaniard will be joined on the front row by the Yamahas of Italy's seven-times champion Valentino Rossi (2.00.336) and Briton Cal Crutchlow (2.00.359).

Marquez is looking for his seventh win of the year on Sunday and to extend his 39-point championship lead over compatriot Jorge Lorenzo with just three more races left in the season after Malaysia.—Reuters

England call up Sterling for final World Cup qualifier

LONDON, 13 Oct—England have called up Liverpool winger Raheem Sterling for the final World Cup qualifier against Poland on Tuesday with defender Kyle Walker suspended and midfielder Tom Cleverley injured, the FA said on Saturday.

Sterling, 18, has one England cap and played for the under-21 team when they beat San Marino 4-0 on Thursday.

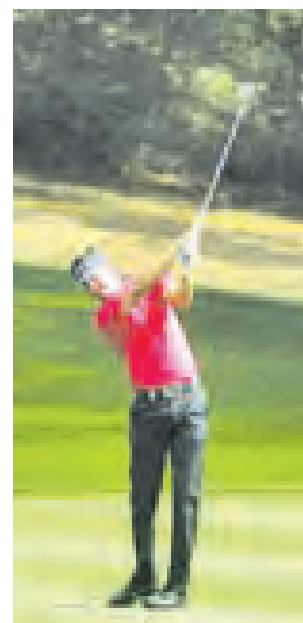
Cleverley suffered a calf problem in training on Thursday and missed the 4-1 qualifying victory over Montenegro at Wembley on Friday. Walker's second-half booking in that game has ruled him out of the Poland match.

England lead Group H by a point from Ukraine and will secure automatic qualification for next year's finals in Brazil with a win over the Poles.—Reuters



Liverpool's Raheem Sterling runs during a training session at the club's Melwood training complex in Liverpool, northern England, on 20 February, 2013. REUTERS

Great Scott! Jamieson goes close to magical 59



Scott Jamieson of Scotland hits his second shot at the ninth hole during the first round of the Dubai Desert Classic at the Emirates Golf Club, on 31 Jan, 2013. REUTERS

DUBAI, 13 Oct—Britain's Scott Jamieson rocketed to the top of the leaderboard midway through the third round of the Portugal Masters on Saturday after becoming the 17th player to shoot a 60 on the European Tour.

Jamieson reeled off 11 birdies and seven pars at the

Oceanic Victoria course in Vilamoura to finish with a 14-under tally of 199.

No one has ever returned a 'magical 59' on the tour.

Jamieson has a two-stroke lead over fellow Britons David Lynn and Paul Waring and South African Hennie Otto who have all yet to begin their rounds.

The 29-year-old Scot narrowly failed with his attempt at a record-breaking birdie at the 18th when his chip just missed the cup.

"I thought it was going in but unfortunately it hung on the lip and went past the hole," Jamieson told European Tour Radio.

"But the fact that I gave myself a chance there at the last hole, I couldn't ask for any more."

Jamieson has only one tour victory to his name and that came at the Nelson Mandela Championship in South Africa in December.

With conditions perfect for scoring in Portugal, he believes he will be overtaken at the top of the leaderboard by the end of the round.

"I'm sure the leaders will be 17 or 18 under by the end of the day," he said.

Reuters

GENERAL



A Dominican Navy member stands guard in front of an urn that holds the remains of Christopher Columbus, inside of the Columbus Lighthouse, in the East Santo Domingo municipality, Dominican Republic, on 12 Oct, 2013. The 521st anniversary of the contact between Europe and America, known as the "Discovery of the Americas", is celebrated on 12 Oct, 2013.—XINHUA

Zimbabwe tour operators battle negative perception, high costs

HARARE, 13 Oct — Endowed with unspoiled wildlife and one of the world's most spectacular waterfalls, Zimbabwe could have made it to become Africa's top tourist destination. But it did not. Safari and tour operators said the country is still reeling from the damage of bad publicity after years of dipping in-and-out of global news headlines for hyperinflation, deadly cholera, and political tensions.

To counter that negative perception, hotels, lodges, and tour operators put up their best face at the ongoing Sanganai/ Hlanganani World Travel and Tourism Africa Fair.

"Although the situation appears to be improving, there are still some markets particularly in the West which are not prepared to work with Zimbabwe," said Enock Mandura, the marketing officer for Ngamo Safaris. He said the governments of countries that imposed sanctions on Zimbabwe were even making it difficult for their operators to do business with Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe has been slapped with restrictive

measures by the EU, the United States, Britain, Australia and half a dozen other Western countries over concerns on democracy and human rights for more than a decade. The country's veteran leader Robert Mugabe's recent landslide poll victory was not recognized by the West.

Shelly Cox, spokesperson for African Bush Camps, a safari operator in Zimbabwe's biggest national park Hwange, said the industry continued to suffer from "unfair" negative perceptions.

She said the country's socio-political and economic situation had vastly improved over the last few years and that there was no justification for the continued negative perceptions.

"Zimbabwe continues to be portrayed as unsafe but it's safe to travel to. It's the same anywhere you go," she said.

She said the stable macro-economic environment underpinned by the multiple currency regime since 2009 had significantly contributed to improving the business environment.

Xinhua

Official seeks better elder care

BEIJING, 13 Oct — State Councilor Wang Yong wants better protection for elderly people's interests to ensure happy later years for everyone.

Old people are the wealth of our country, and caring for them is the common responsibility of the government and the whole of society, Wang, head of the China National Committee on ageing, said on Saturday. China's first Seniors Day falls on Sunday.

He said China should examine its strategy regarding an increasingly old population and push "silver" industries to meet the increasing demands of the old.

China's population above age 60 reached 194 million by the end of last year, and the figure is expected to exceed 300 million by 2025.

Wang urged authorities to make use of newly amended law for ensuring the interests of the elderly people.

He also asked nursing homes to improve their management.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(14-10-2013, Monday)

6:00 am	3:00 pm
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw	19. News
6:25 am	3:15 pm
2. Physical Exercises	20. Teleplay
6:30 am	4:00 pm
3. Song & Dance of National Races	21. News
6:45 am	4:15 pm
4. Documentary	22. Song & Dance of National Races
7:00 am	4:30 pm
5. News/ Weather Report	23. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (History)
7:20 am	5:00 pm
6. People Talks	24. News
7:30 am	5:15 pm
7. Teleplay	25. Song Programme
8:00 am	5:30 pm
8. News/ International News	26. Teleplay (SEA Games)
8:25 am	6:00 pm
9. SEA Games Go For Gold (Football)	27. News/ Weather Report
9:00 am	6:20 pm
10. News/International News	28. Documentary
9:25 am	6:40 pm
11. Cartoon Series	29. TV Drama Series
9:50 am	7:00 pm
12. Beautiful "ASEAN"	30. News
10:00 am	7:25 pm
13. News	31. TV Drama Series
10:15 am	8:00 pm
14. Teleplay	32. News/International News/Weather Report
11:00 pm	8:35 pm
15. News Melody	33. People Talks
12:00 pm	8:45 pm
16. New/International News/Weather Report	34. Documentary
12:25 pm	9:00 pm
17. Myanmar Movies	35. News
2:35 pm	36. India Drama Series
18. Solo Favourites	

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(14-10-13 09:30 am ~ 15-10-13 09:30 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Travelling To Shan Plateau (Pindaya Myoe Ma Market)
- * World News
- * Secret Places For Yummy Food- (Episode-13) (Suzukiretaurant)
- * Local News
- * Hiker's Journey (Yangon City) (Episode-6) (Part-2)
- * Licuala Palm Leaf
- * Pada Ceti, The Buddha Image In Rakhine
- * World News
- * Colonial Buildings and a New Yangon
- * Local News
- * Ar-Yon-Daw Reciting Association Of Ba-Din-Dan
- * Myanmar Railways City Circular Train
- * Local News
- * Thadingyut Lighting Festival with Great Devotions
- * World News
- * Travelling In Shan Mountain Ranges (Ya Za Gyi Village)
- * Youth Of The Future (Episode-5) (Vocalist, L-Jar Ngaing)
- * World News
- * The Untouched Footprint Of Buddha
- * The Great Po Sein
- * Exquisite Silver Jewellery
- * Unique Art of Stucco Work
- * Visiting A Serence Village In The Northwest Of Myanmar

Chilean President Pinera endorses struggling right-wing candidate



Chile's President Sebastian Pinera talks during a dialogue session at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) CEO Summit in Nusa Dua, Indonesia resort island of Bali on 6 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

SANTIAGO, 13 Oct — Chilean President Sebastian Pinera explicitly endorsed his weakened right-wing coalition's candidate a month before a presidential election that polls show will likely mark the return of the centre-left.

Pinera's comments on Saturday backing his former labour minister Evelyn Matthei mark his most public show of support for the candidate struggling in the shadows of popular front-runner Michelle Bachelet. Centre-leftist Bache-

let, Chile's first female president who governed from 2006 to 2010, has for months been expected to cruise to victory in the 17 November general election or a potential 15 December runoff against a fractured right.

But a recent poll on voting intentions putting Matthei behind Bachelet and only a few points ahead of maverick economist Franco Parisi sparked fears on the right that she is losing votes to other small-party or independent candidates. Matthei's sharp tongue, her ties to the unpopular Pinera administration and family links to the 1973-1990 dictatorship have her struggling in the race to upset Bachelet, whose amiable style and promises to redress income

inequality position her as a near shoo-in.

But Pinera, who hails from the Renovacion Nacional (RN) party, stressed that Matthei, a fiery economist from the more conservative Union Democrita Independiente (UDI) party, has the know-how to run the country.

"She's a great candidate and has all it takes to be a great president of Chile," Pinera said, flanked by Matthei during a ceremony to mark the two-year anniversary of his six-month maternity leave policy.

Some on the right feel Pinera hasn't done enough to bolster the candidacy of Matthei, who became the Alianza coalition's candidate in July after the former front-runner quit due to depression.—Reuters

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann back from Switzerland, Austria

YANGON, 13 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann arrived back here by air this afternoon after attending 129th IPU Assembly and related meetings held in Geneva of Switzerland and paying goodwill visits to Bern of Switzerland and Vienna of

Austria at the invitations of the president of Federal Assembly of Switzerland and the president of the National Council of Austria.

They were welcomed back by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, the chairmen of (See page 9)

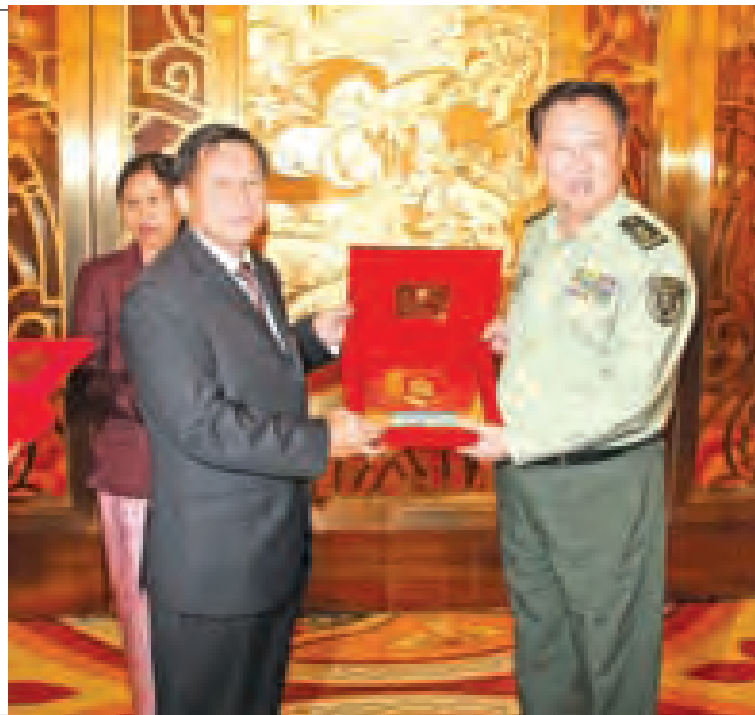
Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife and party arrive in China

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla and party arrived at Chengdu Airport of China at 11.55 am local standard time yesterday.

They were welcomed at the airport by FAO Director-General Major General Guan Youfei of the People's Liberation Army and wife, Deputy Chief of Staff Major General Zhang Bin of Chengdu Military

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Commander of Chengdu Military Region Lt-Gen Li Zoucheng exchange commemorative medal and souvenirs.

MNA



Region, Chinese Military Attaché Senior Colonel Xiong Shaowei, Myanmar Military Attaché Col Aung

Chen and wife.

Commander of Chengdu Military Region Lieutenant General Li Zoucheng

hosted a luncheon to the Senior General and party. Next, the Senior General (See page 9)

78 under investigation in connection with Thandwe violence

NAY PYI TAW, 13 Oct — According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, 78 people who are suspected of manipulating, committing and abetting the riots in Thandwe, Rakhine State, have been detained and under interrogation during the period from 28 September to date. Although it was a nor-

mal incident that can be handled in accord with the law, the situation turned into violence due to the investigations of some organizations with the aims of disturbing peace and stability and causing unrests, the ministry said.

The violence sparked by an argument over the parking of a tri-motor-

bike in front of a shop in Thandwe on 28 September left seven people dead and five injured. A total of 112 houses, three religious buildings and one petrol warehouse were reduced to ashes and 487 people from 112 households made homeless during the violence.

MNA

Commerce Ministry, Nishogakusha University sign MoU on cooperation in human resources development

YANGON, 13 Oct—A ceremony to sign MoU on cooperation in human resources development between the Ministry of Commerce and Nishogakusha University of Japan took place at Sedona Hotel, here, yesterday evening. It was attended by Union Ministers U Myint Hlaing, U Nyan Tun Aung, U Win Myint, U Kyaw Lwin, U Maung Myint and Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and region ministers.

Director-General U

Hla Maw Oo of Directorate of Trade and President Mr. Watanabe Kazunori of Nishogakusha University signed the MoU and exchanged the notes in the presence of Union Minister U Win Myint.

During his visit to Japan in June this year, Union Minister U Win Myint observed Nishogakusha University in Tokyo where he held talks with administrative committee president, professors and officials of the university on cooperation for human resources development.

A ceremony to present

honorary doctoral degree to Union Minister U Win Myint by Nishogakusha University followed. President Mr. Watanabe Kazunori explained historical background of the university and the purpose of presenting honorary doctoral degree. Then he conferred honorary doctoral degree insignia and certificate to Union Minister U Win Myint.

Afterwards, Chairman of Cooperative Bank U Khin Maung Aye spoke words of honour and Union Minister U Win Myint returned words of thanks.

MNA



Union Minister U Win Myint in academic dress seen with Union ministers.—MNA

Vietnam pays last respects to 'Red Napoleon', Vo Nguyen Giap

HANOI, 13 Oct — Vietnamese poured into the capital on Sunday to bid farewell to Vo Nguyen Giap, the general who masterminded historic defeats of France and the United States to become one of the 20th century's most important military commanders.

Crowds lined the streets of Hanoi cheering, crying and holding aloft pictures of "Red Napoleon", a national legend with a domestic standing second only to the leader of Vietnam's struggle against colonialism, Ho Chi Minh.

Giap died on 4 October, age 102, after four years in a Hanoi military hospital.

Short, slightly built and a man of no formal military training, Giap was ranked by historians among giants such as Montgomery, Rommel and MacArthur for victories over vastly better equipped armies that ushered in the end of foreign intervention and cemented communist rule in Vietnam.

Hundreds of thousands thronged to catch a glimpse of Giap's coffin as it was

driven on a military vehicle past an unbroken line of mourners to an airport 30 km (18 miles) away. Giap's body will be flown to his home province of Quang Binh for burial.

The funeral has brought a show of unity that Vietnam's current generation of leaders have struggled to foster in a country where three quarters of the 90 million population were born long after Giap's battlefield victories.

"I never heard guns or bombs but I know our history," said Dao Huy Hoang

a 21-year-old Hanoi student.

"After Uncle Ho and General Giap, it would be hard to find anyone like them, who dedicate their lives to the country without thinking of their personal interest."

Television and radio

played somber music during the two-day funeral as people queued for hours to view the flag-draped coffin of the man they called the "big brother" of the nation.

Giap's critics spoke of his ruthless tactics and will-

ingness to sustain heavy losses in pursuit of victory, his most notable, the humiliation of the French at Dien Bien Phu in 1954, which heralded the end of colonialism worldwide.

Reuters

