

Myanmar U-19 champions honoured with presidential dinner

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—President U Thein Sein hosted a dinner in honour of the U-19 Myanmar football team, which emerged victorious in the Hassanal Bolkiah Cup 2014 in Brunei.

The dinner was hosted at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 here on Friday.

The triumph has marked an important milestone in the history of Myanmar football, displaying the highest level of the team spirit, unity and sportsmanship.

Throughout the Hassanal Bolkiah Cup, Myanmar has secured second place two times. This year, Myanmar won the cham-

pionship as well as the fair play award.

Speaking at the dinner, Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan said that achievements in sports earn the country and its people international fame. He expressed words of thanks to all people and organizations for their support and encouragement of the team.

U Tint Hsan paid an award bonus of over K255 million to the champions team.

Altogether 50 well-wishers donated K277.4 million to the U-19 team.

Myanmar was also the only team unbeaten throughout the cup.

MNA

Media accreditation cards for ASCC to be issued on 29 Sept

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The 12th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting will be held at the Golden Palace Hotel in Bagan on 29 and 30 September, according to officials.

Media accreditation cards will be issued to local and foreign correspondents who have to register online of www.asean2014.gov.mm not later than 20 September, at Golden Palace Hotel in Bagan on 29 Sep-

tember.

Foreign correspondents are to apply for visa at respective Myanmar embassies. Foreign correspondents may dial 067-408384 of the Ministry of Culture for further information of the meeting and local-based foreign news agencies and local journalists 067-412126 of the News and Periodicals Enterprise for coverage of news on the meeting.

MNA

Population of Myanmar totals over 51 million: Preliminary Population Census

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The total population of Myanmar amounts to over 51 million, according to the statement on the preliminary population census by the Central Census Commission.

The CCC released the preliminary population census with the aim of contributing to the setting up of projects and policies of the State and the needs of government organizations in accordance with the international norms, the statement said.

The preliminary population census is based

on the number of males and females in families in census taking plots, townships, districts and regions and states.

According to the preliminary population census the population of Myanmar in the territory of Myanmar (including staff in embassies of Myanmar in other countries) taken at midnight on 29 March 2014 totals 51,419,420.

Details of the preliminary population census will be announced on 30 August, according to the Central Census Commission. —NLM



President U Thein Sein presents certificate of honour to a player from victorious Myanmar U-19 team at the dinner in honour of the U-19 Myanmar football team.—MNA

We encourage and support steps taken by Myanmar government towards democratization: Israeli deputy foreign minister

Interviewer:
Kyaw The-ein

Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tzachi Hanegbi made an official visit to the Republic

of the Union of Myanmar from 27 to 29 August 2014. During his three-day visit, he met with Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for the President Office U Aung Min, Union

Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo.

Following his meeting with Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu, he signed together with Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin a cooperation agreement in the fields of culture and sports which will provide the framework for future collaboration between the two countries.

Q: It is known that you are the highest ranking Israeli official to visit Myanmar in over 20 years. Could you elaborate on the main objective of your visit to the country?

A: The main objectives are to further promote friendly ties and investment as well as to support reforms being launched in Myanmar. The interest of the State of Israel in My-

anmar is not new. Not like other countries that discovered Myanmar just recently, the State of Israel has long and lasting friendly relations with your country. We still warmly remember that it was your first prime minister, U Nu, who made the first official visit to the newly born State of Israel. Following that visit, our legendary Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion visited your country in 1969.

Q: We have learnt that diplomatic relations between Israel and Myanmar had reached 60 years. How significant will it be in future as Myanmar was the first ASEAN country to recognize the newly formed State of Israel?

A: During the 60th Anniversary, the Israeli embassy in Yangon organized a large number of activities including Logo (See page 3)



Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Tzachi Hanegbi explains prospects of Israeli companies to invest in telecommunications and health systems to education.—PHOTO: TIN TUN AUNG

South Korea helps Myanmar to attract foreign investment



Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein addresses the workshop on ease of doing business and enforcing contracts in Myanmar organized in cooperation between Myanmar Investment Commission and Ministry of Justice of Republic of Korea.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The Myanmar Investment Commission has cooperated with Republic of Korea's Ministry of Justice in accelerating the third phase of the development of trade and investment.

The two bodies organ-

ized a workshop on 'ease of doing business and enforcing contracts in Myanmar' at Parkroyal Hotel here on Friday, with an address by U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister at President Office as well as Patron of the Subcommittee for the Develop-

ment of the Private Sector, sources said. He said better investment policies and regulations will attract foreign investment in the private sector from Asian countries and world nations, thereby creating more job opportunities.

"Rules and regulations

by Myint Aung was broken and an onlooker, Nay Lin Aung, was injured by a rubble that hit his head and taken to Yangon General Hospital for minor injury.

MNA

Union Minister U Win Myint discusses trade and investment promotion and food safety for crops exported to China with Deputy Director-General of AQSIQ.

MNA

are being amended to keep up with changes in the law and keep them up to date," he said. Help should be sought from international organizations to ease restrictions and make investment flexible at home, he quoted the World Bank as saying. —MNA

New resident representative of UNHCR presents his appointment to Union FM

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Mr Giuseppe de Vincentiis, new resident representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Myanmar called on U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thurs-

day and presented his letter of appointment to the Union Minister.

During the meeting, they discussed matters of further cooperation between Myanmar and UNHCR and releasing news that reflects true facts and real situation of Myanmar.—MNA

Commerce minister receives deputy director-general of AQSIQ

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received a delegation led by Deputy Director-General Mr Li Qilei of General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

They held discussions about promotion of trade and investment and cooperation in food safety for crops exported to China from Myanmar.

Present at the meeting were Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan and officials of the ministry.—MNA



Two men detained in Thakayta brawl

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug—The police have detained two men while trying to control the situation in a brawl between two groups of people on Khine Shwe Wah Road in Ward-13 in Thakayta Township at about midnight on 28 August.

The brawl broke out between about 8 men including by Myint Aung alias Ko Lay, 55, who live

in 1/Htuparyon Ward in Thakayta and about 10 men including Nay Myo Aung. The police seized a six-inch knife and a firecracker from Myint Aung and charged him under five counts of offences. Another man detained by the police, Nay Myo Aung, has also been charged under two counts of offences.

During the brawl, the windscreen of a car owned

University of Computer Studies (Yangon), KOICA celebrates handover ceremony of Digital Library & Library Information System

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 29 Aug—The University of Computer Studies (Yangon) of the Ministry of Science and Technology received a digital library and library information system from Korea International Cooperation Agency to enhance its academic information services for education and

research and serve as a top knowledge hub specialized in information technology.

A ceremony marking the handover of Samsung-KOICA Digital Library took place at the university on Friday attended by Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ba Shwe, Director-General U Kyaw Zwa Soe of the Department of Advanced Science and

Technology, Resident Representative Nam Kwon Hyung of KOICA Myanmar Office, UCSY Rector Dr. Daw Mie Mie Thet Thwin and officials.

In his presentation on the Korea Overseas Volunteer Project at UCSY, Dr. Jang-Koon Shin, who took responsibility to implement the project, he said the project to build a digital library, renovate the reading

room and develop a library automation system began in July last year with the contributions of \$101,800 from KOICA, Samsung, a leading global brand in the world's digital market, and UCSY.

For the development of Myanmar IT resources, the official suggested that it is required for Myanmar to create many small companies in the IT field.

In his welcome speech, Deputy Minister Dr Ba Shwe expressed his hope of maintaining the new facility as a symbol of friendship between Myanmar and South Korea. Thanks to the state-of-the-art library, he added, it could help to raise the level of academic achievement of the students at UCSY.

Vowing to promote further cooperation with the ministry, Nam, in his address, revealed KOICA is planning to start a new project in establishing the Technical Teachers' Training Institute with budget allocated at \$11 million.

According to the KOICA Myanmar chief, the budget of KOICA's development assistance to Myanmar for this year is set about \$13 million. The

number of WFK volunteers in Myanmar will be a total of 105 volunteers and seven advisors with the new arrival of 33 volunteers soon.

With the improved library system providing barcode-based and RFID-based systems, a combination of automation and security activities in the library will enable not only users to have easy access to library materials but also staff to better serve them, the librarian of the UCSY told The New Light of Myanmar.

Following the emergence of the digital library, which had taken shape under the WFK-Volunteer Program, one of KOICA's core programmes, it will make various technological information accessible to UCSY students, thereby improving their educational quality and effectiveness.

NLM



KOICA Myanmar Chief Nam Kwon Hyung (left), Deputy Minister Dr Ba Shwe (centre) and Director-General U Kyaw Zwa Soe (right) listen to a presentation of a UCSY faculty member.

PHOTO: YE MYINT

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Russia agree to start inter-governmental economic cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug — The Republic of the Union of Myanmar has reached an agreement with the Russian Federation to form an intergovernmental commission for trade and economic cooperation, with Vice President U Nyan Tun attending the signing ceremony at the Myanmar International Convention Centre-2 here on Friday.

Union Minister Dr

Kan Zaw and Minister for Economic Development of Russia Mr Alexey V Ulyukaev signed the contracts, followed by the first meeting of the commission. Their discussions involved bilateral cooperation in trade and investment, and the development of sectors such as energy, industry, aviation, agriculture, information, technology, communications, and tourism.—MNA



Vice President U Nyan Tun at signing ceremony of Agreement on Establishment of Inter-Governmental Myanmar-Russia Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation.—MNA

Lab sample of suspected Ebola patient sent to lab in Europe

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug —The suspected Ebola patient at Waibagi Specialist Hospital is getting remarkable improvement day by day while other four people who had close contact with him were found no health problem, the Ministry of Health announced on Friday.

The suspected patient receiving malaria treatment by the specialist as they believed that the patient suffers from severe and complicated malaria with mixed infection of plasmodium falciparum and plasmodium vivax. According to the specialists, the patient has not experienced bleeding symptoms.

The samples for laboratory of the patient and four people who had close contact with the patient have been sent to the lab

in Europe on Friday under coordination between the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and IATA, according to the Ministry of Health.—MNA

Release of information for emerald green project discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug — Activities of village from emerald green project in each township are to be disseminated to the people,

said Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint at a coordination meeting to release commu-

nity-centred development tasks being undertaken by the ministry of through media to the people at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday.

The Union minister expressed his opinion for

inviting participants to submit short video drama depicting the emerald green projects.

The attendees discussed release of information on activities of the project.—MNA

Prospects for signing MoU with Myanmar, Russia discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 29 Aug — Deputy Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ba Shwe held talks with Russian Federation Ambassador Mr Vesily B Pospelov and party at the ministry on Thursday.

The talks focused on signing of MoU between Myanmar's Ministry of Science and Technology and the Russia's Minis-

try of Education and Science and one more MoU on peaceful use of atomic technology with the State Atomic Energy Corporation "ROSATOM" of Russia at the ministry.

The ceremony was attended by the director-general of the Myanmar Science and Technology Research Department and officials.—MNA



Twenty-five students of University of Economics who won Mizuho Bank Scholarship awards with Pro-Rector Dr Tun Aung and faculty members and Mr Katsuyuki Mizuma of Mizuho Bank Ltd of Singapore at the university on Friday.—MNA

We encourage and support . . .

(from page 1)

Competition which involves students from Myanmar universities, the first Israeli Film Festival, the renewal of bilateral visits of high officials between the two countries and the "Soul Bird" book translation project & donation to public libraries and schools. I would like to mention that we encourage and support the steps taken by the Myanmar government towards democratization, peace-building and national reconciliation. Those changes allow us to

expand those relations into many fields such as agriculture, health, education, telecommunication, science and technology and others.

Q: It is learnt that there had been a great deal of interest from Israeli companies looking to invest in Myanmar. Please tells us in which sectors would Israel like to invest?

A: There had been a large amount of interest from Israeli companies looking to invest in Myanmar ranging from tele-

communications and health systems to education. Water system was another area Israeli companies are likely to contribute strongly. We believe that we can share our innovation and advanced technologies to the benefit of Myanmar people. And just to give a good example, both of the companies that won the telecommunication tender have contract Israeli companies to help them build the infrastructure of their systems.

Q: Although senior Myanmar officials have visited Israel frequently their Israeli counterparts

did not come here. So, we strongly believe that your visit will be very significant and will bring about fruitful outcomes to the country. How about that opinion?

A: Since we have complementary economies and we are not competing on the same market, we believe that we can combine our innovation and advanced technologies with your necessities and needs. Mekorot, Israel's national water company, signed an MoU with Yangon Region to improve the water supply to the region, and there are many more to be

implemented by Israel in Myanmar.

Hanegbi's official visit to Myanmar came after several official visits of ministers from the country to Israel in 2013-2014 and expressed one more the long lasting relations and unique friendship between Israel and Myanmar. During his stay in Nay Pyi Taw, Hanegbi discussed further promoting bilateral relations and investment between the two countries and expressed Israel's support of the encouraging changes and reforms taking place in Myanmar in the last three years. He also

mentioned Israel's intention to extend the current training programs in the fields of agriculture, health and education provided by Israel's Agency for International Development and Cooperation (MASHAV), of which hundreds of Myanmar alumni from the public, private and NGOs have enjoyed in the last 60 years. As Israel is a first-tier innovation hub as well as the undisputed world leader in drip irrigation and holds the edge of in crop technologies, we strongly believe that Hanegbi's visit will contribute much to the country and its people.

Capacity enhancement of IPRD staff in Bago Region

BAGO, 29 Aug—The staff capability building course, organized by Bago Region Information and Public Relations Department, was conducted at its office from 25 to 27 August.

Deputy Director Daw Khin San of Bago Region IPRD explained the purpose of conducting the course and policy of the department.

“The training course will improve our capability to give public service media to the people,” said Head of Yedashe Township IPRD Daw Wint Nanda Htay.

The deputy director presented prizes to Toun-



goo District IPRD for best performance in wall magazine depicting anti-human

trafficking. Altogether 42 officers and staff of Bago Region

and District IPRDs attended the course.

NLM-017

Methods of rubber budding shared to farm workers and owners in Thaton Tsp



THATON, 29 Aug—With the aim of sharing correct methods of growing rubber and producing quality rubber saplings, the Township Industrial Crops Development Department and Rubber Producers Association jointly conducted the rubber plant nursery and budding course 2/2014 at

the hall of the department in Thaton of Mon State on Thursday.

Thaton Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Saw Ba Thein made a speech and Chairman of the Township Rubber Producers Association Dr Than Myo explained the domestic rubber market and progress of

rubber farming works.

Assistant Director Daw San San Wai of ICDD explained the aims of the training course to collect latex of rubber plants at full capacity.

Head of Township Department U Kyaw Swa Hlaing and officials gave lectures and practical train-

ing on nurturing rubber saplings and best ways of collecting rubber latex to 50 rubber farm owners and workers during the five-day period.—*The Oo (Thaton)*



Fire drill practised at fuel station in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 29 Aug—The talks about fire prevention was given in conjunction with the fire drill at HSD fuel station at the corner of 59th and Theikpan streets in South Yemon Ward of Mahaaungmye

Township in Mandalay on Thursday.

Staff Officer U Htet Aung of the Township Fire Services Department gave fire preventive measures.

Deputy Commanding Officer U Kyaw Min

of Township Fire Services Battalion, company commanders and members participated in fire drill in front of the fuel station with the use of fire extinguishers.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Central Command team beat Former Upper Myanmar team 5-3 in football friendly

MANDALAY, 29 Aug—The upper Myanmar former selected footballer team played a friendly match with the selected team of the Central Command at Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay on Thursday.

The selected team of the Central Command won over the Upper Myanmar former selected players 5-3.

Former selected goalkeeper of the Upper Myanmar team U Than

Htut-Daw Thuza Maung donated K500,000 to mark the 100 days of their baby to the team through patron of the team U Sein Win Gyi (former selected player) and chairman U Zaw Win.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



LOCAL NEWS

Electricians under training of refresher course



MEIKTILA, 29 Aug—In accord with the directives of the Ministry of Electric Power and Mandalay Region Minister for Electricity and Industry, the on-job refresher course No. 2/2014 for electricians of Meiktila and Yamethin Districts was held at Kandaw Mingala Hall of Meiktila on Friday.

Deputy Commissioner of Meiktila District U Tint Wai Thon made a speech. Head of Meiktila District Electricity Inspection Unit U Than Sein explained prevention against danger of electricity.

Yamethin District Electrical Engineer U Khin Maung Win and Meiktila District Electrical Engineer U Mon Aung Zay explained the purpose of opening the refresher course.

The on-job refresher course will last up to 31 August. Altogether 74 electricians from Yamethin and

Meiktila Districts of Electricity Supply Enterprise attended the training course. The first refresher course was conducted from 22 to 24 August, attended by 69 electricians from two districts.

Chan Thar (Meiktila)

Garry (Pony cart) on the verge of extinction in PyinOoLwin

PYINOOLOWIN, 29 Aug — As number of tuk-tuks and motorcycle taxis are on the increase in PyinOoLwin of Mandalay Region day by day, pony carts also known as garry face difficulties to attract passengers.

Now, the pony carts can attract globetrotters, but in the future, their survival

will not be sure.

“The number of pony carts in PyinOoLwin declined to 60 from 153. Due to various difficulties, the pony cart drivers will have to give up their business,” said a pony cart driver (Garry Wahlah).

Garry are the symbol of PyinOoLwin once famous as Maymyo in the

British colonial era. PyinOoLwin residents have been preserving such a lovely tradition for many years.

Travelling around the city by pony cart will cost K15,000. Depending on the distance of trips, the pony cart drivers can earn from K7,000 to K10,000 per day. Each cart can accommodate

four passengers of local people and two of globetrotters.

To go sightseeing and visit colonial buildings and significant places, pagodas and parks in PyinOoLwin, the globetrotters hire the garry.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

Myingyan Degree College welcomes fresher students for 2013-14 academic year

MYINGYAN, 29 Aug—Myingyan Degree College in Mandalay Region held the respect paying ceremony and fresher welcome ceremony for 2013-14 academic year at its hall recently.

Principal Dr Ko Ko

Myint and Professor/Dean of the Chemistry Department Dr Daw Mya Hnin Kyaing gave speeches. The students paid respects to the faculty members.

The professor presented prizes to outstanding

students for their excellent skills in education and sports sectors.

At the fresher welcome ceremony, students performed dance and songs to the attendees.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



SNACKS CHECKED: *Tapun Station Hospital medical officer Dr Swe Zin Win and officials perform medical checkup at students and check foods and snacks at the canteen of Basic Education High School in Tapun in Nattalin Township of Bago Region on Thursday.*

KYEMON-071



UN says 'not possible' to finish Afghan vote audit by 2 September

KABUL, 29 Aug — Afghanistan's UN representative told President Hamid Karzai on Thursday that the audit of a disputed election would not be finished by on 2 September, when Karzai had hoped to see a new leader inaugurated.

The United Nations is supervising the audit of votes from a run-off ballot between the two candidates, Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani. Both men have claimed victory in an election meant to mark the country's first democratic transfer of power.

In a meeting with Karzai, UN envoy Jan Kubiš told the outgoing president a "rigorous and credible audit required time, but could be completed around 10 September," said a UN statement.

In a previous statement, Karzai had said the inauguration of Afghanistan's new president must take place a month after the



An Afghan election worker carries a ballot box to be counted for an audit of the presidential run-off in Kabul on 27 Aug, 2014.— REUTERS

original inauguration date of 2 August.

"President Karzai is truly in a hurry for a quick conclusion of the election process," Karzai spokesman Aimal Faizi told *Reuters*. "He has already done

his packing. He is exhausted, like many other Afghans."

The audit of votes hit a snag on Wednesday when Abdullah's team pulled its observers from the process, citing dissatisfaction

with the way that allegedly fraudulent votes were being handled.

Ghani's team subsequently also withdrew its observers at the UN's request. "The audit must not only have integrity, it must

be seen to be even-handed by all Afghans," UN deputy chief Nicholas Haysom told reporters on Wednesday.

The audit has continued under UN supervision, but the hiccup has sparked widespread concerns that a US-brokered deal between the two candidates may be in jeopardy.

Both teams said on Thursday that talks on forming a national unity government had not stopped.

"We are still discussing the unity government," Mahmoud Saiqal, a top aide to Abdullah told *Reuters*, adding that the candidates were scheduled to meet again on Thursday evening.

Determining how exactly that government will look may prove tricky, however, particularly when it comes to defining the role the election runner-up will play.

A deal brokered by US Secretary of State John Ker-

ry calls for the runner-up to nominate someone to a new, specially created post called "chief executive." That position would share control with the president over some key decisions, such as nominating the heads of the Afghan security forces.

"Our understanding of a 'unity government' is a national partnership, where political figures from both sides are represented," said Saiqal.

But Ghani's team said it was too soon to start determining what responsibilities and powers a chief executive would have.

"The role is impossible to define at the moment," said Daoud Sultanzoy, a senior member of Ghani's team.

"There's no president [in office] to define it. Once the winner is announced, then it will be up to the winner."

Reuters

Indian PM launches massive banking account - insurance programme



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi holds brochures at a campaign aimed at opening millions of accounts to provide insurance to the country's poor people, in New Delhi, India, on 28 Aug, 2014. XINHUA

NEW DELHI, 29 Aug — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched a massive banking programme by opening 15 million bank accounts to provide insurance to the account holders, most of whom are the country's poor people.

"One-and-a-half crore (15 million) insurance policies on a single day, and 1.5 crore bank accounts opened in a day would never have happened before."

This is a big record in banking and insurance history," Modi said at the launching ceremony. Over

77,000 camps were set up for opening accounts, the prime minister said.

The programme is aimed at providing 75 million households in the country with a bank account and insurance policy within one year.

Each account has 5,000 rupees (83 US dollars).

"This whole exercise is aimed at lifting the poor out of the poverty line. After today's breakthrough momentum, I don't think it will stop," said the prime minister.

Xinhua

Australian PM to visit India, Malaysia

SYDNEY, 29 Aug — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced on Friday he will travel to India and Malaysia next week. On Abbott's first visit to India as prime minister, he said he will visit New Delhi and India's financial capital Mumbai to strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries.

India is Australia's fifth largest export market, with total exports of 11.4 billion Australian dollars (10.6 billion US dollars), and there is potential for further cooperation in resources, science, technology and education.

"My visit will be an opportunity to engage with Prime Minister (Narendra

Modi early in the term of his government to increase bilateral cooperation to advance our mutual interests. I will also meet other senior political leaders, including the president," he said in a statement.

"The visit will be an opportunity to promote trade and investment and promote our G20 objectives ahead of the Brisbane summit in November."

Abbott will be accompanied to India by a group of senior business leaders who will discuss opportunities for further business partnerships between the two countries. Following India, Abbott will travel to Malaysia for talks with

Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak. "Australia's defence ties with Malaysia are amongst our closest in South East Asia and we feel a deep connection to Malaysia given shared experiences arising from the MH370 and MH17 disasters," he said.

Last year two-way trade between Australia and Malaysia was worth almost 18 billion Australian dollars (16.8 billion US dollars). "Hundreds of thousands of Malaysians have studied in Australia and we will soon see more Australians travelling the other way when Malaysia joins the New Colombo Plan in 2015," Abbott said. —*Xinhua*

S Korea regrets North's decision to not send cheerleading squad

SEOUL, 29 Aug — South Korea on Friday voiced regret over North Korea's decision to not send a cheerleading squad to accompany its athletes to the Asian Games in South Korea next month.

"It's deeply regrettable North Korea twisted the fact we had taken issue with the dispatch of a cheering squad and that the North unilaterally announced its decision it would not send the cheering squad," South Korea's Unification Ministry spokesman Lim Byeong

Cheol said at a press briefing. In a reversal of its earlier decision, Son Kwang Ho, vice chairman of North Korea's National Olympic Committee, said no cheerleaders will be dispatched to the games, to be held in the western city of Incheon from 19 September to 4 October, the official *Korean Central News Agency* said on Thursday.

Lim dismissed as "untrue" the North's claim that South Korea does not want the cheering squad to attend.

"We welcome North Korea's athletes and cheering squad and will apply international practices in providing conveniences to them and in a way to make a positive contribution to the improvement of relations between the South and the North," Lim said.

Son said that the committee's decision to call off the plan was made because South Korea does not wish to host a cheerleading squad from the North. Talks broke down after Seoul complained of the size of the

squad and raised the issue of travel expenses, according to Son.

North Korea had earlier planned to send a 350-member cheerleading squad. These cheerleaders, called an "army of beauties" by South Koreans, have showed up at international events in South Korea in the past.

The North is still expected to send a 273-member delegation made up of athletes and sports officials to the Asian Games.

Kyodo News

Former Australian PM defends Iraq invasion as "right decision"

CANBERRA, 29 Aug — Former Australian Prime Minister John Howard is still sticking by his decision to send troops to Iraq in 2003 in spite of growing public outcry over the invasion.

Speaking on Friday at the opening of a reading room in his name at the University of New South Wales, Canberra, Howard said he remained convinced the joint military operation was the right thing to do to help the war-torn country.

"I remain of the view that the decision that the government took of that time to join the United States and the United Kingdom was the correct decision and nothing has happened since has altered my view," Howard told reporters. The Australia's second-longest serving PM refused to buy into the current situation directly, insisting it would not be "fair" to the conservative government led by Tony Abbott. —*Xinhua*

WORLD & UN

US, China plan followup to Sunnylands summit in November

WASHINGTON, 29 Aug — US President Barack Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping, at odds over China's increasing assertiveness in Asia and issues such as cyberspying, plan a followup to their informal summit in California last year after November's APEC summit in Beijing.

Leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group will meet in Beijing on 10 and 11 November and

Obama plans to stay in China for a bilateral meeting with Xi on 12 November, before heading on for an East Asia summit in Myanmar and a G20 meeting in Australia.

Robert Wang, the senior US State Department official responsible for APEC, said details of Obama's meeting with Xi, including the venue, were still under discussion, but the US side believed the informality

of their summit at a desert getaway in Sunnylands last June had been "an effective way of doing things."

"The Chinese seem to be receptive to that, but exactly what they have planned, we don't really know at this stage whether it'll be Beijing, whether it'll be outside somewhere else. But that's something I think that the Chinese are discussing with us," he told a news briefing in Washington on

Wednesday.

Wang said the talks would look at expanding areas of cooperation, while seeking to manage differences.

"We have quite a number of issues between US and China, and so far I think we've been able to manage them," he said.

Among such differences is over interpretation of Xi's call at Sunnylands for "a new model of big country relations" based on mutual respect and a avoidance of conflict.

"That's a term that the Chinese came up with, not the US," Wang said. "So I'm not sure whether we subscribe completely to the exact interpretation of that. It's something that Xi Jinping had sort of discussed several times, announced several times. That's what he wants."

The United States and China have strong economic and commercial ties but are at odds over China's pressing of territorial claims in East Asia, where Washington has several treaty allies, and over issues such as cyberspying. — Reuters



US President Barack Obama meets Chinese President Xi Jinping at The Annenberg Retreat at Sunnylands in Rancho Mirage, California on 7 June, 2013.—REUTERS

Iceland volcano alert at red after small eruption, no ash detected

STOCKHOLM, 29 Aug — Iceland raised its alert warning level to maximum on Friday after what it called a small eruption in the Bardarbunga volcano system but said there was no sign of ash that could affect air travel in Europe.

In 2010, an ash cloud from the Eyjafjallajökull volcano, in a different region of Iceland, closed much of Europe's air space for six days.

Iceland's largest volcanic system, which cuts a 190-km (118-mile)-long and up to 25-km-(15.5-mile)-wide swathe across the North Atlantic island, has been hit by thousands of earthquakes over the last two weeks and scientists have been on high alert in case of an eruption.

Reykjavik's Meteorological Office said that just after midnight an estimated 1-km-long fissure eruption began in a lava field north of the Vatnajökull glacier, which covers part of Bardarbunga system.

The risk of an ash

cloud is highest in case of a sub-glacial eruption.

"The Icelandic Met Office has raised the aviation colourcode over the eruption site to red and the Icelandic Air Traffic Control has closed down the air space from the earth up to 18,000 feet," the National Crisis Coordination Centre said in a statement.

Red is the highest alert level on a five-colour scale and indicates that an eruption is imminent or under way, with a risk of ash.

"No volcanic ash has been detected with the radar system at the moment....Seismic eruption tremor is low indicating effusive eruption without significant explosive activity,"

the crisis centre said.

The eruption is at the tip of a magma dyke around 40 km from the main Bardarbunga crater and activity subsided to relatively low levels after peaking between 0020 and 0200 GMT, Iceland Met Office seismologist Martin Hensch said.

Reuters



Warning signs block the road to Bardarbunga volcano, some 20 kilometres (12.5 miles) away, in the north-west region of the Vatnajökull glacier on 19 Aug, 2014.

REUTERS

UN Secretary-General's Message on the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances

New York, 30th August 2014

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's message for the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, to be observed on 30 August:

The enforced disappearance of individuals by States constitutes an unacceptable violation of human rights. Acts tantamount to enforced disappearance of individuals by armed and terrorist groups also constitutes a gross abuse of human rights. This abhorrent practice places people outside the protection of the law, and thus, potentially in great danger of physical violence and sometimes barbaric execution. In addition to causing unimaginable worry and anguish for the victims and their loved ones, this creates a generalized climate of fear and terror across entire societies.

Enforced disappearance was once employed mainly by military dictatorships. Increasingly, it has become a tool of many States around the world, some operating under counter-terror strategies, or fighting organized crime, and others seeking to quash dissent and human rights activism.

On this solemn Day, I reiterate in the strongest possible terms that under international law, no one should be kept in secret detention. Any person deprived of his or her liberty must be held safely in officially recognized and supervised locations that observe the rule of law. States should provide full information about the whereabouts of persons who have been disappeared. And they must effectively implement the right to the truth, justice and reparation for all victims and their families. Enforced disappearance is a practice that cannot be tolerated in the 21st century.

To date, the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which entered into force in December 2010, has been signed by 93 States and ratified by 43. It provides a sound foundation for fighting impunity, protecting disappeared persons and their families and strengthening the guarantees provided by the rule of law, including investigation, justice and redress.

I urge all Member States to sign and ratify the Convention without delay. It is time for the universal ratification of the Convention and a final end to all enforced disappearances.

UNIC/Yangon

US officials visited N Korea before joint exercise

SEOUL, 29 Aug — A group of US officials made a secret trip to Pyongyang shortly before a South Korea-US military exercise, known as the Ulchi Freedom Guardian, started on 18 August, a Seoul daily reported on Friday.

"The US officials aboard a military airplane entered Pyongyang on 16 August and returned back after staying there for nearly 18 hours," the Kyunghyang Shinmun reported from Washington, citing multiple diplomatic sources.

The secret contact between the two countries was the first of its kind since two trips made in April and August in 2012, the daily said.

A source told the daily that the US officials were from the White House and the Directorate of National Intelligence, adding the US side "seemed not to have achieved visible results through the visit."

North Korea has strongly criticized joint military exercises between South Korea and the United States, saying they are aimed at launching attacks into the North.

Meanwhile, the United States has informed South Korea of its secret visit to North Korea, saying it was aimed at discussing the release of an American detainee, Kenneth Bae, held since November 2012.—Kyodo News

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 30 August, 2014

Is property boom in Yangon safe?

By Myint Win Thein

A plan to expand Yangon, the largest and most populated city in Myanmar, was announced recently. The expansion plan has attracted property investors and land prices have risen dramatically recently. However, property agents are predicting the expansion plan would bring down skyrocketing Yangon land prices.

Land prices in Yangon are rising not because of the shortage of land but because of the demand for it. The demand for land in Yangon is growing due to speculation on land. Yangon has a vast area of land. There are many unin-

habited land plots in new townships in Yangon such as Dagon Myothit (South), Dagon Myothit (East), Dagon Myothit (Seikkan), Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha townships although the plots were developed about 20 years ago. These plots have changed hands with spiraling prices although there is no infrastructure and no one to settle on them. It is clear that land prices are rising on speculative demand, which cannot be trusted over the long run.

Although property agents are predicting a drop in land prices in Yangon, land prices are unlikely to fall, as we have already seen now. This is because the newly developed land is fed into the speculative demand. A new speculative land market has emerged for investors in land. In addition, top developers will construct high-end residences to sell at best prices, which is also likely to increase the already skyrocketing property prices.

Unless the expansion plan places emphasis on providing land and affordable housing for those who cannot afford to buy a house or an apartment of their own due to current property prices, the expansion plan will create another specula-

tive market and overheat the property market.

The collapse of a property market has a wide ranging impact on the entire economy, especially banks that give loans to those with property as collateral and are still grappling with competition they will have to face when foreign banks enter Myanmar in the near future. Therefore, it is important that the new expansion plan for Yangon city places emphasis on providing land and affordable housing for the poor rather than feeding the speculative demand.

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We appreciate your feedback and contributions.

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

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

Milk and Honey for the Heart

Kyi Mun

- ✓ Launch Yourself to Success with the Power of Belief
- ✓ Win Success by Believing You Can Succeed
- ✓ Defeat Disbelief and the Negative Power It Creates
- ✓ Get Big Results by Believing Big
- ✓ Make Your Mind Produce Positive Thoughts
- ✓ Develop the Power of Belief
- ✓ Use Your Mind for Thinking -Not Simply as a Warehouse for Facts
- ✓ Overcome the Problem of Age -Being "Too Young," or "Too Old"
- ✓ Use the Action Technique to Cure Fear and Build Confidence
- ✓ Overcome Your Fear of Other People
- ✓ Think Confidently by Acting Confidently
- ✓ Discover That Success Is Measured by the Size of Your Thinking
- ✓ Think Big by Visualizing What Can Be Done in the Future
- ✓ Add Value to Things, to People, and to Yourself
- ✓ Test Yourself - Find Out How Big Your Thinking Really Is
- ✓ Use Creative Thinking to Find New and Better Ways to Get Things Done
- ✓ Develop Creative Power by Believing It Can Be Done
- ✓ Do More and Do It Better by Turning on Your Creative Power

Source : *The Magic of Thinking Big*
by David J. Schwartz, Ph.D.

- "I want to make the simple-minded wise !"
 - "I want those already wise to become the wiser and become leaders."
- King Solomon
- The wise man looks ahead. The fool attempts to fool himself and won't face facts.
 - A short-tempered man is a fool. He hates the man who is patient.
 - Only a simpleton believes what he is told. A prudent man checks to see where he is going.
 - The simpleton is crowned with folly; the wise man is crowned with knowledge.
 - A life of doing right is the wisest life there is.
 - Never forget to be truthful and kind. Hold these virtues tightly. Write them deep within your heart.
 - The man who knows right from wrong, and has good

judgment and common sense is happier than the man who is immensely rich. For such wisdom is far more valuable than precious jewels. Nothing else compares with it.

- A wise man controls his temper. He knows that anger causes mistakes.
- A relaxed attitude lengthens a man's life; jealousy rots it away.
- Have two goals: wisdom-knowing and doing right – and common sense. Don't let them slip away.
- Cling to wisdom-she will protect you. Love her – she will guard you.
- From a wise mind comes careful and persuasive speech.
- There is treasure in being good.
- Only the good can give good advice.
- Wisdom is enshrined in the hearts of men of common sense.
- The diligent man makes good use of everything he finds.
- Joy fills hearts that are planning for good.
- Kind words are like honey-enjoyable and healthful.
- Determination to be wise is the first step toward becoming wise ! And with your wisdom, develop common sense and good judgment.
- Wisdom and good judgment live together, for wisdom knows where to discover knowledge and understanding.
- The intelligent man is always open to new ideas. In fact, he looks for them.
- Wisdom is the main pursuit of sensible men.
- A Wise man's words express deep streams of thought.

Source : *The Proverbs of King Solomon*

* There are no hopeless situations in life ... only men who have grown hopeless about them.

-A Baralay Comment

* Faith is Remembering I am God's priceless treasure when I feel utterly worthless.

Pamela Reeve

AND THIS, TOO

It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations.

They presented him the words : "And this, too, shall pass away."

How much it expresses ! How chastening in the hour of pride – how consoling in the depth of affliction !

-Abraham Lincoln.

THE SECRET

Someday I hope to enjoy enough of what the world calls success so that somebody will ask me, "What's the secret of it ?" I shall say simply this "I get up when I fall down."

-Panel Harvey

MIND AND HEART

"And what is as important as knowledge ?" asked the mind –
"caring and seeing with the heart," answered the soul.

-Anonymous

HOPE

Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings while the dawn is still dark.

-Tagore

OPPORTUNITY

When one door closes, another opens but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

Alexander Graham Bell

Source : *More Stories for the Heart*

by Alice Gray

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

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I would like to comment on your article entitled "Myanmar in need of better public transport system" by Aung Khin, which appeared in the Tuesday issue of the New Light of Myanmar, 26 August 2014.

My guess is that the traffic jam in Yangon is largely due to parents doing the school run in their cars. The traffic jam around high schools is more terrible when school is over.

I walk across Pyay Road when I go to a swimming pool at weekends. Cars never stop at

the pedestrian crossing. It is very dangerous for pedestrians. I don't think schoolchildren will be able to cross the road safely without the help of their parents. This is why parents find it necessary to take their children to school and bring them home.

If drivers obeyed the traffic rules and stopped for pedestrians to cross the road at the zebra crossing, parents can stop driving their children to and from school. This will dramatically reduce the traffic congestion near schools.

Mr. Kaoru KOTOZAKI

ARTICLE

Outlook and opinion of doctors that treated DM patients at Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills

By Sayar Mya

In the last week of July 2014, I had visited the Face Book {<https://www.facebook.com/wachet.hospital?fref=ts>} of Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (WJSH) in Sagaing Hills and saw the hopeful and heartening announcement for the marginalized and poor patients suffering from Diabetes Mellitus (DM).

The announcement was as follows:-

UK based social charity organization named "Brighter Future Foundation" (BFF) is visiting Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospitals in Sagaing Hills to offer treatment to all DM patients from 5 to 9 August 2014. All DM patients in the areas and elsewhere in the country are asked to register themselves in advance as the "BFF" team and Myanmar senior physicians will treat the patients free of charge. The message clearly stated that the modern laboratory test for urine and blood namely urea, creatinine, electrolytes, fasting lipid profiles, Hb A C, urine 10 parameter will be offered free of cost in addition to complementary medicines as prescribed by senior physicians. With a view to saving time in accommodating more number of patients to see the senior physicians, the people are requested to register in advance to check some basic medical condition such as blood sugar level and clinical test with a nominal registration fees of kyat 2,000 only from 21 to 31 July 2014. They are requested to bring in the medicine (if any) that they have been taking at the time so that adjustment could be made as necessary.

As I am interested in the works of Good Samaritans and saviors in the health sector, I sought some information from the Medical Superintendent Dr. U Win Kyaing of the Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Sagaing Hills.

According to his reply, as prepared by Accountant Miss Aye Khaing Moe, it started with the philanthropic conversation between senior physician Dr. Daw Thinn Thinn Hlaing of Cambridge University Hospital and Italian surgeon Dr. Robin Chan, who grew up in Myanmar, in 2013. He Studied at Faculty of Medicine, University of Padua, Italy.

The Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (CUH) is one of the United Kingdom's NHS Foundation Trusts. The Trust provides healthcare for



Wachet Jivitadana Sangha Hospital.—CREDIT GOES TO WACHET FACEBOOK

people in the Cambridge area, in southeast England and specialist services such as transplantation, treatment of rare cancers and neurological intensive care for a much wider area. It runs Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Rosie Hospital. It is one of the Shelford Group an informal organization of ten leading English University Teaching Hospitals and part of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

They talked about the philanthropic schedules at WJSH in Sagaing Hills. Subsequently, Dr. Robin introduced Dr. Daw Thinn Thinn Hlaing with MS Dr. U Win Kyaing and a plan to treat the DM patients was drafted. Kyaswa religious resort Sayadaw Dr. Lakkhana in Sagaing Hills, the founder of the hospital, had accorded approval on the proposed plan. (Unfortunately, when the project was actually realized in August, Sayadaw passed away on 4 June 2014).

According to the plan, the expenses incurred for the laboratory tests were borne by the Brighter Future Foundation. It was agreed to pull down the cost as much as possible. The prevailing cost for the fasting lipid profile, urea, creatinine, and electrolytes stands out at kyat 16,000 at the private laboratory and it was fixed at kyat 8,000 only. The BFF had shouldered the cost on behalf of the patients. Total of 260 patients enjoyed the benefits of the laboratory charges.

Before the medical treatment by the physicians, the patients were asked to respond and give answers on the DM. It was done with a view to assess and evaluate the existing awareness and knowledge of the patients towards the DM.

After the initial and basic clinical examination by the local

doctors and staff of the WJSH, the patients were systematically grouped for the dates of consultation to avoid long waiting time. The medical treatments for the patients by the senior physicians were slotted in two sessions such as morning and afternoon. Total of (260) patients was slotted into (4) days from 5 to 8 August 2013.

Average examination and consultation time was stretched into (20) minutes for each patient, which could be termed as adequate space. Monks and nuns were accorded with free of charge. The marginalized, vulnerable and poor patients were charged with minimal amount of cash, with the testimonial of local ward / village elders.

Awareness raising and knowledge dissemination were conducted by the senior physicians for the patients and interested persons between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm at the hall of the hospital during the project period.

Moreover, the guest team deployed the expensive apparatus of HbA_{1c} Analyzer which is worth about Pound sterling 4,000 {equivalent approximately Myanmar kyat 6.4 million}. This test costs Myanmar kyat 13,000 at the private laboratory for one patient. Urine test was done with strip test. The patients were complimented with medicine for one week free of charge which was worth Myanmar kyat 30,000 and above for each patient.

The patients gathered round the rally of medical treatment were from various areas such as Mandalay, Myinmu, Taunggyi, Pakokku, Myingyan, Salingyi, Magway and even from Yangon, the former capital of the country.

The eye ailment of patients related with the diabetes mellitus

were examined and treated by ophthalmologist from the UK.

The visiting medical team was constituted with the following physicians and doctors.

1. Professor Daw Than Than Aye, Retired Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
2. Professor U Nyunt Thein, Retired Physician, University of Medicine-1, Yangon.
3. Professor U Ko Ko, Consultant Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
4. Dr. Moe Wint Aung, Consultant Physician, University of Medicine-2, Yangon.
5. Dr. Khin Swe Myint, Consultant Endocrinologist, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital, NHS Foundation Trust, UK.
6. Dr. Nyi Nyi Pe, General Practitioner, UK.
7. Dr. Thinn Thinn Hlaing, Chemical Pathologist & Metabolic Physician, Cambridge University Hospital, NHS Foundation Trust, UK.
8. Dr. Khet Khet Myo, Ophthalmologist, Bromfield Hospital, Chelmsford, UK.
9. Two PhD students, one GP doctor, and five junior doctors from Yangon.

Attitude, opinion and stance of the senior doctors towards the philanthropic works have been spelt out by the senior physicians as follows.

Objective, purpose and goal of the project outlined by the senior physicians treating DM project were as follows.

Dr. Daw Khin Swe Myint, Chairperson of the Brighter Future Foundation of UK, Consult-

ant endocrinologist.

1. The chairperson is of the view and objective to enhance and uplift the standard of health standard in Myanmar. She is desirous in awareness raising and capacity building for the medical students and health care workers.
2. She is eager to enhance the health awareness of the general public, and that was one of the reasons in the founding and establishment of Brighter Future Foundation.
3. WJSH in Sagaing Hills is a venue equipped with appropriate facilities much suitable and convenient for projected field treatment for short term duration.

Dr. Daw Thin Thin Hlaing from UK

The senior physician was of the opinion that she has specific purpose to work voluntary medical treatment with the back drop of rising DM patients. She spelt out that DM patients are rising across the globe and that Myanmar is not an exception. However, she was of the view that the general population in the country has very less knowledge over the DM compounded with the lack of modern methods of treatment. Under the circumstances, the Brighter Future Foundation has chalked out a plan to offer a comprehensive package of medical treatment to the patients at the WJSH in Sagaing Hills.

She candidly unveiled that the host WJSH had warmly welcomed the visiting team, enabling them to work out in the treatment, thus gaining meritorious deeds. She wowed and promised to come again to the WJSH as the host doctors and health workers extended the fullest co-operation.

Dr. Daw Moe Wint Aung.

1. All the doctors are desirous and have committed to address and solve the health problem of the public. The government has laid down a policy which the Ministry of Health has to shoulder the prevention (treatment) sector as the main trust of the policy to be carried out as the field work. Such treatment in the nature of field project is already getting used to the Department of Health.

(to be continued)

Written by Mya Tun, Retired Deputy Director of MOFA, currently working as Independent Freelance Consultant.

France's Hollande says Assad no ally in fight against Islamic State

PARIS, 29 Aug — French President Francois Hollande said on Thursday opposition forces fighting Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq should get more Western support but ruled out seeing Syrian President Bashar al-Assad as an ally.

Calling Assad an ally of the jihadists, he said: "There is no choice to be made between two barbarisms."

"A large alliance is needed, but let's be clear. Assad is not a partner in the struggle against terrorism," Hollande said in a speech to an annual conference of French ambassadors.

Syrian rebel forces have been fighting Assad for more than three years with political backing from the West in a war that has cost 190,000 lives. But hardline Islamist groups have increasingly dominated the anti-Assad struggle, posing a dilemma for Western



French President Francois Hollande walks in the Elysee Palace in Paris following the weekly cabinet meeting after a government reshuffle, on 27 August, 2014. — REUTERS

countries.

"Today, we are seeing the consequences (of inaction last year). The (Assad) regime continues without holding back its policy of repression, refugees are amassing in neighbouring countries and terrorist groups are gaining ground."

"The danger is immense," Hollande added.

Militant fighters of

Islamic State, a radical al-Qaeda offshoot, have seized swathes of both Syria and Iraq in recent months, alarming regional and Western governments, and have vowed to establish a trans-border Sunni Muslim caliphate.

France was the first Western country to recognize Syria's opposition forces, but was left out on a limb last year when the

United States called off planned air strikes against Assad just hours before French planes were due to take off.

French diplomats have said Paris will be prudent before committing to any future direct military action.

"After what happened last year, now when the Americans decide to do something we will need some very strong guarantees before committing to anything. The Americans first have to decide what they want to do," said a senior French diplomat.

The White House said President Barack Obama would meet his top national security advisers later on Thursday to discuss the challenge presented by Islamic State militants, the White House announced. He is considering launching air strikes against them in Syria after the beheading of American journalist James Foley.

Reuters

Denmark PM says not a contender for EU council president

COPENHAGEN, 29 Aug — Danish Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt ruled herself out for the position of the European Union council president, saying she was happy staying in her current job.

"I am not coming out as the candidate for the position of President of the EU Council," she told an EU affairs meeting in parliament. "I am very happy

being the prime minister of Denmark."

Thorning-Schmidt had been thought to be a leading contender for the post a month ago, but may have slipped from the favourite spot as politicians try to come to an agreement over top EU jobs.

Thorning-Schmidt had said before she did not consider herself a candidate for the post. — Reuters



Denmark's Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt arrives at a European Union leaders summit in Brussels on 16 July, 2014. — REUTERS

China, Central-Eastern Europe seek more potentials on cooperation

BRUSSELS, 29 Aug — China and the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) region are exerting more efforts to enhance cooperation between the two sides.

In the latest development, a local leaders meeting between China and Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC) opened Thursday in the Czech capital of Prague, which was attended by Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli.

The second edition of this meeting brings together more than 1,000 participants from local governments and companies in China and the 16 Central and Eastern European countries.

A platform for local governments and business circles, the forum is the second-most important platform within the mechanism of cooperation between China and Central and Eastern European countries, after the China-CEEC leaders meeting.

China has several existing projects in the region in cooperation with local governments.

For example, the Czech Republic — where



Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli (6th, R) meets with Czech Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka in Prague, Czech Republic, on 28 Aug, 2014. — XINHUA

the meeting is being hosted — and China are celebrating the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

During the visit, Vice Premier Zhang met Czech President Milos Zeman and Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka to discuss cooperation in areas of manufacturing, infrastructure development and investment.

Neighbouring Poland constitutes an important part of the Silk Road Economic Belt. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk has

said: "Relations between China and Central-Eastern Europe have entered the best period in history, with bilateral meetings frequently held at all levels."

Twinning projects exist between more than 30 cities in China and Poland. Both countries collaborate on the "Go China" program to enhance cultural cooperation, as well as promoting the Silk Road Central European Railway Connection construction to boost tourism and trade.

The president of the

Polish Information and Foreign Investment Agency, Slawomir Majman, said: "The two countries have a large space for cooperation in the fields of coal, energy, telecommunications, infrastructure, agricultural products and food processing."

Over in Lithuania, the "China+16" forum is viewed as complementary to the European Union-China strategic partnership, said Justas Pankauskas, advisor to Lithuania's prime minister.

He said the forum provides excellent opportunities for bilateral and regional partnership in various fields such as economics, transportation, education and culture.

"China treats all the states as equal partners, no matter are they small or big, developed or developing and this is very important conditions for establishing stable partnership among them," Pankauskas underlined.

Serbia, meanwhile, will unveil a Chinese-built bridge over the river Danube in its capital Belgrade by the end of the year. Once finished, the six-lane bridge will be 1.5 km long, 30 meters wide and will overarch the Danube at an altitude of 23 meters.

Chinese Ambassador to Serbia Li Manchang said that the bridge, popularly called "Chinese bridge", is just one of the many large infrastructural projects between Serbia and China.

Chinese firm Shandong High-speed earlier this month started work on a 50 km highway connecting the Serbian capital with Montenegro.

Xinhua

Enhanced Russia-Iraq ties pull more US attention to Baghdad

MOSCOW, 29 Aug — Russia's readiness to offer discounts on arms sales to Iraq has prompted the United States to step up military-technological cooperation with Baghdad, Iraqi ambassador to Russia Ismial Shafiq Muhsin said on Thursday.

"The Iraqi government has been focused on diversifying sources of weapons, and we have been open to signing contracts with any suppliers of weapons meeting the Iraqi army's criteria," Interfax news agency quoted Muhsin as saying.

He said Iraq had asked Moscow for more arms supplies amid increasing activities of militants from the Islamic State, an al-Qaeda's offshoot operating in the Syria and Iraq.

"The response (from Russia) was very quick, and therefore the United States also had to act with the same swiftness and seek to conclude arms contacts with us," said the diplomat.

Xinhua

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Apple working with NXP for pay-by-touch technology in new iPhone

SAN FRANCISCO, 29 Aug — Apple Inc is working with Dutch chipmaker NXP Semiconductors NV to add secure near-field communications (NFC) technology into the next iPhone, which would enable the smartphone users to pay by touch, the *Financial Times* reported, citing people familiar with Apple's plans.

NXP will provide the secure near-field communications chips that will allow an iPhone to connect with payment terminals or ticketing systems, the daily reported.

NFC technology allows a smartphone to communicate wirelessly with other devices by tapping them together. Apple has invited media to a "special event" in its hometown of Cupertino, California, on 9 September, when the iPhone maker is expected to unveil the latest versions of its best-selling smartphones. Apple was not immediately available for comment outside regular US business hours, while NXP declined comment.

Reuters



A man plays snooker in a hall inside Alibaba's headquarters in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province on 23 April, 2014. —REUTERS

Alibaba opens fifth data centre for public cloud business

BEIJING, 29 Aug — Alibaba Group Holding Ltd said on Friday it will open a fifth data centre in Shenzhen to service AliCloud, the latest sign of its growing investment in the small but potentially lucrative cloud computing business.

Established in 2009, AliCloud posted \$38 million in revenue during the quarter ending June, a relatively small slice of Alibaba's \$2.54 billion in total revenue for the quarter, according to Alibaba's financial disclosures filed ahead of its imminent initial public offering in New York.

AliCloud, which has been likened to a budding version of the cloud service run by Alibaba's US rival, Amazon.com's Web Services (AWS), began as part of the company's in-house technical infrastructure but has since expanded to lease processing and storage space for small and medium Internet businesses in China, such as gaming companies.

AliCloud's new data centre will serve "large and small companies, financial institutions and other third parties in southern China," the company said in a statement on Friday. AliCloud recently opened its fourth data centre in Hong Kong and maintains three other facilities in mainland China.

Reuters

Scientists solve mystery of moving Death Valley rocks

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — A solution to the long-standing mystery of why rocks move erratically across an isolated patch of California's Death Valley finally emerged on Thursday, when researchers published a study showing the driving force was sheets of wind-driven ice.

Trails from the movement of the rocks, which show them changing direction suddenly in their movement across the so-called Racetrack Playa, have long befuddled scientists and the general public. People wondered: How were the rocks moved? Paleobiologist Richard Norris of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who led the study, saw the rare phenomenon firsthand last December while standing with his cousin, engineer James Norris, at the spot.

They published their findings on Thursday in the journal *PLOS One*, showing that even though the stones can sit for a decade or more without moving, on certain occasions they go on a slow trip that results from an unusual combination of ice and wind in an area normally known for scorching hot temperatures.

That happens when



A rock containing a motion-activated Global Positioning System (GPS) unit is seen in the so-called Racetrack Playa of California's Death Valley in this undated handout photo provided by the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. —REUTERS

the dry lake bed they are in freezes over with a thin layer of ice which then breaks apart in a light wind, sending large sheets of ice against the rocks with enough force to move them a few yards per minute, Norris said.

Because of the ability of the large ice sheets to catch the wind, and aided by the underlying flow of water, the rocks, which weigh as much as 700 pounds (318 kg), are pushed along in a way that could not occur from the force of the wind alone, he said.

A scientific theory dat-

ing back to the 1950s had suggested that thick ice and heavy winds could be behind the movement of the rocks, but the study published on Thursday found the ice is far thinner and the wind much lighter than first thought.

Popular theories for what drives the rocks have ranged from a sudden tilting of the Earth to the action of giant magnets under the surface of the ground.

"I think it has massive popular appeal because it is one of these things that's very widely known about but kind of marveled at," Norris said.—Reuters

US banking group says unaware of any 'significant' cyber attack

BOSTON, 29 Aug — An influential US financial services industry group that shares information about cyber threats has said it is unaware of any "significant" cyber attacks, downplaying concerns about possible breaches at JP Morgan Chase & Co and other banks.

The group, known as the Financial Services Information Sharing and Analysis Centre, or FS-ISAC, includes all major US banks and dozens of smaller ones along with some large European financial institutions.

"There are no credible threats posed to the financial services sector at this time," the group said in an email to its members.

FS-ISAC told members in the email that it decided not to raise its barometer of threats facing banks during a regularly scheduled conference call on Thursday. During the call,



A sign outside the headquarters of JP Morgan Chase & Co in New York on 19 Sept, 2013. —REUTERS

members discussed threats facing the financial services sector, including reports of suspected cyber attacks on JPMorgan and other banks.

It added that it was "unaware of any significant cyber-attacks causing unauthorized access to sensitive information at any member institutions."

JPMorgan had said

early on Thursday that it was working with US law enforcement authorities to investigate a possible cyber attack. The bank provided little information about the suspected attack, declining to say whether it believed hackers had stolen any data or who might be responsible. "Companies of our size unfortunately experience

cyber attacks nearly every day. We have multiple layers of defence to counteract any threats and constantly monitor fraud levels," it said in a statement.

The FBI had said late on Wednesday that it was looking into media reports on a spate of attacks on US banks, raising concerns that the sector was under siege

by sophisticated hackers.

Yet several cyber security experts said that they believe those concerns are overblown.

"Banks are getting attacked every single day. These comments from FS-ISAC and its members indicate that this is not a major new offensive," said Dave Kennedy, chief executive officer of TrustedSEC LLC, whose clients include several large US banks.

"While we should remain diligent and active in monitoring, it doesn't appear there is a major offensive," said Kennedy.

The email said that FS-ISAC was maintaining the threat level at "guarded," noting that financial services firms continue to face a variety of threats.

It cited recent attacks on retailers using malicious software that targets point-of-sales systems, SMS phishing campaigns targeting bank customers and a

recently disclosed attack on hospital operator Community Health Systems Inc.

The group also warned members about the potential for cyber-related activity emerging from conflicts in the Middle East and Ukraine.

"They are basically saying that the attacks they are seeing are the standard patterns. That it is business as usual," said Daniel Clemens, chief executive of cyber security firm PacketNinjas.

Renewed concerns that banks might be victims of significant cyber attacks emerged after Bloomberg News reported on Wednesday that Russian hackers were believed to have recently stolen sensitive data from JPMorgan and another unnamed US bank. *The New York Times* subsequently reported that JPMorgan and at least four other US banks had been attacked.—Reuters



Myanma Posts & Telecommunications

From 1st September, MPT SIM cards will be available in retail stores across the nation

MPT is making to get SIM cards easier for the people of Myanmar. From 1st September onwards, affordable MPT SIM cards will be sold at a wide network of retail stores in all states and regions across the country. More SIM cards will continue to come every month, and will be made available in more cities and townships across the nation.

State/Region	Townships
Nay Pyi Taw	Dekkhina Thiri, Leway, Ottaya Thiri, Pobba Thiri, Pyinmana, Tetkon, Zabu Thiri, Zeyar Thiri
Kachin	Myitkyina, Bhamo, Hpakan, Mogaung, Mohnyin, Shwegu, Tanai
Kayah	Loikaw
Kayin	Hpa-An, Hlaingbwe, Hpapun, Kawkareik, Kyainseikgyi, Myawaddy
Chin	Hakha, Falam, Mindat, Tiddim
Sagaing	Monywa, Budalin, Hkamti, Homalin, Indaw, Kale, Kalewa, kanbalu, Kawlin, Mawlaik, Myinmu, Pale, Sagaing, Wuntho
Thanintharyi	Dawei, Bokpyin, Kawthoung, Kyunsu, Launglon, Myeik, Pulaw, Yephyu
Bago	Bago, Daik-U, Kawa, Kyaukkyi, Kyauktaga, Nyaunglebin, Oktwin, Phyu, Shwegyin, Tantabin, Taungoo, Thanatpin, Waw, Yedashe, Gyobingauk, Letpadan, Minhla (Bago), Monyo, Nattalin, Okpho, Padaung, Pauk Kaung, Paungde, Pyay, Shwedaung, Thayarwady, Thegon, Zigon
Magway	Magway, Aunglan, Chauk, Gangaw, Kamma, Minbu, Mindon, Minhla, Myaing, Myothit, Natmauk, Ngape, Pakokku, Pauk, Pwintbyu, Salin, Saw, Seikphyu, Sidoktaya, Sinbaungwe, Taungdwingyi, Thayet, Tilin, Yenangaung, Yesagyo
Mandalay	Aungmyaythazan, Chanayethazan, Mahaaungmyay, Mogoke, Patheingyi, Pyinoolwin, Singu, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Kyaukpadaung, Kyaukse, Meiktila, Pyigyitagon, Sintgaing, Tada-U, Thazi

State/Region	Townships
Mon	Mawlamyine, Bilin, Chaungzon, Kyaikmaraw, Kyaikto, Mudon, Paung, Thanbyuzayat, Thaton, Ye
Rakhine	Sittwe, Ann, Buthidaung, Gwa, Kyaukpyu, Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Minbya, Mrauk-U, Munaung, Myebon, Pauktaw, Ponnagyun, Ramree, Rathedaung, Thandwe, Toungup
Yangon	Botahtaung, Dagon Myothit, Dawbon, Mingalartaungnyunt, North Okkalapa, Pazundaung, South Okkalapa, Tamwe, Thaketa, Thingangkuun, Yankin, Hlaingtharya, Hlegu, Hmawbi, Htantabin, Insein, Mingaladon, Shwepyithar, Taikkyi, Ahlone, Bahan, Cocokyun, Dagon, Dala, Hlaing, Kamaryut, Kawhmu, Kayan, Kungyangon, Kyauktada, Kyauktan, Kyeemyindaing, Lanmadaw, Latha, Mayangone, Pabedan, Sanchaung, Seikgyikanaungto, Seikkan, Thanlyin Thongwa
Shan	Taunggyi, Lashio, Kengtung, Monghpyak, Mongton, Tachileik, Hseni, Kutkai, Laukkaing, Mabein, Manton, Mongmit, Mongyai, Muse, Nanhkan, Nawngkhio, Kalaw, Kunhing, Laihka, Langkho, Lawksawk, Loilen, Monghsu, Mongnai, Nansang, Nyaungshwe, Pekon, Pindaya, Pinlaung, Ywangan
Ayeyarwady	Patheingyi, Bogale, Danubyu, Dedaye, Einme, Hinthada, Ingapu, Kangyidaung, Kyaiklat, Kyangin, Kyaunggon, Kyonpyaw, Labutta, Lemyethna, Maubin, Mawlamyinegyun, Myanaung, Myaungmya, Ngapudaw, Nyaungdon, Pantanaw, Pyapon, Thabaung, Wakema, Yegyi, Zalun

For detail informations, please contact to “106”.

**Myanma Posts and
Telecommunications**

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV CMB YASMINE VOY NO ()

Consignees of cargo carried on MV CMB YASMINE VOY NO () are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 29.8.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S F.H BRRTLING CHAR-
TERING & SHIP MANAGEMENT PTE LTD.**
Phone No: 2301186

**Ministry of Energy
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Request for Letter of Expression
of Interest (LOEI)
for Joint Venture Project
of Coastal Oil Tankers, River Crafts
and Barges**

1. The Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Ministry of Energy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar hereby announced an invitation to the interested local investors, companies, the organizations / foreign companies to submit the Letter of Expression of Interest (LOEI) for Joint Venture Project of coastal oil tankers, river crafts and barges under Crude Oil and Petrochemical Movement Department of Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise (MPE). This business will be carried out by classification in accordance with coastal oil tankers, river crafts and barges group and the interested applicants can propose by conducting individual group or more.

2. The required data for LOEI submission and information related to coastal oil tankers, river crafts and barges group are available in the Ministry of Energy Website (<http://www.energy.gov.mm/index.php/en/information/announcement>) as well as the following address in person during the office hours.

3. LOEI shall be submitted to Managing Director, Building No.44, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw in person not later than 12:00 noon at the date of 25.9.2014. No submission of LOEI can be allowed by fax or email.

4. Only the qualified LOEI proposals will be invited to conduct the tender process.

**Director (Planning)
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise
Building No. 44, Nay Pyi Taw
Fax:-067 411124
Email:- cpmdjv@gmail.com**

Bahrain denies inviting senior US diplomat expelled for “interference”

MANAMA, 29 Aug — Bahrain officials on Thursday denied a claim made by a US official saying the tiny island nation invited a senior US diplomat to return to the kingdom after he was expelled for “interfering in domestic affairs.”

Earlier on Tuesday, US State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said during a briefing in

Washington that the top official “has received an invitation to return to Bahrain.”

She added, “there’s a trip that’s currently being planned, but I don’t have details on that yet at this point in time.”

However on Thursday, the Bahrain Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Abdulla Abdullatif said the government had not invited the

senior diplomat to return, calling Psaki’s statements “inaccurate.”

US Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labour Tomasz Malinowski was declared persona non grata by the Bahrain Foreign Affairs Ministry on 7 July and asked to leave the country, sparking brief diplomatic tensions

between the two allies.

The expulsion followed Malinowski’s meeting with the country’s main opposition group al-Wefaq National Islamic Society secretary general Shaikh Ali Salman and former Member of Parliament Abduljalil Khalil at the opposition group’s headquarters in Bilad al-Qadeem.

Xinhua

Small island states faced with vulnerable social, economic landscape

UNITED NATIONS, 29 Aug — A UN report said here on Thursday that small island states are now faced with vulnerable social and economic landscapes. The finding was contained in “the State of Human Development in the Pacific: a report on vulnerability and exclusion in a time of rapid change,”

which was launched at UN headquarters in New York.

The report focused on small state challenges and recommendations for the countries that are tackling human development challenges like, weak economies, poverty, deteriorating social protection and an increase in migration.

Briefing the press

here on the report, Nicholas Rosellini, deputy director of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, said, “Across some of the (small states), the poverty rate of households with three or more children were found to be between 27 percent and 63 percent

higher than the national average.”

Rosellini said that youth and women deserve the most attention in vulnerable states. “Women have lower access to employment and they often work in an informal sector with no legal rights, social security or welfare,” he said.—Xinhua

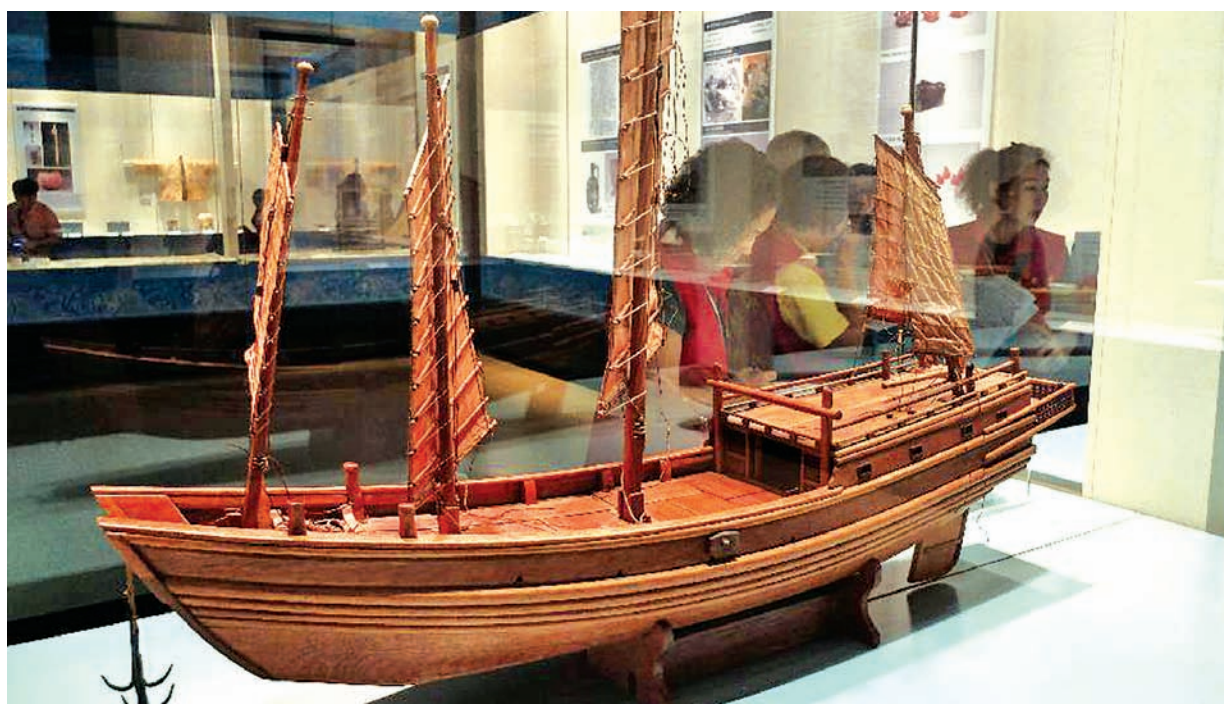


Photo taken on 28 Aug, 2014 shows a model of the ship of Song Dynasty (960-1279) during an antique exhibition of the Maritime Silk Road in Jinan, capital of east China’s Shandong Province. The exhibition, displaying some 300 antiques related to the Maritime Silk Road, opened here on Thursday.—XINHUA

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Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 30th August, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Sagaing Region, Kachin and Chin States, fairly widespread in Mandalay and Magway Regions, Rakhine and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mandalay and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

BAY INFERENCE According to the observation at (12:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over West Central and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

Cuban VP calls for boosting tobacco output

HAVANA, 29 Aug — Cuban Vice President Jose Ramon Machado on Thursday urged tobacco farmers in his country to tap further into the national advantage and increase output.

“Cuban tobacco is the world’s best. ... It is an advantage that we cannot afford to waste, so we have to have a strong output,” official daily *Granma* quoted him as saying during a visit to the western province of Pinar del Rio, Cuba’s tobacco-growing centre.

In order to boost the output, besides securing the market, tens of thousands of people in Pinar del Rio are employed, said Machado.

Another 15,940 hectares of tobacco, about 70 percent of the current national total, are to be planted in the province for the next harvest season.

Xinhua

Animation director Miyazaki to receive academy's honorary award



File photo taken in March 2014 shows Japanese animation director Hayao Miyazaki at Studio Ghibli in Koganei, Tokyo. The Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said 28 Aug, 2014, it has picked Miyazaki as one of three recipients of its Honorary Award for the year.— KYODO NEWS

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said on Thursday it has picked Japanese animated film director Hayao Miyazaki as one of three recipients of this year's honorary Governors Award for his lifetime achievements in the film industry.

Miyazaki, 73, is the second Japanese director to receive the award, following Akira Kurosawa who won it at the 62nd Academy Awards in 1990.

"I think a person who has retired should not get such things as an award, but I feel honoured," Miyazaki said in a statement. The animation hit maker announced his retirement last September.

The other recipients of the honorary award this year are French screenwriter Jean-Claude Carrière and actress Maureen O'Hara.

The award will be presented at the 6th Governors Awards ceremony in Los Angeles on 8 November.

Miyazaki's "Spirited Away" won the Oscar for Animated Feature Film in 2003. His other works include "Princess Mononoke" and "The Wind Rises," which was nominated for best animated feature at the 86th Academy Awards in March.

In a press release, the academy noted that Miyazaki gained "an enormous following in his native Japan" for such features as "Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind," "Laputa: Castle in the Sky" and "My Neighbor Totoro."

Miyazaki's animated films are known for their critical views of modern civilization and a sense of awe toward nature. His works are popular overseas as well as in Japan.

Kyodo News

Quietly, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie say, 'I do'

LOS ANGELES, 29 Aug — Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, Hollywood's first couple, married in France over the weekend following a two-year engagement, ending nearly a decade of fevered tabloid speculation over whether "Brangelina" would ever tie the knot.

Pitt, 50, and Jolie, 39, were wed on Saturday in a small chapel at Chateau Miraval, the couple's estate in southeastern France, in a civil ceremony, according to a statement provided by publicist Martin Torres on Thursday.

The couple — whose long-rumoured nuptials had been celebrity magazine and tabloid fodder and had sent reporters and photographers as far as India and Africa in search of possible "secret" ceremonies — wed much like they live: quietly and far removed from Hollywood's spotlight.

The power couple's six children, all under the age of 14, took part in the ceremony, the statement said.

The "Maleficent" star was walked down the aisle by eldest sons Maddox and Pax, while Zahara and Vivienne threw petals gathered from a garden. Shiloh and Knox were ring bearers.

"It was very much a family affair," the statement said.

Jolie and Pitt, who had said they hoped to wed once same-sex marriage was legal throughout the United States, were married under California law by a judge who travelled to France for the ceremony.

Reuters



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

American pop singer Redfoo attacked at Australian pub



Singer Redfoo, boyfriend of Victoria Azarenka of Belarus, laughs during her women's singles match against Sloane Stephens of the US at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 20 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

SYDNEY, 29 Aug — Redfoo, one half of LMFAO the US pop duo behind the hit single "I'm Sexy and I Know It", has been hit with a glass at a pub in an upmarket Sydney suburb and suffered a minor facial injury, Australian police said on Thursday.

The singer and Australian X Factor talent show judge, whose real name is Stefan Kendall Gordy, has been left with a scar above his right eye after a

man hurled a glass at him, police said. "He looked at me and taunted me and winked his eye, just to say 'I got you' or something," Redfoo told Australian television.

Police have charged a 21-year-old man over the attack. He will appear in court next month.

Redfoo is the youngest son of Berry Gordy Jnr, the founder of Motown Records company.

Reuters



Lana Del Rey to record Bond theme?

LONDON, 29 Aug — Singer Lana Del Rey is reportedly in talks to record the next James Bond theme. The 29-year-old 'Young and Beautiful' singer will face stiff competition for the coveted job from British singer Sam Smith, reported Metro online.

"Producers know it has to be a great song with a killer vocal to rival the phenomenal success of Adele's 'Skyfall'. Sam seems like the favourite but Lana could definitely give him a run for his money," a source said.

Adele's 'Skyfall' — which supported the 2012 film of the same name — ranks as one of the best-selling Bond themes of all time and helped earn the 50-year-old franchise earn its first ever Academy Award for Best Original Song in 2013.

Other Bond songs have been nominated for an Oscar including Paul McCartney's 'Live and Let Die', taken from the film of the same name. 'Bond 24', starring Daniel Craig, is expected to hit theatres in 2015.—PTI

GENERAL

Shanghai to hold int'l children's book fair

BEIJING, 29 Aug — An international children's book fair will be held in Shanghai in November, organizers said on Thursday.

Over the course of three days, the 2nd China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair (CCBF) will put

on show digital and paper books, magazines, CDs, etc targeting children below the age of 16.

Representatives of 250 domestic and foreign participants, including Oxford University Press, Amazon and China Publishing Group

Corp, are expected to host exhibitions beginning 20 November.

The time-honoured "Chen Bochui International Children's Literature Award" will also be awarded, according to Kan Ninghui, deputy director of the

Shanghai Bureau of Press and Publication.

"The event is an attempt to boost international exchange and culture. We hope that it will make more kids fall in love with children's literature," Kan said.—Xinhua



People visit the 21st Beijing International Book Fair in China International Exhibition Center in Beijing, capital of China on 27 Aug, 2014. More than 2,162 exhibitors from 78 countries and regions participate in the book fair. The book fair, which consists of four exhibition halls, was opened on Wednesday. —XINHUA

Argentine airport strike disrupts 20 flights to Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 29 Aug — More than 20 Buenos Aires-bound flights from Brazil had to be canceled on Thursday due to a 36-hour strike by Argentine unions opposed to the government.

Several affected airlines said the strike, initiated on Wednesday by the Workers' Central Union of Argentina (CTA) and other

labor groups, has disrupted air traffic at Buenos Aires' Jorge Newbery Airfield, known as "Aeroparque".

In Brazil, flights going to and coming from the Argentine capital had been canceled.

Brazilian airlines TAM and Gol, as well as Chile's LAN and Argentina's Austral and Argentina Airlines, which operate the Sao Pau-

lo-Aeroparque route, said they were canceling all of the day's flights to Buenos Aires.

At Rio de Janeiro's international airport, Argentina Airlines canceled five scheduled flights to Buenos Aires and five return flights.

At Sao Paulo's Guarulhos airport, the country's busiest, at least 16 flights were canceled on Thurs-

day morning by various airlines. Brazil-Argentina flights to and from Buenos Aires' Ezeiza International Airport have not been affected by the strike.

Both airports handle about the same number of flights, but Aeroparque handled more passenger traffic in 2013 than Ezeiza, according to Wikipedia.

Xinhua

Russia's Aeroflot stops sponsoring NBA's Brooklyn Nets

MOSCOW, 29 Aug — Russia's airline company Aeroflot said on Thursday it will not continue sponsoring the US National Basketball Association (NBA) club, Brooklyn Nets, which is owned by Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov.

"The contract with Brooklyn (Nets) has expired ... We are not planning to sign a new agreement," *Itar-Tass* news agency quoted an Aeroflot spokesperson as saying, who did not elaborate the

reason for the decision.

The company said last year the sponsorship will strengthen the image of the airline, facilitate its penetration of the US market as well as increase the number of potential customers among the basketball fans.

Russia has enacted laws that ban government officials and lawmakers to have overseas bank accounts, in a move to combat corruption and capital outflow. Prokhorov, who is also the leader of Rus-

sia's Civil Platform Party and has run for the 2012 presidential elections as an independent candidate, said earlier he would like to transfer assets of Brooklyn Nets under the Russian jurisdiction.

The 49-year-old billionaire said the transition of the basketball club would offer "an outstanding opportunity to use NBA technologies for the systematic development of basketball in Russia."

He bought the then

New Jersey Nets in 2010 for 200 million US dollars and later relocated the club to Brooklyn.

The club finished sixth in the 2013/2014 season in its Eastern Conference standings with 44 wins and 38 defeats.

Local media said earlier Prokhorov pledged that the team would win the NBA championship by 2015 or he would punish himself by getting married.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(30-8-2014, Saturday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:35 am

* Nice & Sweet Song

7:00 am

* News/Weather Report

7:40 am

* Hyper Sports

8:30 am

* TV Drama Series

9:00 am

* News/ International News

10:20 am

* Current Affairs

10:50 am

* TV Drama Series

11:30 am

* Game For Children

12:30 pm

* Round Up of The Week's TV Local News

3:00 pm

* News

3:20 pm

* Pyi Thu Ni Ti

4:20 pm

* Cultural Dances

4:40 pm

* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Years (Physics)

5:00 pm

* News

5:35 pm

* Golden Music of Old Satrs

6:20 pm

* MRTV's Youth Programme

6:50 pm

* Teleplay

7:00 pm

* News

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Business News

9:00 pm

* News

* Myanmar Series

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(30-8-14 07:00 am~ 31-8-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Great Shwedagon: The Architectural Heritage
- * World News
- * Talented Musicians
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Festival
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movies Review - The Goddess of the Golden Abode
- * Local News
- * Soft Crab Breeding Procedure
- * World News
- * A Short Trip to Sagaing
- * Local News
- * Flying Without Wings- My Great Limitless Adventure - Mandalay & Sagaing
- * World News
- * Snake Dancer
- * Local News
- * A Cordial Welcome From Pantaung
- * World News
- * Kid's Home
- * Local News
- * Enchanting Rakhine Land
- * World News
- * The Hills of Phowintaung And Shwebat-aung
- * Local News
- * Diverse National Costumes & Their Fashion Trend (Episode-3)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review "By Coincidence"
- * Local News
- * Bago : A City of Famous Historic Pagoda
- * World News
- * Crocodile Keeper

APEC members calls for ocean partnership

BEIJING, 29 Aug — Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) members passed a declaration on Thursday calling for the establishment of a new partnership focusing on maritime cooperation in the region.

The agreement came out of a meeting in Xiamen, a port city in southeast China's Fujian Province.

According to the declaration, APEC members will try to form a partnership to collaborate in areas such as coastal and marine ecosystem conservation and disaster resilience; the role

of the ocean in food security and food-related trade; marine science, technology and innovation; and the blue economy. Liu Cigui, executive chairman of the ministerial meeting and head of China's State Oceanic Administration, said that the partnership is necessary as oceanic development and mitigation of disasters at sea require cross-boarder work.

The meeting is one of nine ministerial ones that will be held in China before November, when leaders from APEC members will meet in Beijing.—Xinhua

MONACO, 29 Aug — Champions League holders Real Madrid will face former European champions Liverpool, FC Basel and debutants Ludogorets of Bulgaria following the group stage draw on Thursday.

The eagerly-awaited event, held at the Grimaldi Forum in Monte Carlo, had a distinct air of déjà vu about it. Bayern Munich and Manchester City were drawn in the same group for the second successive season, as were Chelsea and Schalke 04, and Arsenal and Borussia Dortmund.

Barcelona and Paris St Germain, both clubs with strong links to Qatar, will also face each other in a mouth-watering clash.

Real won the title for a record-extending 10th time when they beat Atletico Madrid 4-1 after extra time in Lisbon in May and have the chance to avenge a 5-0 aggregate defeat by five-time champions Liverpool in the last 16 in 2009 when they lost 1-0 at the Santiago Bernabeu and 4-0 at

Anfield.

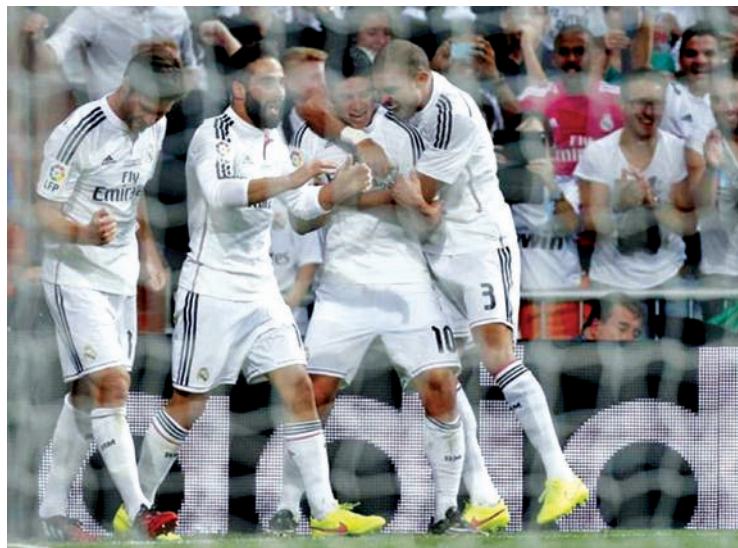
Further back in time Liverpool beat Real 1-0 in the 1981 European Cup final in Paris.

Real will open the defence of their crown when they host Basel in a Group B match on Sept. 16 and will visit the minnows of Ludogorets on 1 October. They face Liverpool at Anfield on 22 October, with the return leg in Madrid on 4 November. “We know it’s going to be very tough,” said Cristiano Ronaldo of the Liverpool tie. “In general the group is nice, it’s good for Real Madrid.

“We are going to try and do the same again this season. We’re going to try to win the Champions League. It will be difficult but Real Madrid are always thinking big, thinking huge.”

Bayern and Manchester City were joined by CSKA Moscow for the second straight season too with AS Roma completing the quartet in Group E.

Txiki Begiristain, City’s director of football told reporters:



Real Madrid’s players celebrate a goal during their Spanish Super Cup first leg soccer match against Atletico Madrid at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid 20 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

“Last season Bayern were first, we were second and we also played CSKA, and the fourth team now is very tough, a very strong team in AS Roma.

“All the clubs try to play good football, so it will be an

amazing group.” Last season City midfielder Yaya Toure was racially abused at CSKA leading European football’s governing body UEFA to order a partial closure of their stadium.

Last season’s runners-up At-

letico were grouped with former champions Juventus, Olympiakos Piraeus and Malmo of Sweden in Group A. Barca and PSG will also face former European champions Ajax Amsterdam and APOEL Nicosia in Group F.

Real Madrid, who waited 12 years to secure their 10th title, are bidding to become the first club in the Champions League era to win the trophy in successive seasons, a feat achieved fairly regularly under the old European Cup format. The last team to win the title in successive seasons were AC Milan in 1989 and 1990, but Cristiano Ronaldo, who scored 17 goals in the competition for Real last season, sees no reason why they cannot retain their crown.

Speaking at the draw ceremony after picking up an award as the best player in the competition last season, the Portugal winger was asked by compere and former Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, if Real could win it again.—Reuters

Ronaldo wins another European award for his museum



Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (L) receives his Best Player UEFA 2014 Award from UEFA President Michel Platini during the draw ceremony for the 2014/2015 Champions League Cup soccer competition at Monaco’s Grimaldi Forum in Monte Carlo on 28 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

MONACO, 29 Aug — Cristiano Ronaldo, whose extra-time penalty put the seal on Real Madrid’s 4-1 Champions League

final victory over Atletico Madrid in May, was named UEFA’s Best Player in Europe on Thursday.

Ronaldo scored 17 goals

in all as Real won the title for the 10th time. The Portuguese was presented with the award in Monte Carlo by UEFA President Michel Platini at the end of the draw for this season’s Champions League.

He won ahead of Bayern Munich’s Arjen Robben and Manuel Neuer in a live vote by a panel of 54 journalists.

“I’m really happy, so I must say thanks to my team-mates because without the team, individual awards would not be possible. I don’t have this trophy in my museum, so my brother is going to put it there immediately,” he said.

Nadine Kessler won the women’s award after captaining VfL Wolfsburg to the women’s Champions League title, ahead of team-mates Nilla Fischer and Martina Mueller.

Ronaldo opened a museum on Madeira in 2013 to showcase his trophies and medals.

Reuters

Refreshed Murray beats Bachinger in straight sets

NEW YORK, 29 Aug — Eighth seed Andy Murray, who overcame cramping in his first-round victory, roared past unseeded German Matthias Bachinger in straight sets on Thursday to reach the third round of the US Open.

Murray, the 2012 US champion and 2013 Wimbledon winner, looked fresh and strong in cool, breezy conditions as he rolled to a 6-3, 6-3, 6-4 victory at Arthur Ashe Stadium in his first meeting against the German.

The Briton, never broken in the one hour 46-minute match, ripped 36 winners, more than doubling the 17 unforced errors he was charged with.

Murray said he was well over the effects of the cramps he suffered in Monday’s first-round match against Dutchman Robin Haase.

“I felt fine the last couple days. Had no problems on the Tuesday or Wednesday,” the Scotsman said. “I practiced well

and didn’t have any problem. Tonight was fine, too.”

Murray also had few problems deflecting questions about his thoughts on a referendum on Scottish independence next month. “I haven’t thought that much about that yet because I don’t think it’s looking too likely that it’s going to happen,” said the London-based Murray, adding that he had watched about 45 minutes of the second debate.

Murray did concede he would play for Scotland at the 2016 Rio Olympics, if they gained independence from the rest of Britain, though was not keen on getting too drawn into a political discussion. “I’m not going into that,” he said. “I don’t want to talk about politics in here. I’ll worry about my tennis.”

Murray will next meet Russian Andrey Kuznetsov, who eliminated 31st seed Fernando Verdasco of Spain in five sets 6-3, 4-6, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3.—Reuters

Amos beats Rudisha again, Merritt cruises home

ZURICH, 29 Aug — Botswana’s Nijel Amos repeated his Commonwealth Games win over Olympic champion David Rudisha in the men’s 800 metres at the Weltklasse meeting in Zurich on Thursday.

Amos surged down the home straight to win while Rudisha, who tried to attack from the back, did not have the

legs to catch him and finished third after being caught by Djibouti’s Ayanleh Souleiman.

“I ran my own race, I felt very good,” said Amos, silver medallist behind Rudisha at the Olympic Games, after winning in 1:43.77.

“It is no surprise for me to win the race today... I do not think about who is in the race, whether it is Rudisha or

somebody else.”

Rudisha, the world record holder, said he was glad to be nearly fully fit after an injury-hit season.

“I am at 85 or 90 percent of my shape,” said the Kenyan. “I am not at my best form.

“I wanted to see if I could run a tactical race from behind. I am happy now after my injury problems... Hopefully, I can come back strong next year, it was a good experiment for me, it was good to test myself.”

Reuters



Andy Murray of Britain returns a volley to Matthias Bachinger of Germany during their men’s singles match at the US Open tennis tournament in New York on 28 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS