

## President U Thein Sein visits Myogyi dam construction project, Yeywa hydropower project sites



*President U Thein Sein inspects Yeywa hydropower project which has a generation capacity of 790 megawatts. — MNA*

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept— President U Thein Sein on Saturday visited Myogyi dam project located near Myogyi village in Ywa Ngan township, Southern Shan State and inspected the construction plans.

Deputy minister U Khin Zaw explained the project and the director gen-

eral U Kyaw Myint Hlaing detailed the facilities of dam which will be used for hydropower generation and irrigation system for the cultivable lands in the area.

President then instructed the officials concerned to construct the water channels and to set up electricity

generators and to build concrete water passages, and to install solar power system along the passages.

U Thein Sein also said that the water flowed out of the dam is to be used for cultivable lands nearby areas.

The area of water release from Myogyi dam

is 725 square miles, with the full storage capacity of 373,420 acre. The water for this dam will be collected from Kyaing Kham dam which is under construction, and Zawgyi dam which has been constructed.

Myogyi dam is designed to generate 30 megawatt hydropower and drain

off water to 82,000 acre of farms in the irrigated area of Zawgyi dam and 33,000 acres in Meiktila plain.

The construction of this dam has been completed 82 percent, and it is expected to finalize in 2015-2016 fiscal year.

The president and senior government officials

then proceeded to Yeywa hydropower project and inspected water storage facilities.

The Yeywa dam is located in Kyaukse township of central Myanmar. Its project was first studied by a British company in 1924, and the contract for project (See page 3)

### By Ye Myint

YANGON, 27 Sept— Representatives of the Union Peace-making Work Committee-UPWC, the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team-NCCT and political parties gathered at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon on Saturday for second time to exchange views on ongoing peace process.

The second-round of tripartite talks among them followed the completion of the sixth-round of ceasefire negotiation that took five days at the same venue with approval for the fourth draft single text document and holding the next round of UPWC-NCCT meetings in October. An historic first meeting among the three dialogue partners was held on 18 August.

According to the agenda, the tripartite meeting focused on listening to the voices of political parties.

Of 67 political parties invited to the meeting, representatives from 61 attended the meeting together with those from civil society organizations and others who were also present at the meeting as observers.

“Several separate meetings with few parties are needed to ensure a broader discussion”, Union Minister U Than Htay, who is also the member of the UPWC, expressed his view to the media before the start of the meeting, saying that political parties might be allowed to have a five-minute talk each because of the time limit for the meeting.

Following the five-day talks of the six-round meeting between the negotiators of the government and ethnic armed groups, the next round of talks is scheduled in October with the hope of translating the fourth draft into a final one, paving the way for signing the nationwide ceasefire accord and holding an all-inclusive po-

## Tripartite peace process talks of UPWC, NCCT and political parties held for second time

litical dialogue.

According to an agreement that needs no further consensus between the two sides, a framework for po-

litical dialogue is needed to be developed within 60 days and a political dialogue within 90 days after the signing of the truce

deal.

“This meeting will serve as part of preparation for seeking a solution to political problems of the

country through political means”, voiced U Aung Naing Oo, a director from the MPC, saying that it will (See page 3)



*UPWC, NCCT and political parties exchange views on ongoing peace process at the second tripartite meeting in Yangon on Saturday.—PHOTO: YE MYINT*



## Uniforms provided to traffic rules enforcement committee



MYAWADY, 27 Sept—A ceremony to present uniforms to Township Traffic Rules Enforcement Committee was held at the hall of the Township General Administration Department in Myawady of Kayin State on 24 September.

Chairman of District Management Committee

Deputy Commissioner of the district U Lwin Ko Oo explained the purpose of providing uniforms to the township traffic rules enforcement committee formed with officials and local people.

The deputy commissioner gave 35 sets of uniforms to officials.

*District IPRD*



## Land plot price rising in Natogyi Township

NATOGYI, 27 Sept—Prices of land plots and houses are hiking in Natogyi Township of Mandalay year by year.

A private bank has

recently bought a building worth K300 million beside Myingyan-Mandalay Road in Ward 4 of Natogyi and is making preparing the building as a bank branch.

Some Ingyan fossil companies and gems and goldsmith shops buy the land plots at high prices, reaching K30 million. Some residences were sold at hun-

dred of million kyats, said a local. Prices of land plots in extended wards of Natogyi rose to K1 million from original price K20,000.

*Htay Myint Maung*

## Undertakings of drug elimination disseminated to people in Myawady



MYAWADY, 27 Sept—The talks about danger of narcotic drugs was given at the hall of Myawady District General Administration Department in Kayin State on Thursday.

Deputy Commander of Anti-Drug Police Force Police Col Myint Thein explained organizational setup of committees for drug abuse control at different levels, disadvantages

of narcotic drugs, progress of Zwegabin operations in combating narcotic drugs in Kayin State, alternative development, treatment of drug addicts and rehabilitation. Chairman of the District Committee for Drug Abuse Control Deputy Commissioner of the district U Lwin Ko Oo explained progress of drug elimination tasks in the district and educative talks

given to the students and people and participation of the people in drug elimination tasks.

Commander of District Police Force Police Lt-Col Aung Myint reported on action taken against 81 men and 47 women in 81 drug-related cases in 2014.

Col Myint Thein urged all to participate in combating narcotic drugs.

*Wai Yan Lin (IPRD)*

## Farming rights certificates issued to farmers of Pangsai Township

PANGSAI, (Kyukok), 27 Sept—A ceremony to present farming rights certificates took place at the hall of Pangsai Township General Administration Department in Shan State on Thursday.

Secretary of Township Farmland Management Committee (Head of Settlement and Land Records Department) U Zaw Min Naing explained applying for farming rights certificates and issuance of the

certificates.

Township Administrator U Myo Naing and officials presented certificates to 326 farmers from Ward 5 and Kyeinyang Village-tract.

*L Soe (IPRD)*

## Fire destroys one shop at Aharathukha Market

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—Overheated air-conditioner triggered to break out fire at Sein Htet restaurant of U Thet Khaing Phyo on the eastern wing of Aharathukha Market in Pinyinmana Township at 6 pm on Thursday.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Myint Aung Than, Director-General of Fire Services Department U Tin Moe and district and township level authorities rushed to the scene and supervised firefighters in putting out of fire.

Over 130 firefighters put out the fire with the use of 20 fire trucks and two management vehicles.

The fire engulfed one shop worth K100,000. There was no casualty in the fire, sources said.

*Myo Zeyar (Pinyinmana)*





## NATIONAL

## President U Thein Sein visits Myogyi dam...

(from page 1)

was signed with the Cole-no Power Engineer Co., Ltd of Switzerland. The construction was completed in 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Yeywa hydropower project, which is located on Duhtawaddi River, has a total generation capacity of 790 megawatt from four turbines which are running in full swing.

The Ministry of Electricity is now generating a total of 2,171 megawatt electricity and has projected to increase by 438 megawatt in hot season of 2015.—MNA

**Myogyi dam project site being implemented near Myogyi Village, Ywangan Township in southern Shan State.**

MNA



## Myanmar moves to attract more foreign investments



**Union Minister U Soe Thane participates in Business and Investment Forum in New York.**

MNA

NEW YORK, 27 Sept—Myanmar Investment Outreach, Business and Investment Forum, jointly organized by the Myanmar Investment Commission

and the Peninsula Press of the United States, took place at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York on 24 September, sources said.

The forum was organized

with the aim of attracting foreign investments to Myanmar. At the forum, Union Minister U Soe Thane gave a talk on “Myanmar- the Outlook”, Union Minister U Zayar Aung on “Natural Resources- Key to Sustainable Development (Energy)”, and Union Minister U Htay Aung on “Let the Journey Begin”.

Economists from the US-ASEAN Business Council and the Myanmar-American Chamber of Commerce also gave talks on prospects of investments in Myanmar. The forum drew 73 industrialists from Myanmar and 250 US businesspeople.—MNA

## ASEAN War Veterans Organization meets

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win made a speech at the opening ceremony of the 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of ASEAN War Veterans Organization at Thingaha hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 September. Also present on the occasion were senior military officers from the Commander-in-Chief (Army) office, Chairman

of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Adjutant General Maj-Gen Hsan Oo, Chairman of ASEAN War Veterans Organization Adm (Retd) Tan Sri Dato’ Setia Mohd Anwar Hj Mohd Nor of Malaysia and senior officials from Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. At the meeting, the reports of 14<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and

minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Executive Board Meeting were approved. The secretary and the treasurer presented their reports. In the afternoon, the respective countries presented their reports. Committees for compiling the draft minutes; women and children; and economy were also formed at the meeting. The meeting will last till 29 September.

Myawady

## Tripartite peace process talks...

(from page 1)

help to build more understanding among the dialogue partners through full and frank discussion”.

“Discussions on on-going peace process and a framework for political dialogue will be held during the meeting”, he added.

The tripartite meeting kicked off with greetings of the leaders of the UPWC and the NCCT. A welcome speech of Union Minister U Aung Min, deputy lead-

er of UPWC, described the tripartite meetings as “a good beginning” to secure a peaceful future in the country, calling for great strides to be made in pursuit of peace.

He affirmed his belief that authentic results could be brought about by solving the political problems by political means in order to end the armed conflicts born together with the country’s independence.

In his introduction of

the belief and stance of the NCCT representing ethnic armed groups to attendees, U Naing Han Thar, NCCT leader, highlighted the importance of political dialogue for political solution. He continued to assert that no secession attempt will happen to the Union based on ethnic equality and self-determination.

The tripartite meeting continued with discussions of representatives from political parties.

NLM

## Senior General Min Aung Hlaing tours Tokyo, meets Nippon Foundation chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, accompanied by Chief of Staff of the Japan Self-Defense Forces General Shigeru Iwasaki, visited Tokyo Skytree, a stand-alone communication tower in Tokyo, on Saturday, sources said.

The world’s second highest structure, Tokoy Skytree boasts a height of 634 metres and was opened on 22 May 2012.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing arrived at the Great Buddha of Kamakura at 11am, where he offered flowers, water and joss

sticks before signing in the visitors’ book and donating some cash.

In the afternoon, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing went to the Umiho-taru Man-made Island and the Umi-megane Museum through the Tokyo Bay Aqualine, which is also known as the Tokyo Bay Highway.

The Tokyo Bay Aqualine is a 15.1 km marine crossing through the middle of Tokyo Bay connecting Kawasaki City in Kanagawa Prefecture with Kisarazu City in Chiba Prefecture.

The Aqualine consists

of a 9.5-km shield tunnel (the Tokyo Bay Tunnel) and a 4.4-km bridge and was commissioned into service on 18 December 1997.

In the late afternoon, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received a courtesy call by Mr Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman of the Nippon Foundation, at the New Otani Hotel to discuss rural development and infrastructural development.

Mr Yohei Sasakawa hosted a dinner to Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Happon-en Garden, a Japanese traditional restaurant, at 7pm.

Myawady

## Ethnic women complete sewing course



**Ethnic women get sewing skills at the course conducted by Ministry of Border Affairs.**

MNA

YANGON, 27 Sept—A total of 140 ethnic women were certificated on Saturday for the completion of sewing course using motorized machines.

The third training programme was launched by the Ministry of Border Affairs, aiming to develop the socio-economy of the ethnic people in border areas.

The certification ceremony for No.3 Sewing Course held in Dagon Myothit (North) of Yangon was attended by union minister for border affairs Lieutenant General Thet Naing Win.

U San Shwe Aung, director general of directorate of education and training programme, explained the intention of training course.

U Aung Lwin, Yangon region officer of department of labours, gave labour registration cards to the trainees, and they were employed by six local garment factories.

The ministry has launched three sewing course and certificated to a total of 340 ethnic women.—MNA



## Pagoda Pujaniya festivals to attract visitors, pilgrims



MANDALAY, 27 Sept—The Buddha Pujaniya festivals of Kyauktawgyi, Sandamuni and Kuthodaw Pagodas in Mandalay will be held from 6 to 15 September.

During the festival period, local people will offer rice and alms to 635 members of the Sangha at Kyauktawgyi Pagoda, 250 at Sandamuni Pagoda and 3,200 at Kuthodaw Pagoda.

Moreover, the people around the pagodas will donate over 600 alms bowls to members of the Sangha.

In addition, theatrical performances will be entertained to the visitors

at the pagodas. Vendors from here and there will sell domestic products and traditional foods at the festivities.

*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

## One Man Show water colour works depict artist's emotion



MANDALAY, 27 Sept—The One Man Show water colour arts show of Artist Lwin Lwin Kyaw kicked off at the arts room at the foot of Mandalay Hill on 26 September.

He shows 87 works of paintings depicting Myanmar cultural heritages in Mandalay, Sagaing, Mingu and PyinOoLwin regions. "I pour out my emotion portraits in 10 years experiences of the arts field. Most of the works are outdoor paintings," the artist said.

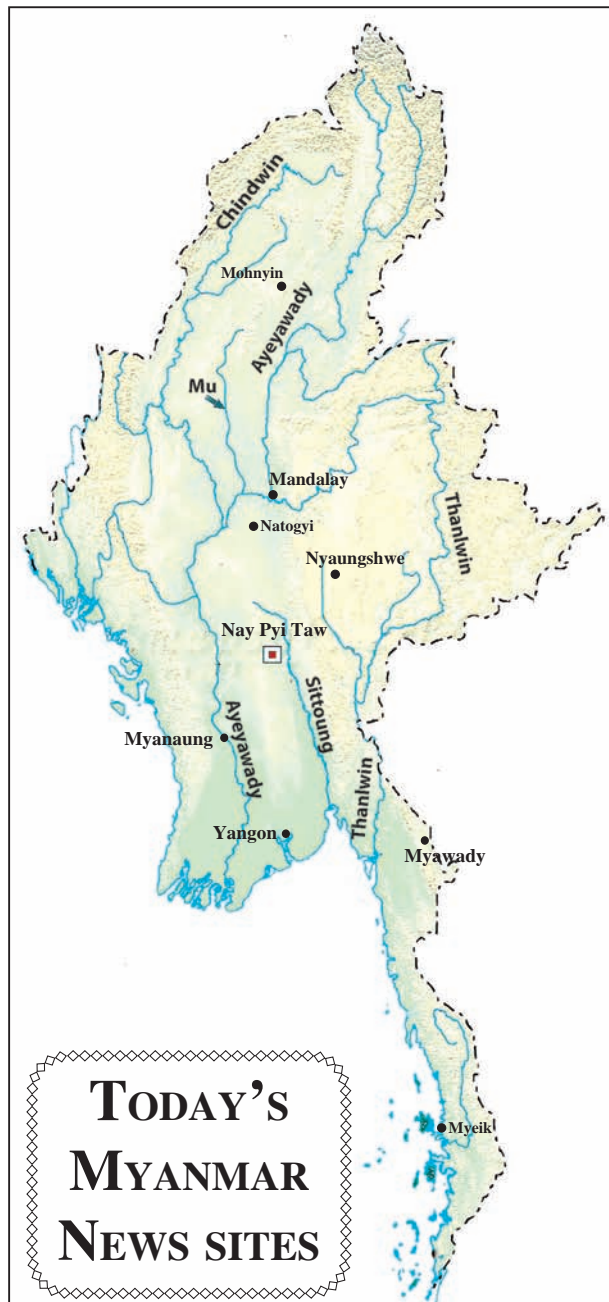
The show was attended by veteran artists, enthusiasts and media persons. The art show will last up to 30 September.

*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

## People join public movement of preventing danger of narcotic drugs

MOHNYIN, 27 Sept—With the aim of preventing danger of narcotic drugs on a self-reliant basis, members of Christian churches in Mohnyin, townselders and local people participated in the public movement on prevention against narcotic drugs as of the first week of Mohnyin.

The vinyl posters were erected at the junction of the town and pamphlets on danger of narcotic drugs were distributed to the people. The people join hand with the authorities in exposing the drug-related cases. "Thanks to the public movement, drug traffickers were arrested and stimulant tablets and cash seized. 62 stimulant tablets and K5.9 million were seized from Ko Ko Aung of Hmawwan Ward," said a local.—NLM-001



## Region Chief Justice inspects Mandalay Central Jail



MANDALAY, 27 Sept—Chief Justice of Mandalay Region High Court U Soe Thein and officials inspected Central Jail of Mandalay Region on Friday.

Jail Group Director U Ngwe Than and officials reported on health care,

foods, supply of water and accommodation of the prisoners and inmates.

The Chief Justice and party asked the prisoners and inmates for enjoying their rights in the jail and visited the halls of the jail.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*



## German prof explains tax system, budgetary process



NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—Germany professor Dr. Hans Fehr from the Wuerzburg university explained the central Europe country's tax system and budgetary process at the seminar here on Saturday.

The event attended

by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) was held at parliamentary office.

The Seminar on Tax System and Budgetary Process; A Practical Introduction was launched with the

opening speech of U Aung Thaung, chairman of Banks and Monetary Sector Development Committee at Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) and Konstantin Barwaldt, country representative of the Bonn-based Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.—MNA

**Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann poses for documentary photo with German guests.**

MNA

## Chairman of constitutional tribunal makes official visit to SKorea

YANGON, Sept 27—U Mya Thein, chairman of constitutional tribunal, and Myanmar delegates on Friday evening left for South Korea to attend the 3rd Congress of the World Conference on Constitutional Justice which will be held in Seoul from 28 September to 1 October.

The chairman accompanied by Daw Hla Myo Nwe, member of constitutional tribunal and deputy director U Hla Myo, will attend the four-day event addressing the topic of 'Constitutional Justice and Social Integration'.

The leaders of constitutional courts, supreme

courts, and constitutional councils, as well as international organizations from almost 100 countries, some of them are non-member institutions and international organizations in this field, are scheduled to attend the event.

The World Conference on Constitutional Justice unites 91 Constitutional Courts and Councils and Supreme Courts in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

The upcoming event is aimed to facilitate judicial dialogue between constitutional judges on a global scale.

MNA

## Foundations of Journalism and Radio Journalism Basics Workshop concludes



**Ms Libby Liu of Radio Free Asia (RFA) participates in Foundations of Journalism and Radio Journalism Basics Workshop.**—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut, President Ms Libby Liu of Radio Free Asia (RFA) and Chairman Mr Pavel Fisher of Prague Freedom Foundation (PFF) made speeches at the closing of Foundations of Journalism and Radio Journalism Ba-

sics Workshop held at Myanma Radio and Television in Nay Pyi Taw Tatkon on Saturday.

Senior Editor Sayar U Khin Maung Soe of RFA made assessment on the course which was conducted from 15 to 27 September and attended by 20 trainees from Broadcasting Divi-

sion, Television Division, National Race Channel and National Race (Broadcast).

News writing, journalists' code of conduct, media ethics, broadcasting usage, recording, editing, interviewing, outdoor news covering were lectured at the course both in theory and in practice.—MNA

## Beechcraft King Air 350i makes its debut at YGN Int'l Airport

YANGON, 27 Sept – Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung and Minister for Environment Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun enjoyed a plane ride as Textron company of the United States introduced its 9-seater Beechcraft King Air 350i at Yangon International Airport on Saturday.

The aircraft can be used as a transporter in the domestic flights as well as search and rescue, air ambulance and aerial photography missions especially in the short runway airfields in Regions and States. After the ride, the minister inspected aviation functions at the Mingalardon Air

Control Tower.

As the number of airlines and air travellers has increased in the country and about 550 international flights pass through Myanmar's airspace, air controllers at the Mingalardon Airport are to discharge their duties round the clock.

MNA



**9-seater Beechcraft King Air 350i seen at Yangon International Airport.**—MNA

## Japanese company donates database life insurance system for Myanmar seamen

**By Khaing Thanda Lwin**

Taiyo Life Insurance Company of Japan on Saturday donated US\$61,500 worth database life insurance system for seamen and its related materials to Myanmar Insurance.

Tokyo-based company is now providing individual

life and health insurance and saving product to some five million customers in Japan.

The database software for seamen with Myanmar language was created by Japanese developers to make insurance services easy, and its unique security

system will not read incomplete applications for life insurance, according to an official of the company.

At the donation ceremony, deputy finance minister Dr Maung Maung Thein said that some half a million of Myanmar citizens have insurance cover, while life insurance of seamen is at the

third position in the country.

He also said that the database insurance system will support the development of insurance market of the country.

President Katsuhide Tanaka of the Tai Life Insurance said he sees the rapid economic growth of Myanmar, with business aspiration of foreign companies to invest in the insurance market of the southeast Asian country.

He also said that the company has future plan to provide the staff of insurance companies with training programme together with technology assistance to the Myanma Insurance, the state-owned insurance organization.

Japanese ambassador to Myanmar Tateshi Higuchi said that Myanmar is one of the most potential countries for business sector among developing nations.

Taiyo Life Insurance Company, the third biggest insurance company of Japan, was founded in 1893. It has 145 branches in Japan and two foreign representative offices in the United States and Myanmar. The company opened its representative office in April, 2012 in Yangon, while awaiting the green lights from the Myanmar government for insurance services.

NLM



## Pakistan successfully tests short-range missile, says military



*This handout photo released by the Pakistan army's Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) office on 26 Sept, 2014, shows a Short Range Surface to Surface Missile Hatf IX (NASR) being launched from an undisclosed location in Pakistan. Pakistan on Friday conducted a successful test fire of a short range surface-to-surface missile, the military said. — XINHUA*

ISLAMABAD, 27 Sept — Pakistan on Friday conducted a successful test fire of a short range surface-to-surface missile, the military said.

Hatf IX (NASR) missile, which has a range of 60 km and in-flight maneu-

ver capability, is a quick response system, with shoot and scoot attributes.

"It contributes to the full spectrum deterrence against the prevailing threat spectrum," a military statement said.

The test fire of Hatf

IX (NASR) was conducted with successive launches of four missiles from a state of the art Multi Tube Launcher with Salvo Mode, the statement said.

The flight test was witnessed by top military officials including the

chairman joint chiefs of staff committee, General Rashad Mahmood.

Addressing the participants at the launch area, General Mahmood congratulated the scientists and engineers on achieving yet another milestone towards Pakistan's deterrence capability.

He appreciated the professional attributes of all concerned which made possible the successful launch of the weapon system, the statement said.

He showed his full confidence over the Strategic Command and Control System and the Pakistan Armed Forces' capability to safeguard security of the country against any aggression.

The successful test launch has also been warmly appreciated by the president and the prime minister of Pakistan who congratulated the participating troops, the scientists and engineers on their achievement.

Xinhua

## Hiroshima to host experts' meeting on nuke test ban treaty

NEW YORK, 27 Sept — Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida revealed on Friday that the city of Hiroshima is planning to host next year's meeting of experts working to bring into effect the international treaty aimed at banning nuclear explosions for testing.

Kishida, a veteran lawmaker from Hiroshima, made the announcement of convening a meeting in the western Japan city of the Group of Eminent Persons for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization.

"As foreign minister of the only country that ever has experienced atomic bombings in war as well as a person from Hiroshima, I am determined to lead the promotion of nuclear disarmament," Kishida told a CTBT-related foreign ministerial meeting.

Kishida urged relevant countries which only signed the treaty, such as the United States and

China, to ratify it as soon as possible so the treaty will take effect.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon and US Secretary of State John Kerry also attended the meeting, which also involved participants from Australia, the Netherlands, Canada, Finland, Germany, Indonesia and Hungary.

The Group of Eminent Persons was launched in September last year with participation from some 20 former political leaders in the world such as former US Defence Secretary William Perry, former Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and former Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov.

The members have been working to put CTBT into effect ahead of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US nuclear attacks on the two Japanese cities just days before the end of World War II.

Kyodo News

## Volcano in central Japan erupts, injuring visitors

TOKYO, 27 Sept — A volcano straddling Nagano and Gifu prefectures in central Japan erupted on Saturday, with thick gray smoke spewed up into sky, injuring eight visitors at the site, according to local media.

The Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) said that the eruption took place shortly before noon. The agency upgraded its 5-stage volcanic alert level to 3, urging people not to approach the mountain, named the Ontake, reported Japan's broadcaster NHK.

Local fire department said that they have received

several emergency calls about injured climbers and a local official was quoted as saying that at least eight people were injured.

The JMA forecast that further eruptions may affect nearby residents and warned of large volcanic cinders which fall within a 4 km radius of the crater, said Japan's Kyodo News.

The volcano's last eruption was in 1979 when it expelled over 200,000 tons of ash. It also went through a minor eruption in 1991 and caused multiple volcanic earthquakes in 2007, reports said.

Xinhua



*Photo taken on 18 Sept, 2014, shows Michiyo Kasuga and her one-month-old son Yukiatsu at her newly opened bakery in the March 2011 disaster-hit northeastern Japan city of Ishinomaki. Kasuga was motivated by an entrepreneurship seminar offered free of charge by Nihon L'Oreal KK— KYODO NEWS*

## Landslide buries houses in central China; casualties unknown

WUHAN, 27 Sept — Four houses were buried after a landslide hit a suburban community in central China's Hubei Province on Saturday, with officials still verifying casualties.

The landslide happened at about 6:10 am in the Xuan'en County of Enshi Tujia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture. Four people have been rescued and rushed to hospital, government sources said.

An initial probe suggested 11 people lived in the houses.—Xinhua

## New Afghan gov't to ink BSA within days: presidential advisor

KABUL, 27 Sept — Afghan presidential advisor on national security, Rangin Dadfar Spanta, said on Saturday that the Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA) between Kabul and Washington would be signed at the end of this month, next

Tuesday.

"I am in favour of inking bilateral security agreement with US and NATO and I am happy that the agreement will be signed by the new government next Tuesday," Spanta said in his speech delivered at a security

conference opened in the western Herat City on Saturday morning.

Afghan presidential inauguration ceremony is scheduled for 29 September during which the president-elect Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai will assume office from out-

going Hamid Karzai to mark the first-ever peaceful power transition in the conflict-ridden history of Afghanistan.

Afghans in a traditional Loya Jirga or grand assembly of tribal elders, government functionaries and politicians in No-

vember 2013 endorsed BSA and urged President Hamid Karzai to ink the agreement at an early date, a demand which has been refused by Karzai.

Spanta also added that inking BSA would guarantee the future of Afghanistan.

Inking BSA would allow the US to keep limited number of troops in Afghanistan after 2014 pullout of the NATO-led forces from the country to train and advise the Afghan national security forces.

Xinhua



## WORLD

## US continues to focus on Asia-Pacific region

NEW YORK, 27 Sept — A senior US diplomat said on Friday there is no change in President Barack Obama's focus on Asia-Pacific region even though Washington is busy dealing with Islamic State extremists and the Ukrainian crisis.

"Our robust Asia-Pacific engagement continues," Daniel Russel, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, told reporters in New York on the fringes of the annual UN General Assembly. Russel said the US government is willing to expand cooperation with the Chinese government in global challenges such as climate change and antiterrorism measures.

But he criticized China for its "problematic behaviour" in claiming disputed islands in the South China Sea by implementing unilateral measures such as creating landfill in areas where it has territorial disputes with the Philippines and Vietnam.

The scale, scope and pace of China's reclamation work "vastly exceeds"

that of others and is a source of clear anxiety and instability, Russel said.

The US government has to identify areas for cooperation with China and focus its efforts on the problems through dialogue, such as a meeting between Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit in November in Beijing.

Russel also voiced hope of progress in consultations between Japan and China, as well as Japan and South Korea, for the first summits involving Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, Xi and South Korean President Park Geun Hye.

Japan held separate foreign ministerial talks with China and South Korea on the UN sidelines earlier this week to explore the possibility of summits between their leaders this fall. Washington "strongly" supports such bids by Tokyo, Seoul and Beijing as improving the bilateral relations serves US national interests, he said.

*Kyodo News*

## Chicago-area air traffic centre fire grounds 1,750 flights



Passengers wait in line to rebook cancelled flights at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois, on 26 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

CHICAGO, 27 Sept — A fire apparently set by an employee at a Chicago-area air traffic control centre led to the cancellation of more than 1,700 flights at the city's two major airports, snarling air traffic across the United States, officials said.

Flights resumed at O'Hare International Air-

port, one of the world's busiest, after a delay of about four hours, but there were bottlenecks across the entire air system that carriers expect to last through the weekend.

There were no indications that the fire was an act of terrorism and the blaze was quickly extinguished, authorities said. The Feder-

al Aviation Administration said employees were evacuated from its control centre when the fire broke out. One person was treated for smoke inhalation.

Brian Howard, 36, who lives in the Chicago suburb of Naperville, was charged on Friday in US District Court in Chicago with one felony count of

destruction of aircraft or aircraft facilities, prosecutors said.

Howard, who has worked at the facility in Aurora, near Chicago, for eight years, was recently told that he was being transferred to Hawaii, according to the complaint.

The suspect is a long-time employee of Harris Corp, which provides equipment and technical support for the FAA facility in Chicago and many others, US government officials said.

The FAA is still assessing the damage, which may be significant, but the agency hopes to restore air traffic to relatively normal levels over the next few days, they said.

Air traffic was being handled by other control centres in the region, including Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Cleveland, officials said.

According to an affidavit attached to the complaint, Howard could be seen on video entering the facility just after 5 am dragging a black hard-sided suitcase. — Reuters

## No breakthrough in Iran nuclear talks, sides agree to keep talking

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Sept — Iran and six world powers made little progress in overcoming significant disagreements in the most recent round of nuclear talks, including on uranium enrichment, Iranian and Western diplomats close to the negotiations said on Friday.

Officials from Iran and the six countries had cautioned ahead of the talks in New York that a breakthrough was unlikely to end sanctions on Teheran, although they had hoped substantial progress could be made in narrowing disagreements.

A senior State Department official said gaps "are still serious" with just eight weeks to go before a 24 November deadline.

"We do not have an understanding on all major issues, we have some understandings that are helpful to move this process forward and we have an enormous number of details still to work through," the official told reporters.

"We still have some very, very difficult un-

derstandings yet to reach, and everyone has to make difficult decisions and we continue to look to Iran to make some of the ones necessary for getting to a comprehensive agreement," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Another diplomat said Iran and the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Russia and China would likely meet again in the coming weeks, but no date and venue have been set.

Iran President Hassan Rouhani said at a news conference on in New York that the "progress we have witnessed in recent days has been extremely slow."

"We must look forward to the future and make the courageous decisions vis-a-vis this problem," he said, adding that any deal without lifting all sanctions against Teheran was "unacceptable."

US Secretary of State John Kerry told reporters that an interim deal approved in Geneva last November under which Iran had halted higher-level enrichment in exchange

for limited sanctions relief "has made the world safer."

On a long-term deal, Kerry said "it remains our fervent hope that Iran" and the six powers "can in the next weeks come to an agreement that would benefit the world."

Iran and the six hope that a resolution of the more-than-decade-long nuclear standoff with Iran will reduce regional tensions and remove the risk of another war in the Middle East.

At the General Assembly earlier in the week, Rouhani said a deal that ends sanctions will open the door to deeper cooperation on regional peace and stability and the fight against militants such as Islamic State, a group that has seized parts of Iraq and Syria. The United States has made clear it will not link the two issues.

Israel has repeatedly threatened to use military force against Iranian atomic sites if diplomacy fails to defuse what it sees as the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran. — Reuters



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police perform the traditional Music Ride in Montreal, Canada, on 26 Sept, 2014. The world renowned musical ride is a tradition of Canada's National Police Force. — XINHUA

## UN peacekeeping should keep pace with changing times

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Sept — UN peacekeeping should keep pace with the changing times, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said here on Friday.

He made the remarks when speaking at a high-level meeting on UN peacekeeping, held at the UN headquarters in New York and on the margins of the UN General Assembly's annual general debate

session.

Since 1948, the Blue Helmet has been a symbol of the UN that brings peace to conflict zones and hope to local people, Wang said.

"Today, much has changed regarding the circumstances and mission of UN peacekeeping operations, which calls for constant improvement and innovation in peacekeeping in line with the changing

times," he told the meeting.

China supports UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's proposal for a review of peacekeeping operations, Wang noted.

"We believe this should be made a priority for the 69th Session of the General Assembly, and we hope to make positive progress by the 70th anniversary of the UN next year," he said. — Xinhua



## PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 28 September, 2014

## Corruption takes two people

By Kyaw Thura

**I**T would be a vague idea if corruption is deemed bilateral. Nothing in the world can escape from the nature of cause and effect. When we talk about corruption, we tend to focus on the taker rather on the giver. It always takes two hands to clap.

Corruption is of numerous forms. In essence, corruption means private gain at public expense. Corruption is of two kinds: grand corruption and petty corruption.

Thievery of state assets by officials can amount to grand corruption. Petty corruption is often found at middle and lower levels. Most often, the reason why people commit petty corruption is to compensate for inadequate salaries.

The occurrence of corruption is mainly due to the weak judicial system and the monopoly of power. When the judicial system is feeble, poor people are to bear the brunt of injustice as rich people possess a better chance of getting justice over them. In addition, the monopoly of power invites corrupt practices, which lie at the heart of national policies, bureaucratic traditions, political development and social history.

Corrupt practices flourish when institutions are weak. For instance, it is a crime to bribe a public official. In practice, the law is not enforced, which is where informal rules prevail. It is therefore necessary to strengthen institutions to

curb corruption and start to put the emphasis back on the formal rules. A strong legal framework to control corruption requires more than having the right legal rules in place.

Clearly, the impact of corruption on the country cannot be overemphasized. Corruption has negative effects on all communities. It is impossible to ignore its threat in our march toward a peaceful, prosperous democracy.

## Write for us

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

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

## FIGHT

Kyí Mun

Life is a fight, handle it well.

- Anonymous.

"When you fight,  
Fight straight from your shoulder."

- Bhagavad Gita.

F = FOCUS

I = INSIGHT

G = GOAL

H = HOPE

T = TACTICALLY PREVAIL; STRATEGICALLY DOMINATE

## FOCUS

You have got to passionately focus on winning victory. In focusing on winning victory, you have got to concentrate your superior strengths on the most strategic areas of the battle. The most immediate objective is to annihilate the obstacles. You must be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to win victory.

Prior to the actual engagement of the fight, you have to:

- Purposefully Plan
- Proactively Prepare
- Passionately Proceed, and
- Perfectly Prevail, bearing in mind that,
- Prior Planning Plus Preparations Promote Peak Performance

Hands-on, Minds-on, Hearts-on, Focus on:

- Strategy
- Cutting Edge
- Distinctive Capabilities
- Resources

## INSIGHT

In the battle of life, it is important to be triumphant. To be victorious, you have got to have INSIGHT into the Eight Principles of War:

- The Principle of Objective
- The Principle of Concentration / Mass
- The Principle of Offensive
- The Principle of Cooperation
- The Principle of Economy of Force
- The Principle of Security
- The Principle of Surprise
- The Principle of Mobility

You should also have INSIGHT into:

- Adversary Advance, We Retreat;
- Adversary Rest, We Harass;
- Adversary Weak, We Fight, and
- Adversary Retreat, We Pursue

## GOAL

In your Plan of Action, there must be GOAL, Objectives, Strategy and Tactics in place. The strategic goal of your battle of life should be: **Progress, Prosperity and Peace**. For the attainment of this goal, you have got to: **"go all-out, aim high, give all you have got; give every bit of yourself, hold nothing back"**.

**You must strongly believe that you have what it takes to achieve your goal.**

## HOPE

Hope is expectation for the future. You must dare to passionately expect to achieve great accomplishment in the future. For the HOPE OF FUTURE to be realistic, you have got to:

- Make the Present Situations Effective,
- Find and realize the full potential, and
- Focus on building the future.

## TACTICALLY PREVAIL &amp; STRATEGICALLY DOMINATE

In the battle of life, you have got to build up your strengths in order to be able to strategically position yourself in an advantageous circumstance. The end purpose of waging a battle is to preserve oneself and to annihilate the adversaries. With the resolute determination to turn heaven and earth upside down, you should;

**Go Places and Do Things;  
Make Things Happen; and  
Get Things Done.**

## CONCLUSION

In your battle of life, you must single-mindedly and resolutely make up your mind on:

"I'll fight the good fight. I'll keep on fighting no matter how hard the going may be. I'll never give up; I'll never give in; I'll stand up to all obstacles; and I'll fight it through to final victory."

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

## Public-Private Partnership in education pioneered with the launch of the Centre of Excellence for Business Skills Development in Myanmar

YANGON, 27 Sept—PepsiCo, UNESCO, and the Myanmar Ministry of Education today celebrated the launch of Myanmar's first Centre of Excellence for Business Skills Development (CEBSD) in the presence of Union Minister of Education, Her Excellency, Dr. Khin San Yee, officials from the Ministry, dignitaries and special guests from civil society organizations and the private sector.

The CEBSD is the result of an innovative pub-

lic-private partnership, the first of its kind in Myanmar, which aims to improve employment prospects for youth in Myanmar by offering targeted courses and training in business and employability skills, career counselling, and networking opportunities. This ground-breaking project will also facilitate the development of industry-responsive vocational training courses to assist young people to enter the world of work.

In the coming months,

UNESCO and PepsiCo plan to continue expanding the CEBSDs programming and services to cater to the needs of more youth and to further engage with the business community of Myanmar. Opportunities for internships with businesses and other means of ensuring a smooth transition from the Centre's programming to employment are being explored, and the Centre will continue to serve as a networking platform for the young participants. —NLM



Group photo with students (@UNESCO Sriharsha)



# Second last old capital city “Amarapura” Part IV

**Maha Suddhamma Jotika dhaja**  
**Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyunt**

**A**N Italian Christian missionary Father Vincentius Sangermano was deputed to Myanmar by the Society de Propaganda. He arrived in Amarapura in 1783, the second year of King Bodawpaya's long reign [1782-1819] and resided at that new capital city for 25 years and returned home in 1808, the 26th year of Bodawpaya's reign. During long period of his mission at the new capital city Amarapura, Father Sangermano was the President of the Order of Barnabites at Arpinum, his native city in Italy. During his long stay at Amarapura, Father learnt language, literature, religion, culture and institutions of Myanmar. He could speak vernacular fluently and converse with Myanmar learned monks in Pali and Sanskrit. He became friendly with the King, his court and ministers. He was respected and highly regarded as one of learned advisers of the King. He was accorded easy access to the royal audience.

Having acquired a vast knowledge of Myanmar Empire of his time and eye witness account of Amarapura, he began compiling his book “*Description of the Burmese Empire*”, to be published in his home town in Italy, but Father died in 1819, the same year that King Bodawpaya passed away. But posthumous publications came out in many editions. In them are found accounts of Amarapura, its king, court, and people and products. The following are the relevant excerpts from English translation.

“The Description of the Burmese Empire”

“The Burmese Empire comprises the tract of territory” bounded on

the south by the Indian Ocean, on the east by the kingdom of Siam, on the west by Bengal, and on the north by the Kingdom of Azen [Assam] and the Chinese Empire. It includes not only the kingdom of Ava, but likewise those of Pegu and Aracan, together with the petty states of Martaban, Tavai [Tavoy] and Mergu [Mergui] [Myeik].”

Here, Father Sangermano failed to include Myanmar King's tributary states, as he did not travel much and learn much about Myanmar Empire. Until the British annexed lower Myanmar to British Indian Empire, after the First Anglo-Myanmar war of 1824-26, the extent of Myanmar Empire was fully and constitutently recorded in inscriptions on stone slabs bells, pei palm leaf and parabikes [folding paper parchment].

In the inscriptions on the Singu Min Bell which we can still see at the north-west corner of Shwe Dagon Pagoda Platform, the extent of Myanmar Empire is given as follows:-

- “(1) Thunaparanta Taing, consisting of Sagu, Salin, Htilin, Yaw and Saw
- (2) Thiri Khittaya Yama Taing, consisting of Thayekhittaya and Udenarit
- (3) Zeyawadana Taing consisting of Ketumadi, Dwarawaddi and Zeyawaddi;
- (4) Ayudya Taing, consisting of Thauk-kate and Pitha-lauk
- (5) Pawaiyaka Taing, consisting of Sandapuri, Cham-pathet, and Hmyne Lone
- (6) Hariponyins-a

Taing, consisting of Zimme, Ma bone, Annam, and Bayaw

- (7) K h e m a r a w a Taing, consisting of Kengtung and Me Sak.
- (8) Zawti Nagara Taing, consisting of Keng Hung and Me Si.
- (9) Kambawza Taing, consisting of Moe Ne, Nyaung Shwe and Ohn Paung.
- (10) Y a m a h i t h a k a Taing, consisting of Mogok and Kyatpyin.
- (11) Maurya Taing, consisting nine Maw States such as Myne Maw, Se Kwin, Hotha, Latha etc.
- (12) Seint Taing, consisting of Panmaw, Kwe Lone, Kat Cho.
- (13) Alawi Taing, consisting of Moe Hnyin, Moe Sit and Moe Gaung.
- (14) Manipura Taing, consisting of Cassay and Mwei-in.
- (15) Tampadipa Taing, consisting of Ari-madana Pagan, Myint Saing and Pinya.
- (16) Ramanya Taing, consisting of Martaban, Hantawaddy, Bassein and Myaung Mya.”

Father Sangermano then characterizes his book into 24 chapters, touching Burmese cosmography, Burmese History, constitution of the Burmese Empire, Religion of the Burmese, Moral and Physical constitution of the Burmese Empire and Burmese Code.

Throughout his book he called Bodawpaya “Badonsa Chen” Lord of the fief Badon. Why and how the new capital city was founded was explained in his chapter on Burmese history.

“... he [Badonsachen] resolved to abandon his present capital and to build another,

thus the more easily to obliterate the memory of his predecessors, and fix the eyes of the multitude upon himself alone. Pretexts were not wanting to give a colour to this proceeding. It was said that the city and palace had been defiled by the human bloodshed within its precincts, and therefore it no longer became the monarch to inhabit it, and it was ordained that a new imperial residence should immediately be constructed. To this proposal none dared to object, and all the Mandarins and royal ministers strove who should best give effect to the orders of the King. As in this country all is regulated by the opinions of the Brahmins, so that not even the King shall presume to take any step without their advice, therefore was counsel taken of them, and thereupon a site selected for the new city, on an uneven spot three leagues from Ava, upon the right or eastern bank of the river.”

Sangermano then described the design and layout of Amarapura thus;

“Here the work was commenced by the erection of the walls. These form a perfect quadrangle, each side a mile long, within which is another line of fortification somewhat inferior in height. In the centre was raised the royal palace, almost entirely of teakwood. The walls are built wholly of brick, cemented with an argillaceous earth tempered with water. They are protected on the north by the river, and on the south by an extensive pool; on the other two sides was sunk a deep fosse.”

Then, ceremonial procession of royal occupancy of the palace was detailed as follows:-

“When the work was completed, the King went in solemn state to take possession of the city and palace, on the

10th of May 1783, observing many superstitious rites and ceremonies prescribed by the Brahmins.”

Next Father Sangermano tells us how the King went back to Ava to urge the inhabitants to quit Ava and move to new capital in the following paragraph:-

“After seven days the King returned to Ava, in order to urge personally the removal of all his subjects to the new capital, which he affected on the 14th of the next month. Thus were these miserable inhabitants compelled to quit their home with all its comforts, and exchange a delightful situation, salubrious in its air and its waters, for a spot, infected with fevers and other complaints, from the stagnant waters that surround it.”

How royalty, aristocracy and social classes and foreigners were quartered at the new city of Amarapura were described as follows:-

“Badonsachen gave to his new metropolis the name of Amarapura, that is, city of security and peace. Of the new inhabitants some look up their abode within the walls; and these were for the most part Burmese and persons attached to the royal family on to the Mandarins; to others were allotted dwellings without the city, whence arose various suburbs, or as they are called by the Portuguese, campos. Besides the Burmese the principal foreign nations who occupy special districts are the Siamese and Casse; who were brought captives to this country in the wars of Zempiuscien [Hsinbyushin], and have greatly multiplied in number. Perhaps still more populous is the suburb by the Mahammedan Moors, who have settled in the Burmese capital, as in every other part of India. Their profession is mostly traffic and they enjoy

the free exercise of their religion having many mosques. To these must be added the suburb of the Chinese, whose industry is peculiarly remarkable, and that wherein the Christians dwell. The entire number of the inhabitants of Amarapura amounts to about 200,000.”

Father Sangermano next tells us how people suffered in the forced removal of their homes to the new city and how Badonsachen ordered his men to destroy old capital city Ava so that his new capital city Amarapura be unrivalled.

“Vain would it be to describe the sufferings and fatigues, the oppression and exactions, which this transmigration caused, to those eyes have not witnessed the extreme rigour with which the royal orders are here executed. No sooner was Amarapura inhabited, than Ava, famed not only as the residence of so many kings, but also for its pleasant and convenient situation and the magnificence of its public buildings, was instantly abandoned. Indeed Badonsachen caused its total destruction, by giving general permission to overthrow at will the superb Bao [Mon word for monastery] or convents of Tulapoin [Mon word for Buddhist monks], some of which were gilt all over, within and without, the finest gold, the magnificent wooden bridges, the public halls and porticos. All the cocoa trees [Kokko trees], which planted along the interior of the walls overtopped them with their green shadowy branches, and gave the city a cheerful sweet prospect, were cut down and given to the elephants for food. In fine, part of the walls was torn down by order of the king, and the river being sluiced in reduced the whole to an uninhabitable pool.”

**To be continued**



# Islamic State tightens siege of Syria town, more Europeans join alliance

KARACA, (Turkey) / BAGHDAD, 27 Sept — Islamic State fighters tightened their siege of a town on Syria's border with Turkey on Friday despite US-led air strikes aimed at defeating the militants in both Syria and Iraq, in a coalition which has now drawn widespread European support.

Britain, Washington's closest ally in the wars of the last decade, joined an alliance after weeks of weighing its options. Britain's parliament voted 542 to 43 to back Prime Minister David Cameron's decision to take part in air strikes in Iraq.

Belgium's parliament also voted 114 to 2 to take part and Denmark said it would send planes. Six Belgian F-16s took off for a staging post in Greece even before the vote.

"This is not a threat on the far side of the world. Left unchecked, we will face a terrorist caliphate on the shores of the Mediterranean and bordering a NATO member, with a declared and proven intention to attack our country and our people," Cameron told



*Turkish and Syrian Kurds run as Turkish security forces use tear gas to disperse them near the Mursitpinar border crossing on the Turkish-Syrian border, near the southeastern town of Suruc, on 26 Sept, 2014.*

REUTERS

British lawmakers.

Until this week France was the only Western country to answer President Barack Obama's call to join the campaign. Since Monday, Australia and the Netherlands have also joined. On Friday Germany expressed support for the mission despite saying it

would not send aircraft of its own. Obama has sought international support for a military coalition against Islamic State, a powerful force in Syria which swept across northern Iraq in June, slaughtering prisoners and ordering Shi'ites and non-Muslims to convert or die.

The campaign has brought Washington back to the battlefield in Iraq that it left in 2011 and into Syria for the first time after avoiding involvement in a war that began the same year.

The coalition also includes several Arab states, all led by Sunni Muslims

alarmed at the rise of Islamic State.

Islamic State has emerged as the most powerful Sunni militant group battling Shi'ite-backed governments in Iraq and Syria. The militants are also fighting rival Sunni rebel groups in Syria and Kurds in both Syria and Iraq, countries

facing complex, multi-sided civil wars in which nearly every state in the Middle East has a stake.

French public support for the mission surged this week after the beheading of a French tourist in Algeria by captors who said it was retaliation for French participation in strikes in Iraq.

Paris said it might also join US strikes in Syria although there was no plan yet to do so. European countries have so far agreed only to strike targets in Iraq, where the government has asked for help, and not in Syria, where President Bashar al-Assad has not given permission, although he has not objected.

Russia questioned the legality of US and Arab air strikes in Syria because they were carried out without the approval of Damascus, Moscow's ally.

"It's very important that such cooperation with Syrian authorities is established, even now that it's an accomplished fact," Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov told reporters on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.—Reuters

## Three Nepalese athletes missing from Incheon Asian Games

INCHEON, 27 Sept — Three athletes from Nepal have gone missing from the Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, according to the official Asiad Daily on Saturday.

The missing Nepalese athletes are a sepak takraw player who went on missing on Wednesday and two wushu players who were missing from the athletes' village on Thursday.

"Through closed-circuit television footage, we confirmed that he (the sepak takraw player) had disappeared," said Jung Ki Young, the Asian Games organizing committee's director of international relations. "He was going to go back to his country after the match. He, however, disappeared from the venue."

The sepak takraw player has been named as Aman Poda by Nepali news site Ekantipur, which reported the wushu players as Sombir Tamang and Nirajan Ale Magar.—Xinhua

## Ban pledges UN aid to small Pacific island states in fighting climate change

UNITED NATIONS, 27 Sept — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Friday pledged continuing assistance of the world body to small island developing states (SIDS) in the Pacific in their battles against climate change and in their transition to democracy.

The secretary-general made the remarks while speaking at the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in New York, which was held on the sidelines of the annual high-level debate of the UN General Assembly.

Ban lauded Pacific Island countries for their "strong position" on the sustainable development of the world's oceans.

The secretary-general said he was "impressed by the energy and determination of the peoples of the Pacific to confront and overcome our pressing challenges" of climate change, recalling that in his recent trip to

the region, he visited a displaced community still reeling from the effects of a 2009 tsunami.

"It was a stark reminder of the effects of climate change," Ban told the gathering, adding he was "deeply encouraged" by the commitments, partnerships and pledges made by member states at the recent UN Conference on SIDS, held in the Samoan capital of Apia.

Citing the Samoa Pathway, the Conference's outcome document formally known as the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway, Ban said the agreement should be "high on the agenda" of the General Assembly, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the High-Level Political Forum.

The Samoa Pathway includes actions for categories ranging from sustained and sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth with

decent work for all to climate change and health and non-communicable diseases. Ban also emphasized the importance of reaching a consensus at next year's UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, known as COP21.

"I am doing everything possible to press for the adoption of a

meaningful, legal climate agreement next year," he continued.

"And we are shaping a post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals that address the vulnerabilities and needs of all countries, including small island developing States," he said.

The secretary-gen-

eral welcomed the recent elections held in Fiji on 17 September, applauding the Fijian people "for exercising their constitutional right to vote."

"I hope this election will advance Fiji's transition to democracy," Ban said. "The United Nations fully supports this goal."

Xinhua



*A harvester collects rice in paddyfield in Duchang County of Jiujiang City, east China's Jiangxi Province, on 26 Sept, 2014. About 300,000 mu (20,000 hectares) of paddyfields here ushered in a harvest season. —XINHUA*



## SCIENCE &amp; TECHNOLOGY

## New York scientists unveil 'invisibility cloak' to rival Harry Potter's

ROCHESTER, (NY), 27 Sept — Watch out Harry Potter, you are not the only wizard with an invisibility cloak.

Scientists at the University of Rochester have discovered a way to hide large objects from sight using inexpensive and readily available lenses, a technology that seems to have sprung from the pages of JK Rowling's Harry Potter fantasy series.

Cloaking is the process by which an object becomes hidden from view, while everything else around the cloaked object appears undisturbed.

"A lot of people have

worked on a lot of different aspects of optical cloaking for years," John Howell, a professor of physics at the upstate New York school, said on Friday.

The so-called Rochester Cloak is not really a tangible cloak at all. Rather the device looks like equipment used by an optometrist. When an object is placed behind the layered lenses it seems to disappear.

Previous cloaking methods have been complicated, expensive, and not able to hide objects in three dimensions when viewed at varying angles, they say.

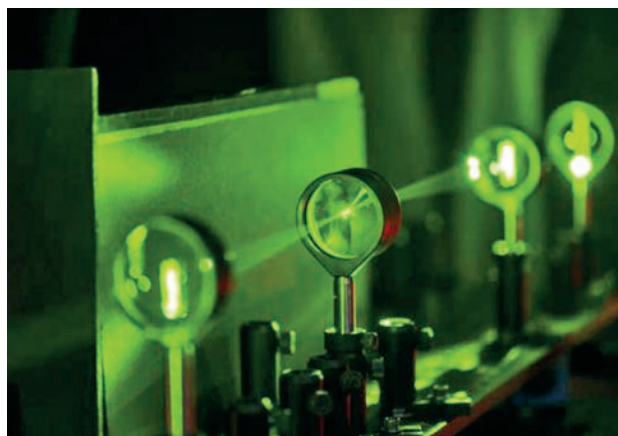
"From what, we know this is the first cloaking device that provides three-dimensional, continuously multidirectional cloaking," said Joseph Choi, a graduate student who helped develop the method at Rochester, which is renowned for its optical research.

In their tests, the researchers have cloaked a hand, a face, and a ruler — making each object appear "invisible" while the image behind the hidden object remains in view. The implications for the discovery are endless, they say.

"I imagine this could be used to cloak a trailer on the back of a semi-truck so the driver can see directly behind him," Choi said. "It can be used for surgery, in the military, in interior design, art."

Howell said the Rochester Cloak, like the fictitious cloak described in the pages of the Harry Potter series, causes no distortion of the background object.

Building the device does not break the bank either. It cost Howell and Choi a little over \$1,000 in materials to create it and they believe it can be done even cheaper.—Reuters



A cloaking device using four lenses developed by University of Rochester physics professor John Howell and graduate student Joseph Choi is demonstrated in Rochester, New York on this 11 Sept, 2014 University of Rochester. —REUTERS

## China's first space lab in operation for over 1000 days

BEIJING, 27 Sept — *Tiangong-1*, China's first space lab, has been in orbit for 1092 days since it was launched on 29 September, 2011.

The space lab, which is in sound condition, is able to complete more operation time in orbit, according to Wang Zhaoyao, director of China's manned space programme office.

Careful maintenance and monitoring will be carried out to ensure that the space lab, which was initially designed to stay in orbit for two years, will still be operational.

The 8.5-tonne *Tiangong-1*, with a length of 10.4 metres and maximum diameter of 3.35 metres, provides a 15-cubic-metre space for three astronauts to



live and work.

It docked with the manned *Shenzhou-9* spacecraft with three astronauts on board in June 2012. In June 2013, *Shenzhou-10* docked with the lab and three astronauts delivered a physics lesson aboard *Tiangong-1*.

According to Wang, the *Tiangong-2* space lab is scheduled to be launched in 2016, and the *Shenzhou-11*

spacecraft and *Tianzhou-1* cargo spacecraft will be launched to dock with it.

Around 2022, the nation's first space station will be completed.

Since the government approved a manned station programme in 2010, the programme has been progressing steadily, with various modules, space vehicles and ground facilities under development. —Xinhua

## BlackBerry Passport phone debuts around world

BEIJING, 27 Sept — BlackBerry unveiled the square-screened Passport phone at events around the world on Wednesday. The Canada's once-dominant but fallen smartphone maker is said to try to win back customers with the startling design of Passport and a good story of the new product.

Passport has the size and shape of an actual pass-

port, which BlackBerry calls "the international symbol of mobility." Its screen is a near-perfect square and three lines of physical keys grace the bottom of the phone.

"When you come out of restructuring, when you come out of financial problems, once you stabilize the company, customers and the market will only respond if you're innovating again,"

BlackBerry Chief Executive John Chen said. The newly released smartphone has a 4.5-inch square display (1440 by 1440 pixels) that is 30 percent wider than a typical 5-inch smartphone screen. It's capable of delivering 60 characters across each row, in contrast to the 40 characters which is common on a rectangular smartphone display.—Xinhua

## Microsoft offers first look at new Windows - and gives it a name

SEATTLE, 27 Sept — Microsoft Corp will unveil a new name for its best-known product on Tuesday when it offers the first official glimpse of its latest Windows operating system.

The project, known for the past few years as "Threshold" inside the software company and "Windows 9" outside it, will likely get an entirely new brand, or just be called Windows, analysts said, ahead of its full release early next year.

The name change is symbolic of a new direction and style for Microsoft, which is veering away from an aggressive focus on Windows and PCs, the hallmark of previous Chief Executive Officer Steve Ballmer. The new, quieter emphasis is on selling services across all devices and is championed by new boss Satya Nadella.

The switch also represents a desire to erase the ill will generated by Windows

8, an ambitious attempt to redesign Windows with tablet users in mind, which ended up annoying and confusing the core market of customers who use mice and keyboards.

"Windows 8 was not a shining moment for Microsoft," said Michael Silver, an analyst at tech research firm Gartner. "Probably the biggest issue that lingers is the negative brand equity in the name."

Many users howled in protest over the death of the start-button menu and the introduction of a colourful grid of squares or tiles representing apps in what became known as the modern user interface, even though they could easily switch to a traditional desktop mode.

Judging by recent leaks online, which Microsoft has not tried to discredit, the start-button menu will come back in the next Windows, with an option of tacking on tiles if preferred.

But the problem of

users having to toggle between the modern interface and the old-style desktop — for instance to use the full version of Excel spreadsheet software — has yet to be solved.



A shadow of a man using his mobile phone is cast near Microsoft logo at the 2014 Computex exhibition in Taipei on 4 June, 2014.—REUTERS

"The schizophrenic behaviour between the modern user interface and the Windows desktop has got to go away," said David Johnson, an analyst at tech research firm Forrester. "They have to smooth that out."

Microsoft declined to comment on the new name, or what it plans to unveil on Tuesday.

The Redmond, Washington-based company has said only that it will have

the Bay Area and Silicon Valley as it moves away from the PC and to play a bigger part in the mobile computing world fashioned by Apple Inc and Google Inc.

Nadella's slogan is "mobile first, cloud first," and although he will not be at the San Francisco event — he is traveling in Asia — that theme will be at the fore.

"This is a launching pad and catalyst for Nadella's holistic cloud vision over the coming years," said Daniel Ives, an analyst at investment bank FBR Capital Markets. "Windows 9 is a potentially game-changing product release for Microsoft."

Nadella is resigned to the fact that sales of PCs have leveled off, and with it sales of Windows. With the explosion of smartphones and tablets, Windows now powers only 14 percent of computing devices sold last year, according to Gartner.

His response is to fo-

cus on selling high-quality services — such as the Office suite of applications or storing documents in the cloud — to people on whatever device or system they are using.

"Microsoft is changing from a company that was Windows-centric to one that is services-centric," said Silver at Gartner. "It has to be that way. Windows revenue is likely going to decline, and Microsoft's task is to replace that Windows revenue with revenue from services on all sorts of platforms."

The challenge is to come up with killer apps and services users can't live without.

"Microsoft built their business on being very good at delivering what people needed in the moment, for example Excel in the 1990s," said Johnson at Forrester. "That's what Microsoft has to get back to, innovating and creating things that people find indispensable."—Reuters

a "discussion" about where Windows is headed at a stylish event space in San Francisco on Tuesday.

The choice of wording and venue are key to a humbler, lower-profile Microsoft under Nadella, who is keen to rebuild respect in



# US tells citizens to leave Yemen, reduces embassy staff



A policeman carries his weapon as he mans a checkpoint in Sanaa on 25 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

DUBAI, 27 Sept —The United States told its citizens in Yemen to leave and said it was reducing the number of US government staff there due to political unrest and fears of a possible military escalation.

President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi has said Yemen may be heading for civil war after Houthi rebels overran the capital Sanaa,

allowing them to dictate terms to his weakened, fractured government. Over 100 people have been killed in fighting.

The Department of State warned “US citizens of the high security threat level in Yemen due to terrorist activities and civil unrest,” it said in a travel warning.

On Wednesday, the State

Department ordered a reduction in the number of US government personnel in Yemen “out of an abundance of caution due to ... the potential for military escalation”. The US Embassy would continue with its operations, it said.

Washington announced a temporary suspension of operations at its embassy in May after attacks on

foreigners by al-Qaeda.

Any possible civil war would likely pit the Houthi rebels against an alliance of Sunni Islamist and tribal interests united by a few top families and generals. Houthis say they represent Zaydi Shi’ite Muslims, about 30 percent of Yemen’s 25 million people.

The Houthis struck a deal that will make them a part of the government, but it is not clear if that will satisfy their demands, or if it will instead embolden them to seek further powers.

Any renewed fighting could allow an array of other interests, including southern separatists, former president Ali Abdullah Saleh and even al-Qaeda to try to take advantage.

An aide to Barack Obama on counterterrorism, Lisa Monaco, phoned President Hadi on Wednesday to express the US president’s support and his condemnation of the Houthis.

Yemen is located on major oil shipping routes and next to top Gulf crude exporters. Washington is keen to prevent any spillover of violence into neighbouring oil power Saudi Arabia and to stop Yemen being used as a springboard to attack Western targets.

Reuters

## German opposition asks top court to order Snowden testimony in Berlin



NSA whistleblower Edward Snowden

BERLIN, 27 Sept — German opposition lawmakers appealed to the Constitutional Court to oblige the government to bring ex-US spy contractor Edward Snowden to Germany to testify before a parliamentary committee investigating espionage.

The appeal, by Green and Left party lawmakers, states that Chancellor Angela Merkel’s right-left coalition government has no real interest in examining the mass US surveillance of German citizens exposed by Snowden, and does not want him in Germany for fear of straining ties with close ally Washington.

The coalition agreed committee members would either travel to Moscow to interview Snowden, or speak to him via video link.

Snowden is wanted in the United States on charges of theft of government property and unauthorized communication of classified intelligence, and lives in Russia under a three-year residence permit.

He has declined the options offered by Merkel’s coalition but said he would be prepared to come to Germany if it grants him asylum. The government, however, says it would not guarantee that he would not be detained and possibly extradited.

Government spokesman Steffen Seibert said on Friday Snowden did not fulfil the criteria to be granted asylum.

The opposition argues that the government, in not actively seeking Snowden’s presence, is violating their right to gather evidence and investigate the spying of German citizens properly.

“We [parliament] control the government and the intelligence services, and not vice versa,” said Left party lawmaker Martina Renner, alluding to the appeal filed on Thursday evening.

Reuters

## Brazil’s Rousseff gains on Silva a week from election

BRASILIA, 27 Sept — Brazil’s President Dilma Rousseff gained on opposition candidate Marina Silva, increasing her chance to win a hotly contested runoff to the 5 October presidential election, a new poll showed on Friday.

The Datafolha survey said Rousseff has 47 percent voter support compared with 43 percent for Silva in a simulation of the expected second-round vote.

The four-point gap between them is a statistical tie because it lies within the margin of error of the poll released on the TV Folha Internet news service.

Silva, a popular environmentalist, surged in the polls after her late entry into the race last month, quickly gaining a 10-percentage-point lead over Rousseff for the likely runoff.

But Rousseff fought back questioning Silva’s policies and ability to give Brazil stable government. The attacks whittled Silva’s lead to two points in the previous Datafolha poll last week.

Rousseff’s also gained in first round intentions, rising to 40 percent from 37 percent a week earlier increasing her chances



Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff speaks during the Climate Summit at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 23 Sept, 2014.

REUTERS

she could win outright without a second round. Silva’s first-round support fell to 27 percent from 30 percent.

Centrist candidate Aécio Neves, the market favourite, rose one point to 18 percent, Datafolha said.

If no candidate wins a majority in the first round, the two top candidates face off for a second vote three weeks later. A second-round election, though, offers Silva a more even fight.

Under Brazilian law, mandatory prime-time election ads are divided up based on the parties’ level of support in the current Congress. This gives Rousseff

five times more minutes than Silva during the mandatory prime-time broadcasts.

During the runoff, the candidates get equal time.

A second, smaller and less closely followed poll released on late Friday also shows the candidates neck and neck but with Rousseff gaining. A second-round survey by the Sensus polling agency has Rousseff’s support rising to 40.5 percent from 32.8 percent in the last poll earlier this month and Silva’s slipping to 40.4 percent from 47.6 percent.

Sensus’ first-round survey has Rousseff with 35.1 percent, Silva with 25 percent and Neves at 20.7 percent.

Datafolha said Rousseff gained 6 percentage points and Silva lost 9 points in the poor Northeast of Brazil, a bastion of support for the ruling Worker’s Party since it first took the presidency in 2002 under Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

The new poll confirms the result of other recent surveys showing that Rousseff has regained momentum in a race that still looks too close to call.

Rousseff has used her huge

advantage in fundraising and TV time to undermine support for Silva by portraying her pro-market policies as favouring the rich and hurting the poor.

The poll numbers could change in the second-round campaign when the two candidates will have equal TV time and Silva is expected to gain the bulk of Neves’ supporters.

Silva’s popularity is solidly based in the young urban middle class who welcome her promise to break with traditional parties and clean up Brazil’s notoriously corrupt politics.

Silva promises to jumpstart Brazil’s stagnant economy, while Rousseff vows to extend social programs that have lifted millions of Brazilians out of poverty and reduced inequality in Latin America’s largest nation.

Datafolha surveyed 11,424 voters on Thursday and Friday. The poll commissioned by TV Globo and the *Folha de S Paulo* newspaper has a margin of error of 2 percentage points. The Sensus poll is based on 2,000 potential voters in 136 municipalities between Monday and Friday. Its margin of error is 2.2 percentage points.—Reuters



## GENERAL

## Boeing Dreamliner flying from US makes emergency landing in Scotland

LONDON/WARSAW, 27 Sept— A Boeing Co Dreamliner flying from Chicago to Poland with 248 passengers on board made an emergency landing at Glasgow, Scotland, on Friday after crew received an alert from the fire protection system in the baggage hold. Emergency services met the plane from Polish state airline LOT [LOT.UL], which had been heading for Warsaw, at 9:35 am local time (1035 GMT), Glasgow's airport said. Other traffic at the airport was not affected.

The plane was cleared as safe and the passengers allowed to disembark, an airport spokesman said. More checks on the fire alarm were being carried out. "We are aware of the LOT diversion of a 787 into Glasgow," a Boeing spokesman said in statement emailed to *Reuters*. "We are working with our customer to assess the situ-



*Air Canada's Boeing 787 Dreamliner lands at Pearson International Airport in Toronto, on 18 May, 2014.—REUTERS*

ation. At this time we have no further details."

The diversion of the LOT flight comes just days after the US Federal Aviation Administration called for parts upgrades on the Dreamliner to ensure better fire suppression in its cargo hold and an electrical

equipment bay.

Any findings of technical fault would add to earlier problems experienced by the 787 Dreamliner — Boeing's estimated \$32 billion bet on new technology, which entered commercial service three years ago.

The global 787 fleet

was grounded from January to April last year after two lithium-ion batteries burned out in separate incidents in Japan and the United States. The main lithium battery is housed in the electrical equipment bay that was the area of the plane involved in the FAA

action, a proposed rule published on Tuesday and agreed to by Boeing.

Boeing said the FAA action did not involve the battery. The FAA called for improving foam-like plugs in the area of the battery to prevent Halon, a fire-fighting chemical, from escaping in the event of a fire. Boeing said it agreed with the plan to install the upgraded parts on about 88 aircraft, known as the 787-8, which posed no immediate safety concern.

Separately on Friday, German airline Air Berlin said it had cancelled orders for Boeing aircraft worth about \$5 billion at list prices as it strives to curb spending and return to profitability. The cancellations included 15 787-8s and 18 Next-Generation 737-800s, Boeing said.

Barbara Pijanowska-Kuras, a LOT spokeswoman, said: "The emergency landing of the plane

was caused by a glitch in the fire protection system. There was no fire or smoke on board."

She added that "generally speaking, the aircraft is functional. We are waiting for a confirmation from technical services to say when the aircraft could fly back to Poland."

The passengers were still on board as LOT was preparing to possibly move them to another aircraft, the airline said. The spokeswoman earlier told Poland's TVN24 channel that the crew got an alert from the plane's fire protection system and diverted to the nearest airport to comply with safety rules. Firefighters at the scene did not see any fire or smoke, she said.

The plane is one of six Boeing 787s in LOT's fleet, all equipped with engines made by Rolls-Royce Holdings PLC. Rolls-Royce declined to comment.—*Reuters*

## Cuban cabinet change aims to boost flagging economy



*Men operate cranes at Havana Port's container terminal on 23 Sept, 2013.*

REUTERS

HAVANA, 27 Sept — With Cuba's economy flagging, President Raul Castro has turned to his most trusted economic adviser, Marino Murillo, granting him more authority to carry out ambitious reforms to the socialist economy.

Castro on Thursday added the title of economy

minister to Murillo's brief.

Murillo, 53, was already one of Cuba's vice presidents, part of the powerful 14-member Political Bureau of the ruling Communist Party, and chief of the commission charged with carrying out Cuba's market-style economic reforms.

The existing minister, Adel Yzquierdo, 69, was demoted to vice minister, returning both men to positions they held together previously. Yzquierdo also retains his position on the politburo.

The official announcement said it was "necessary to take the process of mod-

ernizing the economy and planning to a higher level." It also referred to the need to "harmonize and integrate" the reform process and the economy.

The dual challenges of restructuring the economy and nurturing its growth now fall squarely on Murillo, the architect and chief advocate of Raul Castro's economic overhaul.

Since taking over for his ailing brother Fidel in 2008, Raul Castro has turned much of state-controlled agriculture over to cooperatives, reduced the state workforce and allowed self-employed contractors to operate small businesses.

In 2011, the Communist Party detailed 300 reforms to be implemented by 2016. Some 250 have been instituted, but economists say progress has been too slow and shallow, and Cuba's economy has lagged.—*Reuters*

## Venezuela takes over plants left by US firm Clorox

VALLES DEL TUY, (Venezuela) 27 Sept—Venezuela announced on Friday the "temporary" takeover of two plants belonging to US cleaning products maker Clorox Co which has left the country because of difficult economic conditions.

After Clorox management abruptly left, many of the firm's 400 workers occupied two plants in the Valles

del Tuy District to the south of Caracas and in central Carabobo district for several days. "Here's the workers' government of President Nicolas Maduro temporarily occupying these installations together with the workers," Vice President Jorge Arreaza said with officials at the Valles del Tuy plant on Friday evening.

"We're going to reacti-

vate the plant," he said, accusing Clorox of an "evil" example by abandoning its staff. In the latest sign of dissatisfaction from private businesses with Maduro's running of the South American OPEC nation's economy, Clorox announced its exit on Monday, saying its business was not viable and that it would sell its assets.

The company said oper-

ating restrictions imposed by the government, economic uncertainty and supply disruptions would have led to considerable operating losses. Its share price rose on the announcement, despite the company saying it expected to incur after-tax exit costs of \$60 million to \$65 million, or 46 cents to 50 cents per share, in its fiscal 2015.

*Reuters*

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## Weather report

**BAY INFERENCE:** Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014:** Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing and Magway Regions, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon and Taninthayi Regions, Shan, Chin, Rakhine, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and fairly widespread in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

**STATE OF THE SEA:** Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar weater.

**OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS:** Likelihood of Southwest monsoon withdrawal from Northern Myanmar areas.



*Clorox workers attend a gathering at the company headquarters in Valles del Tuy, in Miranda state on 26 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS*



## 'Gone Girl' ensures NY Film Festival dazzles from the start



Actor Ben Affleck attends the 52<sup>nd</sup> New York Film Festival opening night gala presentation of the movie 'Gone Girl' at Alice Tully Hall in New York on 27 Sept, 2014. REUTERS

NEW YORK, 27 Sept—David's Fincher's "Gone Girl" kicked off the New York Film Festival on Friday adding a bit of Hollywood glitz and glamour to one of the most anticipated openings of the year.

The world premiere of the chilling psychological thriller and probing analysis of a marriage is a return appearance for Fincher at the 17-day film festival. The dual Academy Award nominated director premiered "The Social Network" at the festival in 2010. "Gone Girl," which opens across the United States on 3 October, is based on the hugely successful book by Gillian Flynn, who also penned the screenplay, about a wife who mysteriously vanishes on her fifth wedding anni-

versary and the fickle media frenzy that develops as the story unfolds. "I was amazed at the true line, the power that the story had as it related to this idea of the narcissistic armour, the vision of ourselves that we project and construct," Fincher said after the premiere.

Like his earlier films such as "Se7en" and "Fight Club," "Gone Girl" is a stylized, highly visual film with dark themes. Dual Oscar winner Ben Affleck, ("Argo" and "Good Will Hunting") is Nick Dunne, a former writer in New York who loses his job in the recession and returns to his Missouri roots and opens a bar with his twin sister Margo, played by Carrie Coon ("The Leftovers").

Reuters

## Kim Kardashian attacked at Paris Fashion Week

NEW YORK, 27 Sept—Reality TV star Kim Kardashian was attacked at Paris Fashion Week event by prankster Vitalii Sediuk.

The Ukrainian media personality lunged at Kim Kardashian during one of the reality star's appearances for the Paris Fashion Week and tried to pull her to the ground as she stepped out of her car, reported the *New York Daily News*.

The 33-year-old reality star was quickly grabbed and shielded by several bodyguards.

Sediuk, 25, was among the hordes of fans and photographers gathering to catch a glimpse of the 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' star, 33, as she, husband Kanye West and mother Kris Jenner attempted to walk the red carpet at a Balmain show.

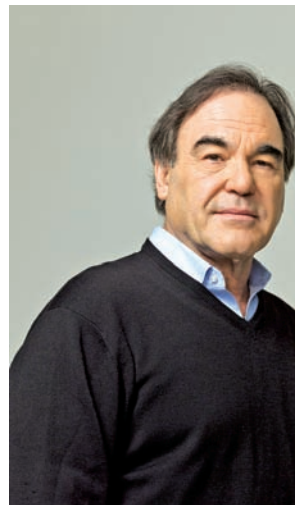
He also did the same thing to Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt and Will Smith in the past.

PTI



Kim Kardashian

## US film director Oliver Stone awarded medal of honour in Portugal



LISBON, 27 Sept—US film director Oliver Stone was awarded the city's medal of honour at Porto's municipal council in north Portugal on Friday.

With great sense of humour as he collected his medal, Stone said the mayor of Porto, Rui Moreira, looked like a "movie star."

"I have travelled to many places, but it is rare to go to a city where the mayor looks like a movie star. I should say, as a film-

maker, that he could be the star of this film, a fine candidate for president in my view, but he doesn't want to apply," he said laughing, according to *Portuguese Lusa News Agency*.

The three times Oscar-winning film director and writer was present at the Douro Film Harvest, which included the first official presentation in Eu-

rope of his book "The Untold History of the United States," also available as a 12 hour documentary.

Stone, one of the world's most acclaimed film-makers famous for his works "Platoon," "JFK" and "Natural Born Killers," showed gratitude for being handed the award.

Rui Moreira said Stone's visit to Porto strengthened the city's link to this "seventh art" and showed how open the city is to international culture.

Xinhua

## Radiohead's Thom Yorke will use BitTorrent to sell new album



LOS ANGELES, 27 Sept—Radiohead singer Thom Yorke on Friday released an album via BitTorrent, the British rocker said, marking the first time the online file transfer system often associated with piracy has been used to sell music.

"Tomorrow's Modern Boxes," Yorke's first solo album in eight years, features eight songs and was produced by longtime collaborator Nigel Godrich.

Users will be charged \$6 to have access through software company BitTorrent to a "paygated" bundle of files known as a torrent, which breaks the files up into small pieces which are downloaded from one or more peer-to-peer sources, Yorke and Godrich said.

Torrents have been touted as a more efficient way to download large

amounts of data using less bandwidth, but some torrent-hosting sites have been targeted by authorities as the means to illegally distribute copyrighted material.

"It's an experiment to see if the mechanics of the system are something that the general public can get its head around," Yorke and Godrich said in a statement. "If it works well, it could be an effective way of handing some control of internet commerce back to the people who are creating the work," the statement added.

Yorke and his band Radiohead have experimented with alternative distribution models in the past, releasing their 2007 album "In Rainbows" first as a download on their website where customers could pay whatever price they wanted.

Reuters

## Kajol says Glad to speak about child health at UN

NEW DELHI, 27 Sept—Bollywood actress Kajol says she had a memorable stint at the United Nations where her campaign 'Help A Child Reach 5' was appreciated by the dignitaries.

The 40-year-old actress, who was on her second visit to UN General Assembly summit, said the response was phenomenal this year more people chose to talk about the importance of hand washing.

"The response was fabulous. I came here last year as well and this year even more people were talking about it, coming up to you and appreciating the initiative. We got a way more attention than what we expected,"

Kajol told PTI over phone from New York. The newly

launched Lifebuoy's Handwash campaign, fronted by Kajol, aims at eradicating preventable deaths like diarrhoea by propagating lifesaving hand washing habits.

"The great part is that handwashing is the basic thing. It's the first step. You had everybody talking about communicable disease and they all understand the importance of it. More than 40 per cent of children at the age group of zero to two are more vulnerable to diseases," she said.

The mother of two had also joined micro-blogging site Twitter to promote the cause as she feels social media is important to push things.

"The cause is getting requisite attention through social media. It is reaching out to a lot more people. I do think that Twitter has made a huge difference today. It's a faster and digital version of newspaper," she said.

During her three-day visit, Kajol met many dignitaries around the globe including UN Secretary General's wife Yoo Soon-taek, First Lady of Gabon Sylvia Bongo Ondimba, Unilever CEO's Paul Polman wife Kim and actresses Lily Cole and Amy Smart.

"Yoo Soon-taek was wonderful and so was Polman's wife. They all are actually fantastic about it. Everybody agreed to stand there and talk about it. We wanted to basically tell all the first ladies to scale up handwashing in their particular countries," she said.—PTI



Kajol Devgan

Thom  
the Op  
Lis



## GENERAL

## Japan coach Aguirre demands unity, focus from players



Japan's head coach Javier Aguirre (R) of Mexico gestures next to his players Yuto Nagatomo (C) and Maya Yoshida during their international friendly soccer match against Venezuela in Yokohama, south of Tokyo on 9 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

TOKYO, 27 Sept — Japan coach Javier Aguirre has warned his players to shelve their egos and bring their game-face to training or

risk being dumped from the team as they build for their Asian Cup title defence.

The former Mexico and Espanyol coach, who

replaced Alberto Zaccheroni in July after Japan were dumped from the World Cup in the first round, is chasing his first win with

the Blue Samurai after a loss to Uruguay and a draw with Venezuela. "You have to feel pride when you are with the national team. I don't need players who look like they are bored," Aguirre told Japanese media.

"It doesn't matter how famous you are, if you are moping, showing the attitude of a loser and not cooperating with the team, I won't need you. The team has to come before individuals," Aguirre has already left his imprint on the team by dumping a number of players who failed to perform at the World Cup from an initial 23-man squad he named last month.

Although declaring that he had settled on a core group of four or five seasoned campaigners to build the team around, he was far from settled as to

who would make up the numbers. "There are players that I am interested in that have not come to the national team yet and I want to try and call them up for friendlies," he said.

"I don't want to make selection mistakes. You should use players who are going through a good phase," Aguirre left Dortmund attacking midfielder Shinji Kagawa out of his initial squad after he suffered concussion in a League Cup game for Manchester United prior to his transfer back to the Bundesliga. The coach said the team's most potent weapon, now playing for his former club, would be recalled for the Blue Samurai's next match against Jamaica on Oct. 10 in Niigata along with Spain-based striker Mike Havelaar. — Reuters

## FIFA to ban third-party ownership of players



FIFA President Sepp Blatter speaks during a news conference at the Maracana stadium in Rio de Janeiro on 14 July, 2014. — REUTERS

ZURICH, 27 Sept — Football's governing body FIFA has agreed to ban the third-party ownership (TPO) of players, its president Sepp Blatter said on Friday, seven years after first promising to outlaw the practice.

Blatter said a working group would be set up to implement the ban which would come into effect

following "a transitional period". "We took a firm decision that TPO should be banned but it cannot be banned immediately there will be a transitional period," Blatter told a news conference following a meeting of the executive committee. The World Players Association FIFPro said they were "delighted" with the decision but were still waiting for details of its implementation.

Blatter's announcement followed pressure from European soccer's governing body UEFA, which had said it would ban TPO unilaterally if FIFA did not act. TPO is when the transfer rights of players are wholly or partially owned by the footballer himself or a company, instead of just the player's club. — Reuters

## Kvitova books Singapore berth with Wuhan title

WUHAN, 27 Sept — Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova became the fourth player to qualify for the season-ending WTA Finals in Singapore after beating Eugenie Bouchard 6-3, 6-4 to win the Wuhan Open on Saturday.

The Czech world number three took an 80 minutes to tame her Canadian opponent and join Serena Williams, Maria Sharapova and Simona Halep who have already booked their places in Singapore.

"From the beginning my season was really tough," Kvitova said after qualifying for her fourth successive WTA Finals.

"If somebody told me at the Australian Open that I would win Wimbledon and still be fighting for Singapore, I'm not sure I would have believed them."

"But I've had a great second part of the season. It all started a little bit at the French Open, and from there I just kept improving.

"I think early on I was expecting too much of myself, and it was really difficult to take the loss in my first round in Australia, but I kept working hard, and now I'm here."



Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic (L) and Eugenie Bouchard of Canada pose for photographs with their trophies after the women's singles final match at the Wuhan Open Tennis Tournament, in Wuhan, Hubei Province on 27 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

The winner of the re-match of this year's Wimbledon final was assured of a place in Singapore and Kvitova prevailed again, breaking early in both sets and hanging onto those breaks to win in straight sets.

Bouchard was not too unhappy with her performance. — Reuters

## MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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## Birdie bonanza as Europe and US light up Ryder Cup

GLENEAGLES, (Scotland), 27 Sept — It was a case of 'watch the birdies' as the players from Europe and the United States produced some early fireworks on the second day of the 40th Ryder Cup on Saturday.

A series of long putts, and the occasional chip-in, disappeared from every angle on a cold, crisp morning on the picturesque hills and banks of Gleneagles as both teams gave a supreme exhibition of fourball shotmaking. Holders Europe, leading

5-3 from the opening day, were all square in three matches and down in one.

European strongmen Justin Rose and Henrik Stenson, bidding for their third straight victory as a pair this week, were level with Bubba Watson and Matt Kuchar in match one with each combination cramming five birdies into the opening nine holes.

Hunter Mahan was proving the star of the show in match two, reeling off four birdies in eight holes

as he and Jim Furyk surged three up on Lee Westwood and Jamie Donaldson.

There was another seven birdies in the third game of the day where Thomas Bjorn and Martin Kaymer were locked together with first-day rookie sensations Patrick Reed and Jordan Spieth.

A rejuvenated Ian Poulter also looked desperate to make amends for his poor performance alongside debutant Stephen Gallacher on Friday. — Reuters



European Ryder Cup players Jamie Donaldson (L) and Lee Westwood wait on the 13th green during their fourballs 40th Ryder Cup match at Gleneagles in Scotland on 27 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS



## Asian Games: Taiwan's 7-run 2<sup>nd</sup> dooms Japan in semifinals

INCHEON, 27 Sept — Samurai Japan committed hara-kiri by allowing seven runs in an error-strewn second inning that saw them lose 10-4 to Taiwan in the Asian Games semifinals on Saturday.

Japan, which also was knocked out in the semis by Taiwan at the last Games in Guangzhou, China, took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first after Takuya Fujishima drew a two-out, bases-loaded walk.

But Taiwan jumped on starting pitcher Tetsu Yokota in the next inning, chasing him with two outs after tagging him for five runs — but none earned, due to a couple of errors that would invite Kuo Yen-wen's three-run home run.

Japan bridged the gap in the bottom half, scoring twice to make it 7-3, but Taiwan, which lost to South Korea in the 2010 final, pulled away for three more runs in the third that all but doomed Hirotami Kojima's team.

Cheng Kai-wen, who relieved starter Hu Chih-wei with one out in the third, cruised for 6-2/3 innings, allowing one earned on just three hits and no walks. Chen pitched five seasons in Japan for the Hanshin Tigers and DeNA BayStars.

"We were going to use all the pitchers we needed

to regardless of the result, but we let the game slip away with our mistakes," Kojima said. "Our defence in the second inning was everything."

"We were expecting to keep the game a lot closer than it turned out to be. The game unfolded in a way we never imagined."

Japan is made up entirely of corporate league players while Taiwan called up 16 professionals, 10 of who play in the minor leagues in the United States.

Kojima said Taiwan's team in 2010 was better, but Japan, which will now head to the bronze-medal game likely against China on Sunday, still came out on the losing end.

Japan is desperate to see baseball return to the Olympic programme for the 2020 Tokyo Games. If baseball is renamed a core sport, Japan, will likely go with an all-Nippon Professional Baseball squad in 2020. Still, Japan has just one bronze medal in the three Olympics in which NPB players participated — in Athens in 2004.

"Taiwan had its best team in Guangzhou. Here, they've gone with mostly minor leaguers from the States so they probably aren't as good as they were four years ago," he said.

Kyodo News

## 17 world records set so far at Incheon Asian Games

INCHEON, 27 Sept — A week since the opening of the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games at Incheon, South Korea, 17 world records have been set by the Asian athletes, the Olympic Council of Asia said on Saturday.

The world records have been set in the sporting discipline of archery, shooting and weightlifting. Previously at the Guangzhou Asian Games in 2010, only three world records were broken.

From the 17 records set, China, Chinese Taipei, South Korea and DPR Korea set the most records.

"With more and more number of records being set at the Asian Games year, it shows that the Asian Games is at the same caliber as other major games," the OCA said in a statement.—Xinhua

## More than 1,000 tests conducted at Incheon Asiad, two positive cases so far

INCHEON, 27 Sept— More than 1,000 drug tests have been conducted and two returned positive results so far at the Incheon Asian Games, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) said on Saturday.

"We have conducted tests on 1,000 specimens so far out of 1,900 athletes," Tan Sri Jegathesan, chairman of the OCA's medical committee and anti-doping

commission, told a press conference at the Asiad Main Press Centre. "We have sent two press releases concerning positive findings: a Tajikistan football athlete Khurshed Beknazarov, and Cambodian soft tennis athlete, Sophany Yi." When asked about the policy regarding a team's disqualification, Beknazarov explained that in the case of football "the entire team is

not disqualified for one anti-doping violation, but two or more positive results will lead to a team's disqualification," while in the case of "smaller teams like badminton, swimming, or relays", the team is disqualified for one positive result. Some 9,500 athletes from 45 countries and regions are taking part in the 19 September — 4 October Incheon Asian Games.—Xinhua



Wang Qi (R) of China spikes during the women's volleyball quarterfinal against India at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 27 Sept, 2014. China won 3-0.—XINHUA



Na Ahreum of South Korea competes during the women's individual time trial match of cycling road at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 27 Sept, 2014. Na Ahreum won the gold medal. XINHUA



Kim Minji of South Korea celebrates victory after the skeet women's gold medal competition of shooting event at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, 27 Sept, 2014. Kim Minji won the gold medal. XINHUA



Gong Maoxin (R) of China hits the ball during the men's doubles quarterfinal match of tennis against Ratiwatana Sanchai and Ratiwatana Sanchat of Thailand at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 27 Sept, 2014. Thailand won 2-0.—XINHUA

## Medals table of the Asian Games 27 September, 2014

	G	S	B	Total
China	96	56	41	193
South Korea	35	42	40	117
Japan	31	43	38	112
Kazakhstan	9	10	18	37
North Korea	8	8	9	25
Iran	6	7	6	19
Taiwan	5	4	8	17
Hong Kong	4	5	18	27
Mongolia	4	3	8	15
Malaysia	3	6	7	16
India	3	4	19	26
Qatar	2	-	1	3
Myanmar	2	-	-	2
Vietnam	1	6	20	27
Uzbekistan	1	4	8	13
Singapore	1	3	7	11
Indonesia	1	3	6	10
Kuwait	1	3	2	6
Thailand	1	-	10	11
Pakistan	1	-	1	2
UAE	1	-	1	2
Tajikistan	1	-	-	1
Macao	-	3	-	3
Philippines	-	2	2	4
Turkmenistan	-	1	2	3
Kyrgyzstan	-	1	1	2
Laos	-	1	1	2
Bangladesh	-	1	-	1
Lebanon	-	1	-	1
Iraq	-	-	1	1
Sri Lanka	-	-	1	1



Xiluo Zhuoma (upper) of China fights against Jakhar Geetika of India during the women's wrestling freestyle 63kg semifinal at the 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 27 Sept, 2014. Xiluo Zhuoma won 5-0.—XINHUA