

## Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham tours medical facilities, museums in Guangxi

NANNING, 7 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visited Guangxi Medical University in Nanning, China, on Tuesday, sources said.

After being briefed on the background history of the university, its management, pedagogical principles, intakes of international students and health care services, Dr Sai Mauk Kham and his entourage went on a guided tour around the university.

The vice president later went to the first hospital affiliated with Guangxi Medical University, where he was briefed by the superintendent of the hospital on health insurance and health care services to rural areas.

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham also went to the Myanmar Consulate in Nanning, where he met staff and scholars.

The vice president visited the Nanning Museum and the Guangxi Provincial Museum.



Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham looks around inside the Nanning Museum, in Guangxi, China on 7 October.—MNA

vincial Museum.

He received a courtesy call by the secretary

of Guangxi Province at the Liyuan Guest House, where they exchanged views on the investment, agriculture, promotion of bilateral tourism, sports and culture.—MNA

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## Men on missing Thai rescues helicopter survive

YANGON, 7 Oct — Htoo Foundation received a good news of three men on missing Thai rescues helicopter at around 4 p.m. on Tuesday, according to Phyto Ko Ko Thet, a spokesperson of Htoo Foundation.

Those survivors—U Tay Za's Thai Pilot

Chatchai, Myanmar Pilot Aung Myat Toe and U Tay Za's personnel assistant Shwe Yin Taw Gyi, the nephew of Namar Johnson, the first man to conquer Mount Hkakabo Razi—are in Lansa Village in Nagmon Township in Putao District of Kachin State.

(See page 9)

## Myanmar, U.S. join hands in fight against human trafficking

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 7 Oct—Myanmar hosted an ASEAN-US seminar on trafficking in persons on Tuesday in Yangon to discuss emerging standards and norms in the fight against modern slavery, protocol on human trafficking and future collaboration in combating human trafficking between ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)

and the United States.

In his opening remarks, Lt-Gen Ko Ko, Union Minister for the Ministry of Home Affairs, said the regional seminar benefits the methods of report writing, ways of determining countries indexes, how to cooperate with the U.S. and the establishment of the standard guidelines and database (See page 3)

## Over 3,000 prisoners released under amnesty by President



Prisoners get off a truck in Insein Prison in Yangon after being released on Tuesday.— PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct — President U Thein Sein granted amnesty to 3,073 prisoners on Tuesday.

Fifty eight foreign na-

tionals were also among those pardoned by President U Thein Sein, according to the Ministry of Information.

The prisoners who have already served prison terms they deserved and had good behaviors in the prison were

granted amnesty for the sake of "peace and stability," the "rule of law" the "reconsolidation of the national people", and on "humanitarian grounds," by the president (See page 3)



## Myanmar, India to promote trade and relations



MANDALAY, 7 Oct—A press conference on Myanmar-India trade promotion and organizing trade fairs was held at Sedona Hotel on 26<sup>th</sup> street in Chanayethazan Township on Monday.

Mandalay-based Indian Consul-General Dr Nadakumar explained trade promotion plans between Myanmar and India, opening of more border trade camps at the borders of Myanmar and India's eastern states and launching of maritime trade as of early October.

Myanmar exported beans and pulses, marine products, finished wood products and other products worth US\$1.49482 billion to India and imported medicine, machinery and other products worth US\$ 785.46 million. The Vice President of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry ex-

plained plans of holding the Indian trade fairs in Mandalay as part of promoting relations and trade between Myanmar and India.

The First Indian Trade Fair will be held at the city hall from 9 to 12 October with the participation of

over 70 Indian companies at over 80 booths to showcase automobile and parts, cosmetics, textile, kitchen utensils, agricultural and livestock breeding equipment, electronic products and foodstuffs.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



## Energy master heat pump introduced

MANDALAY, 7 Oct—Peerapat Technology Public Company Ltd of Thailand introduced energy master heat pump at Hotel Mandalay in Mandalay on 30 September.

SCZ Trading Company Ltd of Myanmar imports the product that applies renewable energy to blow hot water.

The machine can also produce cool air while pouring out hot water, consuming 25% of electricity. The machine can save 70% of energy cost, said Managing Director U Than Win Aung of SCZ Company.

The machines are useful for hotels that will develop in 2015. The company installs its products at the customers at very fair price.—*Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)*

## Combine teams to check all watercrafts running in Mandalay Region



MANDALAY, 7 Oct—The Union government expands organizational setup of Myanmar Police Force for ensuring security of life and property of the people.

Coastal and River Patrol Police Department has already formed to take security measures for river water courses.

The servicemen of the department are carrying out security duty in Ayeyawady River by speed boat.

Coastal and River Patrol Police Department and Directorate of Marine Administration will check all watercrafts running in Mandalay Region as of 15 October.

All the watercrafts

must have necessary documents and show them to officials of the combine teams.

From 15 to 31 October, the combine teams will give educative talks to the crews and owners of the watercrafts to keep necessary documents related to the watercrafts, to run along the routes abiding by the prescribed rules and regulations and to install the necessary equipment at the boats.

Action will be taken against the offenders under the laws, according to the Directorate of Marine Administration (Upper Myanmar).

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



## Italy supports reform process of Myanmar

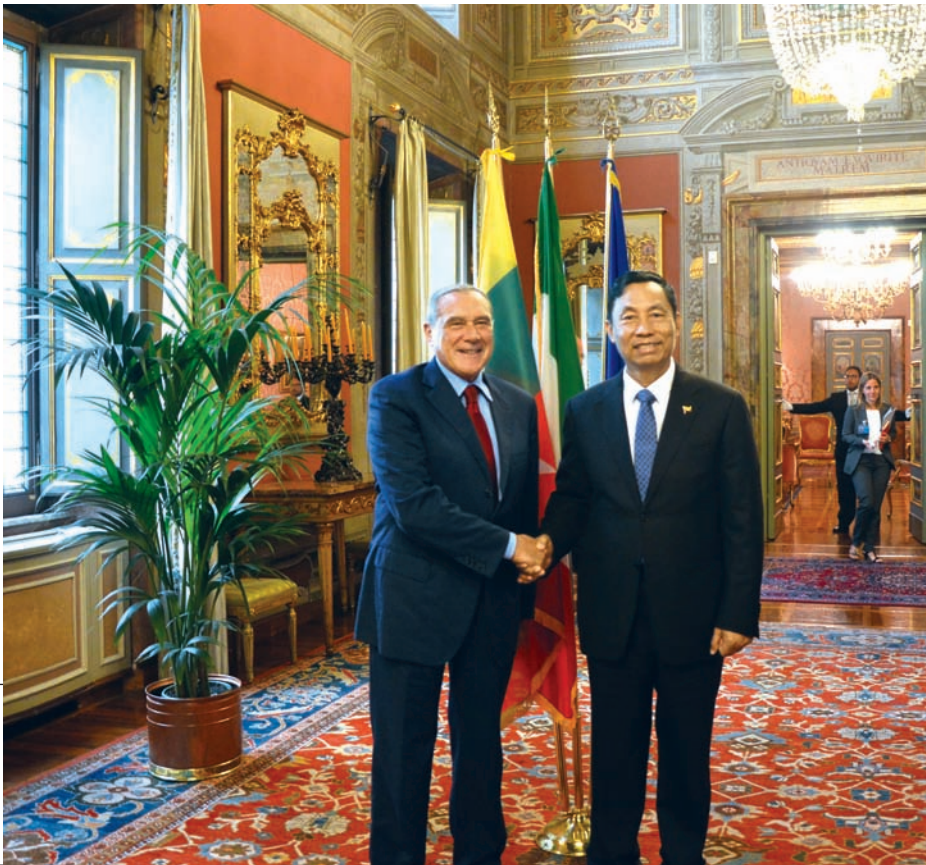
ROME, 7 Oct — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Thura U Shwe Mann held a talk with Mr Pietro Grasso, President of the Italian Senate at the Senate Building in Rome of Italy on Monday.

The Italian Senate President said that Italy supports the reform process of Myanmar. They exchanged views on promotion of friendly ties between the two Hluttaws and governments between Myanmar and Italy.

After the meeting, they exchanged gifts and posed for documentary photo.

MNA

**Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann cordially greets President of the Italian Senate Mr Pietro Grasso.**—MNA



## Myanmar, U.S . . .

(from page 1)

among ASEAN countries.

"I expect that the intimacy at the present seminar will bring more achievements not only in the issue of human trafficking, but also in other collaborations between ASEAN and the U.S. such as political, economic, social and educational sectors directly or indirectly," said the Union Minister.

Myanmar's Central Body for Suppression of

Trafficking in Persons in partnership with INGOs, NGOs and the UN has added new momentum to the fight against trafficking in persons, Police Lt- Col Ohnma Yin Mee said. She said that at least five liaison offices have been opened in the border areas of China and Thailand, adding that a temporary shelter for human trafficking victims is also established in Kawthoung in Myanmar with the assistance of Japan.

According to her, plans

are underway to open a new temporary shelter in Myawady. Senior Officer Khine Myat Chit of Security Cooperation Division, the ASEAN Secretariat Office, urged the public and human trafficking victims to actively participate in eliminating human trafficking.

According to the police records released at the end of September, Ohnma Yin Mee noted that Myanmar has witnessed a dramatic decrease in the number of forced marriages, beggars and child adoptions, which she said resulted from the collaborated efforts with neighbouring countries.

Most Myanmar victims were sold into forced marriages in China and forced labour in Thailand, with the majority of them being hapless women. Cooperation in combating human trafficking has become an important task for every country as human trafficking is a growing global problem, she added.—GNLM



**Union Minister Lt-Gen Ko Ko with delegates of ASEAN countries at ASEAN-US seminar on trafficking in persons.**

PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

## Over 3,000 prisoners . . . .

(from page 1)

in accordance with the Sub-section (A) under the Section-204 of the Constitution.

Among the prisoners released on Tuesday from prisons across the country, 138 men, 39 women and one foreigner were from the Insein Prison in Yangon.

Authorities concerned

have provided necessary assistance to the prisoners to enable them to go back home.

The president pardoned the prisoners so that they can serve in the interests of their respective regions and country in co-operation with the people, understanding the goodwill of the State.—GNLM

**Union Minister U Myint Hlaing highlights future tasks for agriculture and forestry.**

MNA



## Union Election Commission promises elections in late 2015

DAWEI, 7 Oct — The Union Election Commission met its subcommissions, political parties and civil society organizations in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, on Tuesday, sources said.

UEC Chairman U Tin Aye promised free and fair general elections in late 2015, pledging campaigns for voter education and voter training and calling for public cooperation in the processes.

A pilot project has been carried out, aimed at collecting the correct number of eligible voters

to ensure the successfully conducting of free and fair elections across the nation, according to the UEC Chairman.

Lessons have been drawn from the weaknesses of the previous general elections, which took place in 2010, he said, adding that books on election rules and regulations will get into print and be circulated.

U Tin Aye urged political parties, social society organizations and media to point out any deviation from the law.

Region IPRD

**UEC Chairman U Tin Aye meets election subcommissions, political parties and social organizations in Dawei of Taninthayi Region, focusing on campaigns for voter education and voter training.**—REGION IPRD



## Myanmar prepares for ASEAN agricultural, forestry tasks

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct— The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation held a work coordination meeting here on Tuesday to discuss future tasks for agriculture and forestry to be carried out by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN),

sources said.

Speaking at the meeting, Union Minister U Myint Hlaing stressed the importance of Myanmar's role as a host country responsible for holding the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF). He

urged officials to work in conjunction with other ASEAN members and its three partner in carrying out each sector.

The union minister was briefed on team activities, measures for timely completion of projects, and preparations for the meeting.

The meeting also discussed how to observe the World Food Day 2014, which falls on 16 October, with this year's theme being "Family farming: Feeding the world, Caring for the Earth", chosen by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to raise the profile of family farming and smallholder farmers.

MNA



## Mandalay authorities give priority to prevention against DHF

MANDALAY, 7 Oct —Mandalay City Development Committee and Mandalay Region Health Department adopted a plan to carry out sanitation and take preventive measures against dengue haemorrhagic fever in respective townships of the municipal area.

On 5 October, the workers of MCDC and staff of Health Department carried out sanitation tasks on 18<sup>th</sup> street between 87<sup>th</sup> and 88<sup>th</sup> streets in Aungmyethazan Township.

The sanitation tasks were supervised by Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs Mayor U



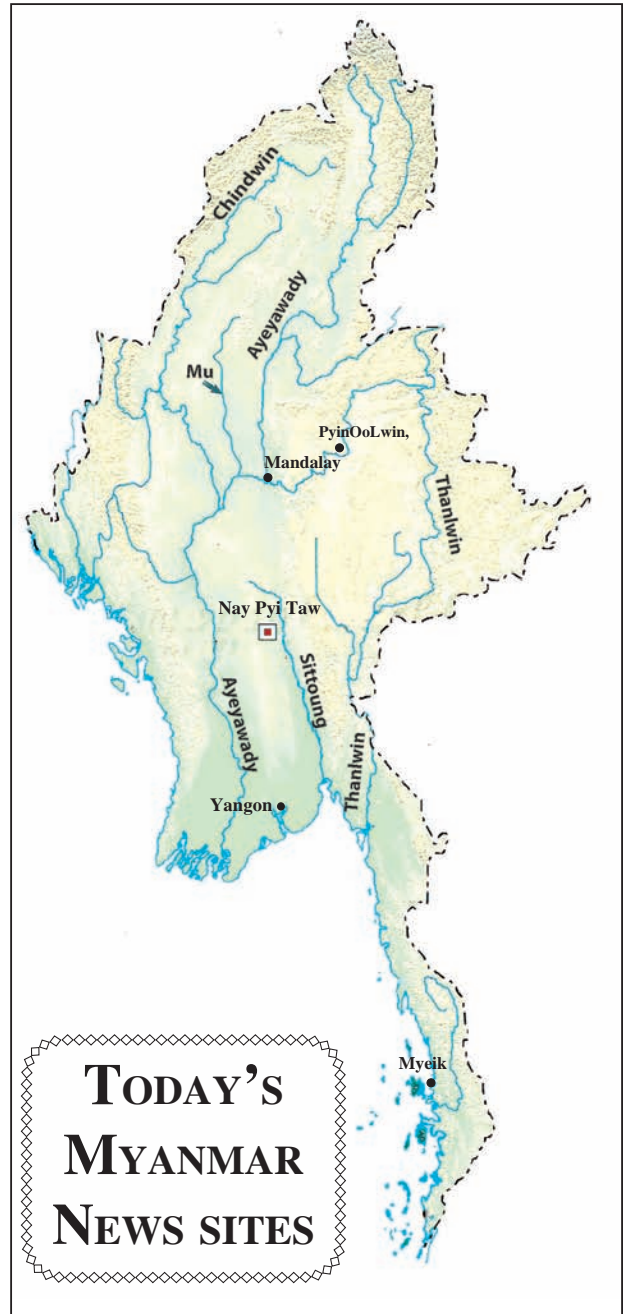
Aung Moun, the secretary of MCDC and members, Department Dr Than Win and officials.—*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*

## MCEA (Mandalay Region) to recruit new members

MANDALAY, 7 Oct—Myanmar Construction Entrepreneurs Association (Mandalay Region) will be reorganized with new entrepreneurs.

To do so, national entrepreneurs, contractors, engineers and architects, construction materials entrepreneurs, those of construction arena and investors will hold a meeting at Hotel Mandalay on 78<sup>th</sup> street in Mahaaungmye Township of Mandalay on 11 October. The association will be extended with new generations at the meeting.

*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*



## Respects paid to retired teachers in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 7 Oct — A ceremony to pay respects to retired teachers of above 65 years was held at Aung San Hall of Basic Education High School No 30 in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay recently.

Students and teachers paid respects to 183 retired teachers. On be-

half of the old teachers, Sayagyi U Ko Ko Aung (retired director) and retired region education officer Daw Yi Yi Myint gave words of advices to the students and teachers.

The students and teachers presented gifts to the retired teachers.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*

## 7<sup>th</sup>-Mile Recreation Centre temporarily closed

PYINOOLOWIN, 7 Oct—Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems did not allow the opening of 7<sup>th</sup>-Mile recreation centre built near the bank of Dokhtawady River close to Yeywa Hydropower Station in Lunkaung Village of PyinOoLwin Township of Mandalay Region.

The current in the river is swift from June to October, probably causing danger to those take relaxation.

The centre located on 3.21 acres of land plot was opened in the early April of 2014. Due to picnickers and holiday-makers to the recreation centre, the farmlands along Kyaukchaw-Yeywa Road in Py-



inOoLwin were bought by entrepreneurs of Mandalay at high prices. They open restaurants at the land plots.—*Mang Pyi Thu (Mandalay)*

## Myanmar International Academy enjoys Thadingyut festival

MANDALAY, 7 Oct—Myanmar International Academy held the Thadingyut festival 2014 at the school on 35<sup>th</sup> street between 63<sup>rd</sup> and 64<sup>th</sup> streets in Mahaaungmye Township of Mandalay on 3 October.

Principal U Kyaw Soe Lwin (a) Mr Oliver extended greetings with purpose of holding the festival.

Students participated in the spoken English skills and dancing and singing contests.

The principal and teachers presented lanterns as gifts to the participant students in the contests and entertainment.

*Tin Maung (Mandalay)*





## WORLD

## Nobel Prize for physics goes to inventors of low-energy LED light

STOCKHOLM, 7 Oct — Japanese scientists Isamu Akasaki and Hiroshi Amano and American Shuji Nakamura won the 2014 Nobel Prize for Physics for inventing a new energy efficient and environmentally friendly light source, the LED, the award-giving

body said on Tuesday.

“With the advent of LED lamps we now have more long lasting and more efficient alternatives to older light sources,” the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said in a statement awarding the 8 million Swedish crown (\$1.1 mil-

lion)(685,486 pound) prize.

“As about one fourth of world electricity consumption is used for lighting purposes, the LEDs contribute to saving the Earth’s resources,” it said.

Akasaki works at the Meijo University in Japan and Amano is professor at

the Nagoya University. Nakamura, born in Japan but a US citizen, works at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Physics was the second of this year’s crop of Nobels. The prizes were first awarded in 1901 to honour achievements in science, literature and peace in accordance with the will of dynamite inventor and business tycoon Alfred Nobel.

As winners of the physics award, the first field to be mentioned in Nobel’s will, the laureates join ranks with some of the biggest names in science such as Albert Einstein, Niels Bohr and the husband and wife team of Pierre and Marie Curie.

While the increasingly complex science celebrated by the Nobels has often been far from dinner table conversation, it has also highlighted more widely known achievements, such as last year’s award for the prediction of the Higgs boson particle.—Reuters

## US, Russia need strong dialogue at political level, says former Russian minister



Former  
Russian  
Foreign  
Minister  
Igor  
Ivanov

WASHINGTON, 7 Oct — Rearing of a strong dialogue at the political level suits the interest of both the US and Russia, former Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Monday at a research conference organized by the Woodrow Wilson International Centre in Washington.

He called the current situation between the US and Russia one of the worst periods in the history of relationship between these two countries since its inception, not only after the end of Cold War.

US companies to quickly return to Russia if sanctions are lifted — expert

Ivanov, who heads the Russian International Affairs Council, pointed out the absence of practical channels for discussion or dialogue at the political level.

If the two sides really want international stability and we should, they then should rear a dialogue and attain mutual understanding, he said.

He also voiced the hope that civic society and nongovernmental organizations in Russia and the US could play a special role in it.

Many people say Rus-

sia cannot live without the US in the same measure that the US cannot live without Russia and this is true, Ivanov said. In fact, they can but this does not mean it would be good for them because they have common problems and threats they should fight with.

At the current stage, Russia and the US need each other as never before, Ivanov said, adding that they stand in need of earnest discussions of a range of things at the political level.

He recalled that the world would mark two crucial dates in 2015 — the seventieth anniversary since the foundations of the United Nations and the fortieth anniversary since the signing of the Helsinki Act and these might offer fair grounds for considering what could be done in the 21st century in terms of observance of international law.

Jane Harman, the President of the Woodrow Wilson Centre said on her part that relations between the US and Russia and the prospects for building a better partnership formed a key issue existing at the moment.

Itar-Tass



Physicists Per Delsing, Staffan Nordmark, Anne L'Huillier and Olle Inganäs (seated L-R) announce Japanese scientists Isamu Akasaki and Hiroshi Amano, and US scientist Shuji Nakamura (L-R) as the 2014 Nobel Physics Laureates at the Royal Swedish Academy of Science in Stockholm, on 7 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

## China has not gone back on HK agreements with UK: former Thatcher aide

LONDON, 7 Oct — China has not gone back on its agreements with Britain over the future of Hong Kong, whose autonomy is far greater than what Britain expected three decades ago, a former aide to late British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has said.

“Hong Kong has very extensive autonomy, far greater than we believed actually could be achieved when the Hong Kong joint declaration with China was negotiated,” Charles Powell, former private secretary to Thatcher during the 1980s, told British

BBC Radio 4’s The World This Weekend on Sunday. “They have far better conditions, including political conditions than any other city in China, but the bottom line is — they are a city in China,” said Powell, who was a key foreign policy advisor to Thatcher when Britain agreed to return Hong Kong to China.

He added that protesters in the Occupy Central movement in Hong Kong are “unrealistic.” “The position about elections has been clear since the basic law was published in 1990 and I don’t believe for one

moment the Chinese are going to change that basic position,” he said.

“When Hong Kong was reintegrated into China, an agreement was made and implemented under Chinese law, which made very clear that there would be restrictions,” recalled Powell, who was awarded a life peerage in 2000 and now sits in the British House of Lords.

Noting that Hong Kong has always been part of China, the veteran politician said Britain “rented it for a while” and did not introduce democracy in the

territory. Powell encouraged young people in Hong Kong to “make the most of” their existing autonomy and freedoms.

“If I was a young person in Hong Kong, I would focus on making the most of the very wide degree of freedom and autonomy, which I already have: making the most of the job opportunities in Hong Kong, the freedom to travel, the freedom to seek work abroad too, the prosperity of Hong Kong, the education available in Hong Kong ... all of that, and enjoy,” he said.—Xinhua

## No decision yet on possible Tokyo deployment of Osprey aircraft

WASHINGTON, 7 Oct — The US Defence Department has yet to decide whether to deploy the Osprey aircraft at a US military base in Tokyo, a Pentagon official said on Monday, following reports it could happen next year.

The deployment of the aircraft at US military bases in Japan has stirred controversy due to a record of accidents since 2012 including those which resulted in the deaths of crew. “There have been no decisions made about the deployment” of the Osprey aircraft in the

Asia-Pacific region, the Pentagon official said. “We are seeking a force posture in the Asia-Pacific that is geographically distributed, operationally focused and politically sustainable,” the official said.

He made the comment following reports that Japan and the United States are considering deploying 12 CV-22 airplanes at the US Air Force’s Yokota base in a Tokyo suburb possibly next July. The CV-22 is an Osprey model designed for use by the Air Force. The

US and Japanese governments have attributed the accidents involving the *Osprey* not to mechanical flaws but human error. The US Navy said last week that one of the crewmembers of an *Osprey* was killed in an accident in which the aircraft temporarily lost power during takeoff from a carrier in the Persian Gulf.

Last year Gen Herbert Carlisle, commander of the US Pacific Air Forces, indicated Yokota could be a possible base for the CV-22 tilt-rotor aircraft, which can



CV-22 Osprey aircraft

take off and land like a helicopter and cruise like an airplane.

The US military has 24 units of the MV-22, the Osprey model used by the

Marine Corps, at the Marines’ Futenma Air Station in Okinawa.—Kyodo News



## Cambodian king inaugurates new neurology centre



**Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni (C) cuts the ribbon during the opening of a neurology centre in Phnom Penh on 7 Oct, 2014. Norodom Sihamoni on Tuesday inaugurated the kingdom's largest neurosciences centre at Calmette Hospital in the capital.—XINHUA**

PHNOM PENH, 7 Oct — Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni on Tuesday inaugurated the kingdom's largest Neurosciences Centre at Calmette Hospital in the capital.

"Taking care of the health of the Cambodians

is an important duty for the Cambodian government," the monarch said during the inauguration ceremony. "The Neurosciences Centre will help ease the difficulties of patients with neurological diseases or damage."

Health Minister Mam

Bunheng said it took two years to construct the six-story Neurosciences Center at a total cost of 10.8 million US dollars.

"The centre is fully equipped with sophisticated medical equipment and devices for neurology surgery

and treatment," he said.

The minister estimated there are more than 22,000 patients with hemiplegia, 3,000 with brain tumour, and 12,000 with disc hernia every year in the country.

In addition, some 5,000 people have suffered from serious head injuries in fatal highway accidents and about 40,000 strokes have been diagnosed.

Professor Francios Xavier Roux, Neurosciences Centre's project leader from the Paris-based La Chaine de l'Espoir, said the centre aims to help all patients with diseases of the nervous system, regardless of their financial and social status.

"The establishment of this Neurosciences Centre promptly responds to the current public health need in Cambodia, and this is a big step to improve the health of Cambodian people," he said.

The centre will also serve as a training facility for neurologists, neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, and paramedics, he added.—Xinhua

## Thai martial law to stay until sweeping reforms in place

BANGKOK, 7 Oct — Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha on Tuesday dismissed calls to lift martial law, saying it would continue until sweeping national reforms are in place, despite calls by tourism bodies to scrap a measure that has deterred many visitors.

Martial law was declared on 20 May, two days before the army seized power in a bloodless coup following months of sometimes violent street protests aimed at ousting then Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Last month, the military government said it was considering lifting the law in provinces that attract visitors, so as to boost tourism, which accounts for a tenth of the economy, and was battered by the protests, martial law and the coup.

Tourist arrivals dropped 7.0 percent in September from a year earlier, following a drop of 11.9 percent in August. Prayuth, who led the coup as commander-in-chief

of the Royal Thai Army, said the military seized control of government to help avert further bloodshed after months of unrest left nearly 30 dead.

"Don't ask me about the special law now," Prayuth told reporters. "Let reform happen first and once various situations calm down I will consider lifting it myself." He gave no further details. Prayuth retired as army chief last month but remains leader of the junta and prime minister.

Martial law puts national security firmly in the hands of the military, and gives it sweeping powers. It also bars political gatherings of more than five people.

The murders of two British tourists on an island last month have added to worries about a swift recovery for the industry.

The coup on 22 May came days after a court found Yingluck guilty of abuse of power and ordered her to step down.—Reuters

## Koreas exchange fire on de facto western sea border

SEOUL, 7 Oct — Patrol boats of North and South Korea briefly exchanged fire Tuesday near the de facto western sea border, according to the Joint Chiefs of Staff of South Korea's military.

The incident, which occurred around 9:50 am in waters near Yeonpyeong Island in the Yellow Sea, came just three days after the two Koreas agreed in rare talks to hold another round of high-level dialogue in the near future, raising hopes for a thaw in inter-Korean relations.

According to the JCS, the North Korean patrol boat crossed a disputed maritime demarcation line and intruded 0.5 nautical mile into the southern side, prompting the South Korean patrol boat to fire a warning shot.

But instead of retreating back across the so-called Northern Limit Line,

the North Korean boat fired back, causing the South Korean side to fire again. It then retreated.

Neither boat appears to have been hit in the exchange of gunfire, which lasted some 10 minutes, *Yonhap News Agency* quoted a JCS officer as saying, suggesting neither side aimed their shots.

The latest incident follows Saturday's talks in which the two Koreas agreed to hold a second round of high-level talks in late October or early November, to follow up on the first round that was held in February.

The talks in South Korea's western city of Incheon, on the sidelines of the Asian Games, marked the highest-level inter-Korean contact since South Korea President Park Geun Hye took office in February last year.

Hwang Pyong So, the

newly appointed director of the North Korean military's General Political Bureau, and two secretaries of the ruling Worker's Party of Korea met with South Korean Unification Minister Ryoo Kihl Jae and top-ranking officials from the presidential office, including Kim Kwan Jin, chief of the National Security Office. The Yellow Sea has been the scene of several bloody clashes between the two sides in past years. In November 2010, North Korea fired artillery shots at South Korea's Yeonpyeong Island, killing two civilians and two marines. Pyongyang does not recognize the Northern Limit Line, which was drawn by the US-led United Nations Command at the end of the 1950-1953 Korean War, and insists the maritime border be drawn further south.

Kyodo News

## India issues cyclone alert in eastern coast

NEW DELHI, 7 Oct — The Indian authorities have issued a cyclone alert in the eastern coast over the Bay of Bengal.

"Cyclone Hudhud is expected to hit the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

on Wednesday. It will be accompanied by heavy rainfall. Subsequently, it may hit the eastern state of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh," a senior weather official said on Tuesday.

Fishermen have been

asked not to venture into the high seas, he said.

Disaster management officials have been asked to gear up to deal with any kind of emergency situation, the official added.

Xinhua

## 20 militants give up fighting in Afghanistan

FAIZABAD, (Afghanistan), 7 Oct — A 20-member group of armed militants laid down arms and gave up fighting in Wardoj district of Badakhshan Province with Faizabad as its capital 315 km northeast of Kabul on Tuesday, police said.

"A total of 20 armed

oppositions under Mullah Abdul Ahad laid down arms and gave up fighting in Wardoj District today and joined the peace process," deputy to provincial police chief Abdul Qadir Sayad told *Xinhua*.

With joining these people to the government-backed peace pro-

cess, the security situation will further improve in Badakhshan Province, the official added.

Taliban militants who are active in parts of Badakhshan province and fighting the government to regain power, have yet to make comment.

Xinhua



**Lawmakers observe moment of silence for disaster victims Attendees at the House of Councillors Budget Committee observe a moment of silence on 7 Oct, 2014, in Tokyo, for the victims of massive mudslides in Hiroshima, western city, on 20 August, and the eruption of Mt. Ontake in central Japan on 27 September.**

KYODO NEWS



## WORLD



**Dilma Rousseff (Back), Brazil's President and presidential candidate of the Worker's Party, addresses a Press conference at the Alvorada Palace in Brasilia, capital of Brazil, on 6 Oct, 2014. Brazil will hold a presidential runoff between Dilma Rousseff and Aécio Neves of the Brazilian Social Democratic Party on 26 October.—XINHUA**

## Japan vows to fight extremism over youth's bid to join Islamic group

TOKYO, 7 Oct—Japan vowed to prevent its citizens from supporting terrorist and extremist groups Tuesday following allegations a Hokkaido-based university student sought to travel to Syria to join Islamic State militants operating there.

"In line with UN Security Council Resolution 2178 and as a member of the international community, we will proactively take measures to prevent terrorism from occurring in advance," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide

Suga said at a news conference.

The resolution, adopted unanimously by the Security Council on 24 September, calls on UN member states to prevent the "recruiting, organizing, transporting or equipping of individuals who travel to a state other than their states of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning of, or participation in terrorist acts."

Referring to the allegation the 26-year-old Hokkaido University student,

currently on a leave of absence, prepared to travel to Syria to join the extremist group, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida told reporters that Japan "will steadily take measures to curb extremists."

Citing the UN resolution, Kishida said the government is determined, in line with domestic law, to block Japanese nationals from travelling to Syria, Iraq or other countries in pursuit of terrorist acts, and from offering finance to terrorists and extremists groups.—Kyodo News

## UN chief calls for "immediate action" to protect civilians in northern Syrian town

UNITED NATIONS, 7 Oct—UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Monday called for an "immediate action to protect the beleaguered civilian population of Ayn al-Arab," a town in north Syria which has been partly seized by the Islamic State (IS) militants.

"The secretary-general is following with grave concern the ongoing offensive by ISIL (the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant) on the north-

ern Syrian town of Ayn al-Arab, which has already resulted in massive displacement of civilians, including into Turkey, and numerous deaths and injuries," said a statement issued here by Ban's spokesman, using another acronym of the Islamic State.

The statement said the IS has violated human rights and international law during its "barbarous campaign." The predominantly Kurdish city of

Ayn al-Arab, also known as Kobane, has been subject to ferocious attacks by IS militants over the past two weeks.

IS fighters have succeeded in capturing hundreds of Kurdish villages around Kobane, forcing tens of thousands of people to flee. The jihadist group IS declared a caliphate in June and has seized vast swaths of territory in Iraq and Syria, displacing thousands of people mainly from mi-

nority communities.

Adding to the outrage against the group is their release of videos showing the beheading of two American journalists and a British aid worker.

On Monday, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights that opposes the Syrian government reported that the IS militants captured three neighbourhoods in Kobane.

The UK-based watchdog group, which relies on a network of activists on



**UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon**

ground, said hundreds of Kurdish people have fled Kobane and moved toward the Turkish borders.

Meanwhile, intense battles are still going on between the Kurds and the IS militants at the southwestern entrance of Kobane as the IS fighters are trying to march on, said the Observatory.

Hundreds of Kurdish fighters have reportedly entered Syria through Turkey and Iraq to defend their fellow Kurds against massive IS offensive on predominantly Kurdish areas in northern Syria.

Xinhua

## Kurds in Netherlands storm parliament in protest against Islamic State

AMSTERDAM, 7 Oct — Dozens of Kurds stormed the national parliament building in The Hague on Monday night in a protest against Islamic State fighters who are attacking a Kurdish town in northern Syria, Kurdish officials in the Netherlands said.

Riot squads and hundreds of officers were deployed and helicopters were flying overhead, said a demonstrator at the scene.

Around 100 protesters forced their way through to the main hall of the building and were sitting on the floor with banners, one of which read "Stop Kobani."

"The situation in Kobani is getting of control. IS has stormed the town and a lot of civilians are being killed. We want the West to do more to stop the situation in Syr-

ia," said the protester, who asked not to be named.

Police officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Islamic State advanced into the outskirts of the Syrian frontier town of Kobani on Monday after an assault of almost three weeks, but the town's Kurdish defenders said its fighters had not reached the city center.

A black flag belonging to Islamic State was visible from across the Turkish border atop a four-storey building close to the scene of some of the most intense clashes in recent days.

Kurdish activists seeking to draw attention to the threat facing Kurds in Syria and Iraq by the advancing Islamic State militants have held several protests in the Netherlands in recent weeks.

Reuters

## Four Indians wounded in new Pakistan border clashes

SRINAGAR, 7 Oct—Indian and Pakistani forces exchanged fire in the disputed Kashmir region on Tuesday and four Indian civilians were wounded, a day after the highest civilian death toll in a single day from their cross-border conflict in more than a decade. The mostly Muslim Himalayan region of Kashmir is claimed by both India and Pakistan and has been a major focus of tension in South Asia. The nuclear-armed neighbours

have fought two wars over the territory and there have been regular clashes along their de facto border, known as the Line of Control (LoC).

Pakistan forces fired at 40 Indian army posts early on Tuesday, said Uttam Chand, a police official. Indian forces retaliated with gunfire and mortar bombs, he said.

"The intensity of firing has been very low compared to the previous night," Chand said. Five In-

dian civilians and four Pakistani civilians were killed and dozens were injured by shelling on Monday. It was the highest death toll among non-military personnel in a single day in the region since 2003, police said.

The two sides have been trading fire and counter-accusations since the violence erupted last week. Pakistan's army said the hostility began when it responded to "unprovoked firing" from the Indian side

on Friday.

Pakistan's foreign ministry said it had lodged a protest with Indian diplomats over the killings of its civilians. The ministry said the firing was "in complete disregard" of the Muslim Eid al-Adha festival being celebrated on Monday. Indian Home Affairs Minister Rajnath Singh told a newspaper that Pakistan needs to learn that the newly elected Indian government will take a more aggressive approach if it comes under attack on the border. "If our civilians are killed, India has every right to retaliate," Singh said in an interview published in the *Hindustan Times* on Tuesday.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi surprised many observers by inviting his Pakistani counterpart, Nawaz Sharif, to his inauguration in May in an effort to improve ties. But relations have soured since Modi called off talks between the two countries' top diplomats last month.

Reuters



**Children from slum area play by the Ciliwung River in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 6 Oct, 2014, the World Habitat Day. The theme of this year's World Habitat Day is "voice from slums".**

XINHUA



## PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, 8 October, 2014

## Grit to overcome challenges

By Aung Khin

**G**rit is essentially the sum of stamina, creativity, stubbornness and diligence. Stamina is important to get up when someone gets knocked down, while creativity is vital for overcoming challenges since trying the same failed method repeatedly won't get some-

one to the next step.

Stubbornness in the trait of grit involves a deep, unwavering commitment toward the goal with strong belief in own abilities, while diligence is the motivation force that keeps gritty people moving.

Any person or organization needs a set of grit to overcome challenges and to avoid failure. Anybody should maintain steadfastness in his determination to reach the goal.

Challenges are sometimes in the forms of threats or enticements. Unwavering exertion could lead someone to the goal. However, it is very difficult for common people to sustain grit for a long time to achieve the fruitful result. Many of them cannot resist various forms of challenges such as threats, enticements and negligence.

Those who know well about the trait of ordinary people use these means to fade away the hopes and expectations.

Strength or might has lower power than trick or intelligence. Grit and intelligence are key to success in many circumstances not only for individual but also for every society.

## 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.*

## The Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma

(The Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Mahapavarana Day)

## Ba Sein (Religious Affairs)

**T**HE Significant and Noble Day of Abhidhamma (the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, Mahapavarana Day) falls on 8th October in the year 2014.

In the fourth week, after attaining the enlightenment, the Omniscient Buddha began to contemplate and review the Dhamma (the Truth). He had realized near the Bodhi tree. On His seventh Vassa (Seven Years) of enlightenment, the Omniscient Buddha, out of compassion for the Devas and Brahmas, went to the Tavatimsa Devaloka (Celestial abode) where He preached the Abhidhamma Pitaka (Basket of Ultimate things) for a full three months to His deceased mother who was reborn as Santusita Deva, and also to the other Devas and Brahmas assembled there, hoping to make them realize the four ultimate things for which Knowledge of Abhidhamma is absolutely necessary because it deals with the highest and ultimate sense of things springing into being as facts as distinct from mere names.

After preaching Abhidhamma (Ultimate Truth) to His deceased mother, Santusita Deva and other Devas and Brahmas for a full three months, the Omniscient Buddha returned to the human abode

on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. According to the Pali Text, three decorated stairways of silver, gold and ruby beginning from the top of the great Mount Meru to the gate of Sankassa town on earth were created as a token of paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha who returned to the human abode. The Omniscient Buddha took the middle stairway accompanied by Devas and Brahmas who took right stairway and left stairway. All Devas and Brahmas from the Tavatimsa Devaloka (Celestial abode) paid deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha for a full three months from 1st Waning of Waso to Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut. According to the Vinaya rules of the Omniscient Buddha, the period of a full three months from Waning of Waso to Fullmoon of Thadingyut (roundabout from mid-July to mid-October) is retreat-period of Buddhists. During the retreat-period, all Buddhist monks must not have to go away from their residence (monasteries, temples) not more than seven days. Especially, they have to fulfil their religious duties (Ganthadhura and Vipassanadhura) during the retreat-period more than before. All Buddhist monks have followed and practised the said

Vinaya rules since over 2,558 years ago.

When the Omniscient Buddha descended from Tavatimsa (Celestial abode), the Devas and Brahmas accompanied Him putting up white sacred umbrellas and fanning Him. At that time, because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernormal powers and glory of the Buddha, the whole earthings could see the magnificent celestial abode, and also the Devas and Brahmas could see hundreds of thousands of millions of people greeting and paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha who descended at the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavarana Day).

The Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Mahapavarana Day) has been marked by Buddhists as the significant and noble day of Abhidhamma since then (over 2,558 years ago). On the auspicious occasion of the Abhidhamma (Mahapavarana Day), in remembrance of the Omniscient Buddha, members of the Sangha recite Abhidhamma discourses, and multifarious Buddhist devotees offer lights, water, flowers, incense, fragrant scents, fruits and other offertories. And also, Dhamma talks about Abhidhamma (Mahapavarana) Day are held. On this noble day, most Buddhists keep nine-pre-

cepts for their meritorious deeds dedicating to the attainment of noble stage of Nibbana (supreme bliss).

The Pali term Abhidhamma is composed of Abhi which means subtle or ultimate, and Dhamma which means truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma, therefore, means subtle or ultimate truth or doctrine. The Abhidhamma Pitaka consists of the four ultimate things, Mind (Citta), Psychicfactor (Cetasikas), Matter (Rupa) and Nibbana. It is the most important and most interesting to a deep thinker. It is subdivided into seven books.

When the Omniscient Buddha had preached Abhidhamma for a full three months to His deceased mother who was reborn as Santusita Deva and to other Devas and Brahmas at the celestial abode, He said to the king of the celestials that He would return to the human abode. Therefore, the king of the celestial created and arranged three stairways of silver, gold and ruby beginning from the top of the great Mount Meru to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode.

Sending forth the six coloured rays emanated from His body, the Omniscient Buddha descended by the middle stairway of ruby to the gate of Sankassa Town of the human abode (on earth). The Devas (Celestial beings) accompanied the Buddha

from the right side stairway of gold playing musical instruments and fanning the Omniscient Buddha. The Brahmas (higher celestial beings) accompanied the Omniscient Buddha from the left side stairway of silver putting up white umbrellas.

At the time, when the Omniscient Buddha returned from the celestial abode to the human abode, the highest Brahma realm, Ekamanta, the lowest Avijji (Apya planes of miserable existences), the four cardinal points, the ten directions and thousands of worlds were clearly visible without any blockage and barrier because of unlimited miraculous powers, supernormal powers and glory of the Omniscient Buddha.

People could see the whole celestial abode, Devas and Brahmas, and all celestial beings in turn viewed more than hundreds of thousands of millions of people who were welcoming and paying deep homage to the Omniscient Buddha. There

was no one that did not wish and pray to become a Buddha, the most noble wish after witnessing the most surpassing splendour.

Up to this day, we can visualize the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscient Buddha descending to the earth from the great Mount Meru accompanied by Devas and Brahmas to the gate of Sankassa, town of the human abode.

On the fullmoon Day of Thadingyut, we all Buddhists generously offer lights, water, flowers, scents, fruits, food and other various kinds of offertories to pagodas and monasteries and also pay respect to teachers, parents and elders. These meritorious deeds dedicate to the attainment of the noble stage of Nibbana through the most surpassing splendour and significant event of the Omniscient Buddha descending to the human abode from the celestial abode on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut.

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## GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (7-10-2014)

## Yangon Gold Price

Buying K650,900 per tical: Selling K651,900

## Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K650,400 per tical: Selling K651,400

## FE RATE

USD Buying K990: Selling K994.5

SGD Buying K775: Selling K782

Euro Buying K1,240: Selling K1,260



## NATIONAL

## Agreement signed to do hotel business

YANGON, 7 Oct — Yangon Region government and Prime Residence Co Ltd signed an agreement to hire Yangon Region combine office as international level hotel at the hall of the region government on Tuesday.

On the occasion, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe said that international level hotel in Yangon can create job opportunities for the local people and contribute to enhancement of tourism sector.

Officials of the region government and Prime Residence Co Ltd signed the agreement.—MNA



*Signing ceremony of Yangon Region Government and Prime Residence Co Ltd to hire Yangon Region Combine Office in progress.—MNA*

## Deepavali Day for public holiday on 23 Oct

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct — As Deepavali Day which falls on 23 October 2014 (Thursday) is announced as a public holiday in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar according to Section 25 of the Negotiable Instruments Act.—MNA

## No 2 View Deck inaugurated at Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden Part 3

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct—No 2 View Deck was commissioned into service in the Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden Part 3 in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

Vice Mayor U Than Kyaw Htoo pressed the button to open the view deck and enjoyed the scenic beauty and buildings in the water fountain garden from the desk.

No 2 view deck is 50 feet long, 35 feet wide and 67 feet high. It is the three-storey structure decorated with LED lightings.

The view deck was built with the aim of enabling the people to take relaxation at Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden and undertaking environmental conservation.

MNA



## Workshop on drafting on Assessment Report for Myanmar graduation from LDC status held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct —The workshop on drafting on Assessment Report for Myanmar graduation from Least Developed Countries status was held in Auteum Palace Hotel at 10 am on Tuesday. At the meeting, Mr Pierre Encontre, Chief, Small Island Developing States and Status Issues Section, Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes from United Nations Conference on Trade and Development made a discussion on drafting on Assessment Report with

the technical Expert Team from subcommittees and other ministries.

Present at the meeting were Mr Pierre Encontre from United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Daw Yin Yin Oo, Deputy Director-General of Strategic and Policy Studies Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the technical Expert Team on drafting Assessment Report and the invited guests from other ministries. The meeting will be held from 7 to 10 October.

MNA

## Men on missing Thai . . .

(from page 1)

Patron of the Foundation U Tay Za has arranged to make arrangement for their instant medical treatment at there as the two pilots have small injuries.

The Eurocopter EC-130-B4 went missing while helping with rescue efforts on its way to the base camp on 27 September.

Despite the foundation's announcement to stop its search for two missing mountaineers

on Mount Hkakaborazi, search will go on by

*Newly-built No 2 View Deck opened in Nay Pyi Taw Water Fountain Garden Part 3.*

MNA

## Myanmar Embassy demands full legal rights, impartial investigation

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct — Three Myanmar nationals were reportedly arrested on 3 October in connection with the murder of two British people on the Koh Tao Island in Surat Thani Province in southern Thailand, sources said.

The two British nationals were killed on 15 September.

With the help of Thailand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Myanmar

Embassy in Thailand sent a Myanmar delegation to the prison where the Myanmar nationals have been held in a bid to ensure that they are neither charged with false accusation nor forced to admit under coercion.

The Myanmar Embassy is making all-out efforts with Thai authorities to ensure an impartial investigation into the murder and legal rights to two Myanmar suspects.—MNA

## ECF Ministry to cooperate with Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Oct —Deputy Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung held a talk with Dr Christian Heinrich Roth, Team Leader and Catchment Management Specialist of Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

They discussed increasing population and land utilization in Inlay region, deforestation in watershed area due to climate change, formation of Inlay

Lake Durability and Environmental Conservation Committee and cooperation with UNDP, International Institute of Development, UN-Habitat and ICIMOD.

They also focused on cooperation of the ministry with ACIAR in development of social economy, agriculture, fisheries, forest and tourism industries, implementation of multi-purpose watershed region management project and jointly conducting research on technology and social economy development.

MNA

China's Blue Sky Rescue Team, Japanese mountaineering team and residents in northern Kachin State,

Phyo Ko Ko Thet told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

GNLM



*U Tay Za and his PA Shwe Yin Taw Gyi.—Htoo Foundation*



# Islamic State moves into south west of Syrian Kurdish town

MURSIPTINAR, (Turkey) 7 Oct — Islamic State fighters advanced into the south west of the Syrian Kurdish town of Kobani overnight, a monitoring group said on Tuesday, taking several buildings to gain attacking positions from two sides of the city.

From across the nearby Turkish border two Islamic State flags could be seen flying over the eastern side of Kobani. Two air strikes hit the area and sporadic gunfire could be heard.

Islamic State fighters were using heavy weap-

ons and shells to hit Kobani, senior Kurdish official Asya Abdullah told *Reuters* from inside the town, which has been under siege for three weeks.

“Yesterday there was a violent clash. We have fought hard to keep them out of the town,” she said by telephone.

“The clashes are not in the whole of Kobani, but in specific areas, on the outskirts and towards the centre.”

The al-Qaeda offshoot has ramped up its offensive in recent days against

the mainly Kurdish border town, despite being targeted by US-led coalition led air strikes aimed at halting its progress.

The group wants to take Kobani to consolidate a dramatic sweep across northern Iraq and Syria, in the name of an absolutist version of Sunni Islam, that has sent shockwaves through the Middle East.

“There were clashes overnight. Not heavy but ISIS is going forward from the southwest. They have crossed into Kobani and control some buildings in



Smoke rises from the Syrian town of Kobani after a war plane carried out an air strike, seen from near the Mursitpinar border crossing on the Turkish-Syrian border in the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 7 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS



Turkish armoured army vehicles take position on the Turkish-Syrian border near the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 7 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

the city there,” said Rami Abdulrahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a group that monitors the conflict with a network on the ground. ISIS is a former name for Islamic State.

“They are about 50 metres inside the southwest of the city,” Abdulrahman said.

An estimated 180,000 people have fled into Turkey from the Kobani region following the Islamic State advance. More than 2,000 Syrian Kurds including women and children were

evacuated from the town after the latest fighting, a member of the Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) said on Monday.

Before the offensive, Kobani, known as Ayn al-Arab in Arabic, was home to refugees from the civil war which pits rebels against President Bashar al-Assad and has deteriorated into hundreds of localised battles between different factions.

The most powerful of the myriad militias fighting against Assad, Islamic State has boosted its forces

with foreign fighters and defectors from other rebel groups. It gained additional heavy weaponry after its fighters swept through northern Iraq in June, seizing arms from the fleeing Iraqi army.

The group released a video showing dozens of men said to be from Ahrar al-Sham, a rival Islamist group which has clashed with it in the past, pledging allegiance to its leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, SITE monitoring service said on Monday.

Reuters

## Israel shells south Lebanon after border blast wounds soldiers

JERUSALEM, 7 Oct — A blast on Lebanon’s border with Israel wounded two Israeli soldiers on Tuesday and the Israeli army responded with shelling across the frontier, a military spokeswoman and a security source said.

The security source earlier said three troops were hurt in the incident, which took place near the southern Lebanese village of Kafr Shebaa. Lebanon’s Al-Manar television, which is aligned with the Shi’ite militia group Hezbollah, said an explosion had been heard in the area. Officials in Beirut

had no immediate comment.

Israel and Lebanon are technically at war but their 80 km (49 mile) border has been largely quiet since a month-long war between Israeli forces and Hezbollah in 2006. Israel remains on alert for any spillover from the civil war in neighbouring Syria, where Hezbollah forces are fighting in support of President Bashar al-Assad.

On Sunday, the Israeli military said it fired on two people who tried to slip into the country from Lebanon. Both turned back, the military said.—Reuters

## At least 400 people killed in battle for Syria’s Kobani

BEIRUT, 7 Oct—At least 400 people have been killed during three weeks of fighting between Islamic State and Kurdish fighters in and around the Syrian border town of Kobani, a monitoring group said on Tuesday. Fighters from both sides and civilians had died, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The organisation said it had documented 412 deaths from sources on the ground, but the real figure was likely double that.—Reuters

## US uses helicopters for first time to hit Islamic State rebels

Islamic State).”

US officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the helicopters that were used were Apache attack helicopters.

Richard Fontaine, president of the Centre for a New American Security think tank, said the military’s decision to use Apaches “demonstrates that they’ve only achieved limited results with the air strikes from fighters and bombers and drones.”

Christopher Harmer, a former Navy aviator who is an analyst at the Institute for the Study of War think tank, said it was a significant escalation in the level of risk being taken by US troops assisting the Iraqi military.

“Fixed-wing aircraft flying at 30,000 feet (9,000 meters) are completely immune from the type of weapons that Islamic State fighters have, but a helicopter is not,” Harmer

said. “When you’re flying a helicopter 150 feet (50 meters) above the ground, that helicopter can be shot with a rocket-propelled grenade or a heavy machine gun ... so, yes, it is much more dangerous,” he added.

Army Colonel Steve Warren, a Pentagon spokesman, said the decision to use helicopters was taken because of the nature of the targets, but he did not offer details on who made the decision.

Harmer said helicopters would be much more effective at supporting Iraqi ground troops directly engaged in combat with Islamic State fighters because they fly lower and more slowly and are more capable of identifying individual targets.

“If you’ve got Iraqi army fighting against Islamic State fighters, it’s much better to have helicopters supporting the

Iraqi army than fixed-wing aircraft,” he said.

Warren said the military considered the risk of flying helicopters before deploying them.

He rejected any notion that using helicopters amounted to mission creep. “The mission is still the same. This is using the correct tool for the job,” Warren said.

But Fontaine disagreed, saying “the mission has been creeping along from the very beginning.”

He said the administration’s effort to draw a line between putting combat troops on the ground in Iraq and providing air support for Iraqi forces was rapidly becoming “a distinction without a huge amount of difference.”

“You know 1,600 troops in Iraq is boots on the ground, and air strikes and helicopter assaults is combat,” Fontaine said.

Reuters



## JPMorgan Chase hackers tried infiltrating other institutions



A screen displays JP Morgan Chase & Co. at the post that the stock is traded at on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, on 12 Oct, 2013.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 7 Oct—Hackers who breached JP Morgan Chase & Co's computer network earlier this year also tried to infiltrate other financial institutions, the *Wall Street Journal* reported, citing people familiar with the investigation.

Federal officials had asked financial institutions last month to check whether they had seen indications of cyberattack, the *Journal* said, citing the unnamed sources.

An undisclosed number of financial institutions responded that they had seen

traffic from the suspect computer addresses linked to the hackers, but that they did not believe their systems had been breached, the newspaper said, quoting the sources.

Even among the many agencies investigating and responding, disagreements and unanswered questions remain about the extent of the hackers access at the US financial institutions, the newspaper said, quoting federal officials.

It is unclear which financial institutions were targeted by the hackers.

Reuters

## Taking a break: unplugging from smartphones with new apps

TORONTO, 7 Oct—Smartphone users feeling overwhelmed by the onslaught of communications and devices vying for their time can turn to new apps to help them take a break and concentrate on other things.

More than 70 percent of consumers in the United States own a smartphone and the typical adult spends about 90 minutes a day on their device, an increase of 30 percent since last year, according to global information and measurements company Nielsen.

But new apps aim to make users aware of how much time they spend on their smartphones and to help them limit it.

Offtime, a new app for Android-compatible phones, lets users unplug from their devices without missing anything important.

"We all love our digital devices. But every once in a while we want to take time off, which can be hard when everyone is so connected and you feel as though you're snubbing people or missing out," said Michael Dettbarn, co-founder of the Berlin, Germany-based Offtime.

The app tracks how much people use their device and which apps are most time consuming. It also lets users decide how long they would like to stay unplugged, which contacts and apps they want to remain active while all others are temporarily blocked.

It also lists events missed during the break period.

"People are starting to notice they check their mobile devices all the time, not because they need to, but more out of habit. We want to help people become more aware of that," Dettbarn said.

Another app called Checky, created by San Francisco-based Calm.com, tells users how often they check their smartphones each day.

The app is free and available worldwide for iOS and Android.

In addition to tracking usage, Moment, an app for iOS devices, enables iPhone users to set daily time limits and to receive reminders if they go over. The app, from the Pittsburgh-based Moment, costs \$4.99 and is also available worldwide.

Although technology is a good thing, Offtime's Dettbarn said people need to learn how to manage it.

"Every time a new or revolutionary technology comes out, there is fear about what it will do to society. But the next generations solve the problems and see the benefits," he noted.

"Soon we will have screens all around us, not just on our mobile devices, but also on the wall or on our wrists. It's not going to be tolerable to be distracted all the time, so we will need to come up with solutions," Dettbarn added.

Reuters

## Facebook's WhatsApp acquisition now has price tag of \$22 billion

SAN FRANCISCO, 7 Oct—Facebook Inc (FB.O) closed its acquisition of mobile messaging service WhatsApp on Monday, with the final price tag rising an additional \$3 billion to roughly \$22 billion because of the increased value of Facebook's stock in recent months.

WhatsApp founder Jan Koum will receive nearly \$2 billion in stock, vesting over a four-year period, as an inducement for him to stay with the company, according to a regulatory filing on Monday. The acquisition, which Facebook announced in February and recently received regulatory approval in Europe, underscores the sky-rocketing values of fast-growing Internet startups, and the willingness of established players such as Facebook and Google Inc (GOOGL.O)(GOOG.O) to pay out for them.

WhatsApp, which



A woman holds a smartphone displaying WhatsApp's logo in front of the screen with the Facebook logo in this photo illustration taken in Prague on 20 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

has more than 600 million monthly users, is among a new crop of mobile messaging and social media apps that have become increasingly popular among younger users. Snapchat, a privately owned mobile app that allows users to swap photos that can disappear after a few seconds, is raising money at a \$10 billion valuation, according to media reports. Facebook

paid \$4.59 billion in cash and 178 million shares of its stock for WhatsApp, as well as 46 million of grants in restricted stock units for WhatsApp employees that will vest over a four year period. At Monday's opening Facebook share price of \$77.17, the deal translates to roughly \$21.8 billion.

Koum, who will serve as WhatsApp Chief Executive and become a Face-

book director, will earn a \$1 annual salary, similar to Facebook Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg. Koum will receive 24.9 million Facebook restricted stock units, worth roughly \$1.9 billion at Monday's share price. WhatsApp, which has more than 70 employees, will continue to be based at its Mountain View, California, location.

Reuters

## Finnish researchers find way of creating propane through biosynthesis

HELSINKI, 7 Oct—Scientists in Finland have been able to create propane gas through biosynthesis, the University of Turku said on Monday.

The researchers at the Molecular Plant Biology laboratories at the University of Turku have genetically engineered microbes to produce renewable propane for the first time.

They will now continue the project with a view to produce propane fuel for automobiles. The system is based on using coliform

bacteria.

The leader of the Finnish project, Professor Pauli Kallio from Turku University, told media that the team hopes to be able to develop the newly found process so that it is economical in large scale production.

The researchers manipulated the E coli and used the organism's own machinery to produce propane in a renewable manner. The team was able to identify and add essential biochemical components in order to boost the biosyn-

thesis reaction. They enabled a specific E coli strain to synthesize propane in large volumes.

Currently biological fuel gas sold commercially in Finland is being produced from human waste using mold bacteria.

Professor Kallio said that there is simply not enough human waste available for that kind of process. Neighbouring Sweden actually purchased human excrement from abroad to produce biogas.

The propane-generat-

ing pathway discovered in Finland is able to operate in the presence of oxygen. That opens up avenues for the application of this system in cyanobacteria, a type of bacteria that are powered by solar energy and have minimal nutritional requirements.

Propane can more easily be separated and stored as a liquid than some other fuel alternatives such as hydrogen, methane or butanol, the University of Turku said in a statement.

Xinhua

## Japan launches next-generation weather satellite Himawari-8

TOKYO, 7 Oct — The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd announced on Tuesday the successful launch of next-generation geostationary meteorological satellite *Himawari-8*.

Twenty-eight minutes after the launch of Himawari-8 aboard the H-IIA Launch Vehicle No 25 (H-IIA F25) at 2:16 pm (GMT 5:16 am) on Tuesday at Yoshinobu Launch Complex at the Tanegashima Space Center in Japan's southwestern Kagoshima prefecture, the rocket and

the satellite separated as planned. "Himawari-8 will be the world's first next-generation satellite," said the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) in a pamphlet on the Himawari-8 mission.

Equipped with highly improved Advanced Himawari Imagers (AHIs), Himawari-8 is expected to further support and improve meteorological services in a variety of fields such as weather forecasting, climate monitoring, natural disaster prevention and safe transportation, said JMA.—Xinhua



MINISTRY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION  
MYANMA RAILWAYS  
INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

1. Open Tender is Invited for supply of the following items in Euro:

Sr. No	Tender No	Description
1	12(T)36/MR/YUG (Euro)	Locomotive Rolled Steel Tyre(Rough Turn) for DEL Drg: No.3214/11 BB (Item 21)-(200)Nos Locomotive Rolled Steel Tyre(Rough Turn) for DEL Drg: No.3214/11 BB (Item 24)-(200)Nos
2	12(T)37/MR/YUG(Euro)	Spare Parts for DHL & DEL(86) Items
3	12(T)38/MR/ISN (Euro)	Spare Parts for 2000 HP Dalian & Alstom DEL (122)Items
4	12(T)39/MR/ISN (Euro)	Locomotive Rolled Steel Tyres and Wheel Monobloc (2)Items
5	12(T)40/MR/ISN (Euro)	Spare Parts for Loco: Engine(CAT, Jinan, MOI(ZIBO) (59)Items
6	12(T)41/MR/ISN(Euro)	Spare Parts for DEL(132)Items
7	12(T)42/MR/ISN(Euro)	Electrical Spare Parts for DEL (128)Items
8	12(T)43/MR/MIT(Euro)	Axle, Wheel, Roller Bearing (5)Items

Closing Date & Time - 5.11.2014(Wednesday)(12:30)Hour

2. Tender documents are available at our office starting from 7.10.2014 during office hours and for further detail please contact: Deputy General Manager Supply Department, Myanma Railways, Corner of Theinbyu Street and Merchant Street, Botahtaung, Yangon, Phone:95-1-291985,291994.

## CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV GIANG HAI-11 VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI-11 VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-4 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD  
Phone No: 2301191, 2301178

## Israel to launch a plan to fight nation's high poverty rate

JERUSALEM, 7 Oct—Israel's Minister of Welfare Meir Cohen announced on Monday that the government is set to allocate 1.7 billion shekels (550 million US dollars) for an anti-poverty plan, aiming at halving the nation's high poverty rates within a decade.

"Dealing with poverty is the government's responsibility," Cohen told a Press conference in his office in Jerusalem. "It's an historic moment now."

The new plan will focus on the elders and children, the two groups

in which poverty rates are the highest.

Under the plan, grants and payments will be provided to boost the income of 190,000 elders' supplement pensions and the income of single-parent families who, despite being employed, are still below the poverty line.

Additional 430 million shekels will be allocated for the construction of day care centres for toddlers and the aged, vocational training for poor workers, increasing the budget for public housing apartments, and drugs

funding for poor elderly Holocaust survivors.

The move follows recent recommendations by the Committee to Fight Poverty, which was established by the government a year ago to draft a plan to cut the nation's poverty rates, Cohen said.

According to the 2013 report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Israel holds the highest poverty rates among developed countries. About 20.9 percent of the population are living in poverty, the re-

port showed.

Eli Elaluf, chairman of the committee, said the goal of the plan is to bring down Israel's poverty rate to the OECD average of 11 percent within ten years.

The move comes less than a week after the Ministry of Finance presented the government with the 2015 austerity budget, which includes some seven billion shekels (1.9 billion dollars) cuts and austerity measures, mainly in fields of education, health and welfare.

Xinhua

## BOJ keeps policy steady, says Japan economy recovering



Bank of Japan Policy Board members attend a policy meeting at the BOJ headquarters in Tokyo on 7 Oct, 2014. The two-day meeting began the previous day amid expectations the central bank will maintain its aggressive monetary easing to boost the economy.

KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 7 Oct—The Bank of Japan on Tuesday kept its monetary policy steady, saying the Japanese economy is recovering despite fallout from the consumption tax hike in April.

The decision came even as market participants have increasingly perceived the BOJ faces difficulty

achieving its 2 percent inflation goal within the self-set time frame of about two years since it introduced the current aggressive easing in April 2013. The BOJ will release later this month its latest growth and inflation forecasts. "Japan's economy has continued to recover moderately," the BOJ said

in a statement, sticking to an earlier assessment, after the Policy Board ended a two-day meeting in which its nine members voted unanimously for maintaining massive asset purchases from financial institutions to double the base money it provides to the economy.

Kyodo News

## Russia EMERCOM drafting new doctrine of population's defence from manmade disasters

Moscow, 7 Oct—Russia's Ministry for Emergency Situations and Civil Defence (EMERCOM) is expected to submit a new doctrine of civil defence in case of man-made disasters and military threats, *Izvestia* daily said in a report published on Tuesday.

The new doctrine matches today's reality and presupposes comprehensive upgraded protection of the country's population.

"Unlike the doctrine that is in effect now the new one won't presuppose the so-called general evacuation, under which the entire civilian popula-

tion should walk out of a city on foot in case of approach of enemy forces," Sergey Akatyev, the chief of EMERCOM's department for civil defence and protection of the population told the newspaper.

Analysis of the military conflict occurring nowadays shows combat operations mostly employ high-precision weaponry that does not envision the so-called 'area saturation' with gunfire, bombing, and so on and that is why the new strategy will make emphasis on shelters and other civil defence installations.

"EMERCOM is introducing a new category



The new doctrine matches today's reality and presupposes comprehensive upgraded protection of the country's population.—ITAR-TASS

of installations the protective harbors that will be built in city districts," Akatyev said. "Unlike the old Soviet-era bomb shelters, they won't be aimed at protecting against nuclear strikes but will provide protection against shell fragments and the debris of collapsing buildings."

He indicated that a major change in the civil defence doctrine had been prompted, among other things, by the ongoing developments in eastern Ukraine and particularly in two largest cities in that area, Donetsk and Lugansk.

Itar-Tass



## ADVERTISEMENT &amp; GENERAL

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV KULNATEE VOY NO (11/14)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULNATEE VOY NO (11/14) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S KULNATEE CO**

Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (166)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSAOTONG VOY NO (166) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T(2) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN**  
Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV BUIK ECUADOR VOY NO (28B)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BUIK ECUADOR VOY NO (28B) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S BRIGHT SAIL**  
Phone No: 2301186

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV SCI KAMAL VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SCI KAMAL VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S THESHIPPING CORP OF INDIA LTD**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV UNI ASSURE VOY NO (372N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV UNI ASSURE VOY NO (372N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE**

Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE****MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (030N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PANJA BHUM VOY NO (030N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S WAN HAI LINES PTE LTD**  
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (114N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (114N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD**  
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (247)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (247) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S CMA CGM LINE**  
Phone No: 2301185

**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE  
MV PHUONG NOM-68 VOY NO ( )**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PHUONG NOM-68 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W-3 where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY  
AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD**  
Phone No: 2301191, 2301178

**Weather report**

**BAY INFERENCE:** According to the observations at (14:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over the Andaman Sea has further intensified into a depression. It is centered at about (185)miles Southeast of Coco-Island (Myanmar) and (135)miles East of Port Blair(India). It is forecast to move West-North-west ward and further intensity into a Cyclonic Storm. Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and weather is partly cloudy elsewhere over the Bay of Bengal.

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**Afghan forces destroy five heroin labs**

KABUL, 7 Oct—Units of Afghan Special Force in crackdown against poppy cultivation and drug traffickers have destroyed five heroin labs and confiscated tons of illicit drugs, said a statement of the Interior Ministry released here on Tuesday.

“The operations were conducted in Khogyani District couple of days ago during which five heroin labs were located in Tarma village and destroyed by the troops there,” the statement said.

Around 10 tons of illicit drug including 4.8 tons opium poppy were also discovered during the operations from the village and confiscated by the troops, the statement asserted. —Xinhua





South Korean star Lee Min-ho promotes 2014 Global Tour in Beijing on 3 Oct, 2014.—XINHUA

## BB King cancels remaining tour dates due to illness

NEW YORK, 7 Oct—Legendary blues guitarist BB King has cancelled the remaining performances of his current tour after falling ill on stage during a performance in Chicago, according to his website.

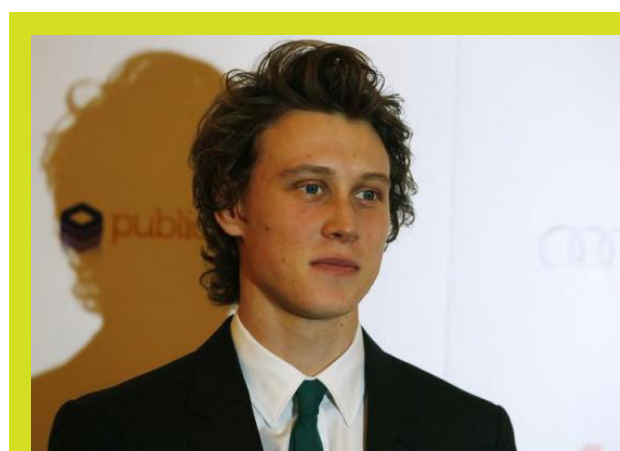
King, 89, was playing on Friday night at the House of Blues when he felt sick.

"He was immediately evaluated by a doctor and diagnosed with dehydration and suffering from exhaustion, whereby causing the eight remaining shows of his current tour to be cancelled," his website said.

No other information on his condition was immediately available. King, who was born in Mississippi and has been called the "King of the Blues," is considered one of the greatest guitarists of all time. He was ranked No 3 by *Rolling Stone* magazine in 2003, behind only Jimi Hendrix and Duane Allman. He has influenced many other guitarists, including Eric Clapton, and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. The documentary film, "BB King: The Life of Riley," recounts his life from working in the cotton fields of America's South to international stardom.—Reuters



Legendary blues guitarist BB King performs onstage during the 45th Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux in this on 2 July, 2011 file photo.—REUTERS



## Mariah Carey fans complain about singing at Tokyo show



Mariah Carey has been hit with criticisms following a video being posted online of her struggling to sing 'Vision of Love' in Tokyo, Japan.—PTI

LOS ANGELES, 7 Oct—Pop star Mariah Carey has been hit with criticisms following a video being posted online of her struggling to sing 'Vision of Love' in

Tokyo, Japan.

The 44-year-old singer played the first date of her 'Elusive Chanteuse World Tour' at the Makuhari Messe in Tokyo. But

during her rendition of 'Vision of Love' — her debut single from 1990 — Carey's voice cracked and she couldn't hit her trademark high notes, reported TMZ

online.

A video of her struggling on stage was posted on Instagram and resulted in a backlash on social media for the R&B legend — who has hit the road in support of her new album 'Me. I Am Mariah ... The Elusive Chanteuse'.

One Twitter user wrote, "Mariah Carey started her tour in Japan and it was awful.

She couldn't hit the high notes and appeared to forget her lyrics a few times." Another disappointed fan posted on Instagram: "Stick a fork in her she done."

PTI

## Britain's hard-working, soulful MacKay keeps films coming

LONDON, 7 Oct—At 22, George MacKay may not turn heads when he walks into a coffee shop in his native London, but give him a few more years — and the release of a movie in which he co-stars with Viggo Mortensen — and that is bound to change.

MacKay, whose first film role came at age 10 as one of the Lost Boys in a 2003 version of "Peter Pan", is building a reputation as a versatile, up-and-

coming character actor who can play just about anything — as long as the part suits someone whose entire demeanour, from his large eyes to the elongated oval shape of his face, says "soulful".

"I want as much as I can to try and explore different roles and different characters, that's important to me to get involved in as many different parts as I can," MacKay said over coffee in a hotel where, at least for now, no one approached him for an autograph.

Next year, he will appear in the Mortensen vehicle "Captain Fantastic" about an idealistic father, played by the former Aragorn of "The Lord of

the Rings" trilogy, who brings his children back to society after a decade of living "off the grid" in the Pacific Northwest.

Working with the polyglot Danish-American was "amazing", MacKay said, not least for the experience of filming in New Mexico. Unlike Britain, the distances between cities are so vast, and it is so dark at night, that MacKay said at times he felt like he was in "a sea of blackness".

In the meantime, MacKay couldn't ask for a better demonstration of his versatility than his two current films in Britain — "Pride", on general release, and "Bypass", showing this month at the London Film Festival.

In the first he plays the young, middle-class Joe who is from the London borough of Bromley, and is coming to terms with his homosexuality. Joe, a fictional character, joins a group of gays and lesbians who, in events based on real life, supported the bitter and hard-fought 1984-85 miners' strike in the much-less-gay-friendly Britain of Margaret Thatcher.

In the second he is Tim, who must work as a fence, speeding stolen goods to clients on his bicycle, to support himself and his teenage sister who are under threat of being evicted from their house for non-payment of rent. Tim's life is a hell of skirting the law and flirting with death from an unnamed disease that is mostly affecting his skin.

Reuters



## Australian Open lifts prize money 10 percent

MELBOURNE, 7 Oct — The Australian Open will hike total prize money 10 percent in 2014 to A\$36 million (19.64 million pounds), organizers said on Tuesday.

The Australian dollar has retreated by over six percent against the US dollar over the past month, but the 2015 prize pool is still competitive against last year's A\$33 million, which was worth about \$29 million when Stan Wawrinka and Li Na clinched the men's and women's singles titles.

Organizers also launched the newly renovated Margaret Court Arena, which will provide a third covered show court after Rod Laver Arena's centre court and the Hisense Arena. Australian Court, who holds the women's record of 24 grand slam singles titles, had a hit with local men's talent Nick Kyrgios in the refurbished 7,500 seat stadium as part of the launch.

"I think it's absolutely beautiful," the 72-year-old told reporters. "Wouldn't



*Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland carries the Norman Brookes Challenge Cup as he poses with ballkids after defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain in their men's singles final match at the Australian Open 2014 tennis tournament in Melbourne on 26 January, 2014. —REUTERS*

have minded something to play on like this in my day."

Organizers have also snapped up former world number one and the 2009 champion Rafa Nadal as an

ambassador. The Spaniard will work with Tennis Australia to hold a charity event on 14 January at Margaret Court Arena in the leadup to the tournament. "I like

to think I've always been friendly with the Australian Open, but I'm excited it is now official," Nadal said in a Tennis Australia media release.—Reuters

### MYANMAR TV

(8-10-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am

\* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:20 am

\* Myitta Bawana By Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi

6:45 am

\* The Biography of Mingun Sayadaw Phayagyi

7:00 am

\* News

7:20 am

\* Sermon on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut

8:00 am

\* News / International News

8:30 am

\* TV Drama Series

9:30 am

\* The Nine Precept

10:00 am

\* News

11:15 am

\* Documentary

12:00 noon

\* News/ International News/ Weather Report

2:45 pm

\* Songs of Thadingyut Festival

3:00 pm

\* News

3:30 pm

\* Gatamahar

4:45 pm

\* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - First Year (Physics)

5:25pm

\* Documentary

6:20 pm

\* Shwe Yin Khone Than

7:35 pm

\* Abhidhamma Akhadaw Day

8:00 pm

\* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

\* People Talks

9:30 pm

\* Fine Arts-Boson of Dramatic Performance  
\* ASEAN Cultural Fair 2014 (part-2)

### MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(8-10-14 07:00 am~ 9-10-14 07:00 am) MST

- \* Local News
- \* Kayah Style
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Invites You
- \* Local News
- \* Thadingyut Lighting Festival with Great Devotions
- \* World News
- \* Products of Myanmar - Pottery Business
- \* Local News
- \* We'll Leave after 12 Passengers Are on Board .....
- \* World News
- \* Serene and Happy Rural Life in Myanmar
- \* Local News
- \* Products of Myanmar - Power Ring
- \* World News
- \* Orphanage
- \* Local News
- \* Flying without Wings-My Great Limitless Adventure - Inle lake
- \* World News
- \* Myanmar Street Food
- \* Local News
- \* Thadingyut .. Beautiful Night with Colourful Lights
- \* World News
- \* Will you feed the pigeons
- \* Local News
- \* Life in Night .....
- \* Art in Life (Episode-1)
- \* World News
- \* Short Cut: Food Trip ( 1 )
- \* Local News
- \* Sarah Special: A Day out with Sarah (Episode-2)
- \* World News
- \* Natural Lake: Fish Breeding Business

## Willie Nelson's braids sell for \$37,000 at weekend auction

NASHVILLE, 7 Oct — Some of the most distinctive hair in American music, Willie Nelson's trademark braids, sold for \$37,000 (£23,015) on Sunday, auction organizers said on Monday.

The braids were cut in the 1980s when Nelson's hair was still red and were the most talked-about item in the Arizona auction of items owned by the late Waylon Jennings, Nelson's cohort in the "outlaw country" music movement of the 1970s.

Jennings was given Nelson's braids at a 1983 party thrown by Johnny Cash and June Carter Cash in Jennings' honour to celebrate his sobri-

ety. The identity of the buyer was not disclosed.

Also sold was Buddy Holly's Ariel Cyclone motorcycle, for \$450,000. The motorcycle, bought by the rock 'n roll great in 1958, was given to Jennings by members of Holly's band years after Holly was killed in 1959.

"It represented to him great love for a friend and possibly part of his healing," said Jennings' widow, Jessi Colter, last month when announcing auction details.

Jennings had been playing bass for Holly's band and was going to ride with him on the plane instead of taking

the tour bus on 3 February, 1959. But he gave his seat up to JP. "The Big Bopper" Richardson, who had been ill.

The plane crashed, killing Holly, Richardson and Ritchie Valens and Roger Peterson, the pilot.

Jennings, who had a cocaine addiction for several years, died in 2002 at age 64 of complications of diabetes. His hit songs included "Ladies Love Outlaws," "Are You Ready for the Country," "Bob Wills Is Still the King," "Luckenbach, Texas" and duets with Nelson "Good Hearted Woman" and "Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be



*Musician Willie Nelson*

Cowboys."

The auction was staged by the New York-based Guernsey's auction house at the Museum of Musical Instruments in Phoenix, Arizona.—Reuters

## Keane wishes he had not apologized to Ferguson

LONDON, 7 Oct — Former Manchester United captain Roy Keane regrets having apologized to Alex Ferguson after the falling-out which led to him leaving the club in 2005, leaked extracts from his new autobiography have revealed.

The book, "The Second Half", is not due out until Thursday but parts of it appeared online on Monday and a Manchester supermarket mistakenly put some copies on sale before hastily withdrawing them.

Ferguson criticised Keane in a book of his own last year, and said he had "a savage tongue". The final



*Aston Villa manager Paul Lambert (L) and his assistant Roy Keane sits in the dugout before their English Premier League soccer match against Newcastle United at Villa Park in Birmingham, central England on 23 Aug, 2014. —REUTERS*

straw in their relationship had come when Keane did an interview for the club's in-house television station MUTV, criticising a number of his team mates for a poor performance.

United declined to transmit it and Ferguson insisted on the whole squad watching a video before deciding Keane would have to leave.

There had been widespread anticipation over the volatile Irishman's response. But amid a welter of expletives, the strongest criticism Keane comes up with is that United could have told him: "Keep your head down, play a few games and come the

end of the season we'll say it was best for you to go."

Instead, he writes, Ferguson and chief executive David Gill already had a statement prepared about his departure when he was summoned to the manager's office.

Soon after leaving for Celtic, where he played only a handful of games before retiring, Keane apologized to Ferguson.

"Now I kind of wish I hadn't," Keane writes. "I was apologising for what had happened — that it had happened. But I wasn't apologizing for my behaviour or stance. There's a difference

— I had nothing to apologize for." The former Republic of Ireland international says tensions had been evident at a pre-season training camp that season, when he came close to hitting the first-team coach Carlos Queiroz, who accused him of lacking loyalty.

One person he did hit, he admits, was goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, in a hotel fight that woke up United director Bobby Charlton and left his team mate with a black eye.

He also says he has no regrets over inflicting the injury on Manchester City's Alf Inge Haaland in 2001 that effectively ended the Norwegian's career.—Reuters



# Costa banking on Fabregas link to help end Spain drought

MADRID, 7 Oct — Diego Costa has yet to open his account for Spain in five appearances, a perplexing state of affairs given his prolific form for Atletico Madrid last season and his blistering start at Chelsea.

The Brazil-born forward, who turned his back on the country of his birth to play for La Roja, netted 36 goals for Atletico in 2013-14 and has nine in nine appearances this term for the London club.

The 25-year-old has another chance to break his international duck when Spain play away to Slovakia and Luxembourg in Euro 2016 qualification this week and there is one very good reason why he should be optimistic he will end his goal drought: Chelsea and Spain team mate Cesc Fabregas.

Of Costa's nine Chelsea goals this season, four have been assisted by Fabregas, who is likely to be handed the playmaker's role by Spain coach Vicente del Bosque for the two qualifiers.

The former Arsenal and Barcelona man has sev-



Chelsea's Diego Costa celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal against Arsenal during their English Premier League soccer match at Stamford Bridge in London on 5 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

en assists overall, while the fact that of Costa's 19 shots this season 16 of them have been on target underlines the striker's excellent form.

Slovakia and Luxembourg, neither of whom are

expected to qualify for Euro 2016, may be the perfect opponents for Costa to get his Spain career up and running.

There are still some doubts over his fitness but

he said on Monday he was feeling fine after scoring a superb goal in Chelsea's 2-0 Premier League win against Arsenal on Sunday — assisted by Fabregas of course.

"I always want to play when I am fine," Costa told reporters as he arrived at Spain's training base outside Madrid.

"When I am not feeling fine I can't play of course

and there have been times recently (with Spain) when it would have been too much of a risk. "I am desperate to score here and I have said to Cesc that we have a good connection at Chelsea, that we understand each other very well, but now we have to have it here too."

Reuters

## Chelsea's Courtois cleared of serious head injury

LONDON, 7 Oct— Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois has been cleared of a serious head injury after being substituted during the 2-0 Premier League victory over Arsenal on Sunday.

The 22-year-old Belgian was forced off the pitch following an early clash with Arsenal forward Alexis Sanchez and he was replaced by Petr Cech.



Belgium's goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois reacts during the 2014 World Cup quarter-finals between Argentina and Belgium at the Brasilia national stadium in Brasilia on 5 July, 2014.—REUTERS

"Chelsea Football Club can confirm Thibaut Courtois went to hospital during our Premier League game against Arsenal yesterday for precautionary tests on a head injury. Those tests came back all clear," Chelsea said in a statement on their website on Monday.

"Thibaut was treated for a minor cut to his ear and was released from hospital last night. He is expected to report for international duty later this week." The Premier League introduced new regulations to deal with head injuries following an incident last season in which Tottenham goalkeeper Hugo Lloris remained on the pitch after losing consciousness during a game against Everton.—Reuters

## Italy's politicians join the fray after bitter Juve-Roma clash

ROME, 7 Oct— Italian politicians from right and left fuelled controversy following Sunday's fiery Serie A encounter between Juventus and AS Roma, with lower house deputies tabling questions in parliament and even complaining to the stock market regulator.

Hosts Juventus won the top-of-the-table clash 3-2 but all three goals by the reigning champions, including two penalties for infringements on the edge of the box, were fiercely contested by the visitors.

Rome-based sports daily *Corriere dello Sport* ran a banner headline on Monday saying "A rigged championship", while the capital's main newspaper *Il Messaggero* took aim at referee Gianluca Rocchi with the headline "Rocchi 3-Roma 2."

Marco Miccoli, a deputy from Prime Minister Matteo Renzi's Democratic Party, said on Monday he had asked bourse watchdog Consob to investigate whether the "incredible refereeing errors" could constitute an infringement of its rules.

Both Juventus and



Juventus' Carlos Tevez (L) fights for the ball with AS Roma's Radja Nainggolan during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the Juventus stadium in Turin on 5 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Roma are listed on the stock market. At 1415 GMT on Monday, Juve's shares were up 0.8 percent, while Roma's were down 2.7 percent.

Miccoli said Rocchi's refereeing had "distorted the championship and undermined the credibility of the country" and was "absolutely unimaginable in any other part of the civilised world."

Post-match analysis in Italian media tends to focus obsessively on refereeing decisions which are pored over with countless slow motion replays.

Freeze-frame television images showed Juve's two penalty episodes may have been a couple of centimetres outside the area. Roma also lamented that Arturo Vidal was offside when defender Leonardo Bonucci fired home a spectacular late winner. On the other side of the political divide, Fabio Rampelli of the far-right Brothers of Italy party, tabled a parliamentary question to Economy Minister Pier Carlo Padoan, over the "two non-existent penalties and an offside goal."

Reuters

## Balotelli left out but not excluded, says Conte

ROME, 7 Oct — Mario Balotelli has not been excluded from the Italy squad, coach Antonio Conte said on Monday, despite overlooking the maverick striker for this month's Euro 2016 qualifiers.

Conte said that Balotelli, heavily criticised for his performance at the World Cup and left out of Conte's first two matches in charge last month, needed more time to adapt after his move from AC Milan to Liverpool.

"I make selections, not exclusions," Conte told reporters at Italy's training camp outside Florence.

"Balotelli has started on a new path and it's not

easy, he will be given time to integrate himself into a new championship.

"I certainly follow him just as I follow all the players who are abroad," Conte also lavished praise on Southampton striker Graziano Pelle who has been given his first call-up at the age of 29.

"Pelle has deserved his chance from every point of view," said Conte.

"He has scored 50 goals in the last two seasons (with Feyenoord) and he is also showing this season that he is a leading figure in a league that is more difficult than the Dutch one.

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Liverpool's Mario Balotelli jumps for the ball during a training session ahead of their Champions League Group B match against FC Basel in Basel on 30 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS