

IMF optimistic about Myanmar economic outlook despite challenges, lots of works to be done

By Ye Myint

WASHINGTON, D.C, 12 Oct — As ongoing transformation in Myanmar is unleashing the remarkable growth potential of the country, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is quite optimistic about Myanmar's more than 8 percent projected growth rate, said IMF economists at a regional press briefing on Friday.

"Growth will be more than 8 percent this year and certainly to grow that rapidly over the medium term", Jerry Schiff, deputy director of IMF's Asia and Pacific Department told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

But, the IMF economist pointed out the economic institutions that are still developing, saying that they will face a lot of challenges in dealing with new capital inflows and technical assistance of international organizations including the IMF.

"Certainly, there are a lot of works to be done in the coming years," said the APD deputy director who is also one of the authors of the latest Asian and Pacific



International Monetary Fund projects Myanmar's gross domestic product will post an impressive rate of 8.5 percent in the region in 2014 and 2015.—PHOTO: WORLD BANK MYANMAR

economic outlook update report.

In its suggestion following the conclusion of IMF executive board's 2014 Article IV Consul-

tation with Myanmar, the IMF urged the country to maintain near-term macroeconomic stability while building modern institutions and sound policy

frameworks to manage the budget and financial sector.

"Medium and long-term prospects remain strong, but require sustained policy and institu-

tional reforms even as the authorities' capacity is being strained", said the IMF in its statement.

The World Economic Outlook report indicates

Myanma Timber Enterprise invites open tender for teak, hardwood logs

By Aye Min Soe



YANGON, 12 Oct— More than 1,000 tonnes of teak and hard wood logs will be up for sale through open tenders on 21 October, according to the announcement of Myanma Timber Enterprise.

Myanma Timber Enterprise has set a target of more than 500,000 tonnes of teak and hardwood logs and sawed timber for domestic use in the 2014-2015 fiscal year and so far, more than 100,000 tonnes have been sold, earning K35 billion. The government enforced a ban on exports of log timber from April 1, 2014 in attempts to prevent deforestation and ensure long-term use of the country's natural resources. However, it has allowed

exports of sawed and processed wood.

Myanmar has committed to reducing the rate of teak extraction year by year and will produce only 60,000 tonnes of teak and 670,000 tonnes of hardwood in 2014-2014 fiscal year. According to data of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, the country produced 93,178 tonnes of teak and 610,592 tonnes of hardwood.

A total of 306,329 tonnes of teak and 1,548,075 tonnes of hardwood were extracted in 2011-12 FY, while 2012-13 saw production of 269,516 tonnes of teak and 1,597,798 tonnes of hardwood.—GNLM

Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry implemented a log export ban (LEB) on 1 April, 2014 instead of a logging ban, deciding to reduce teak extraction to be cut down by a third.—PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

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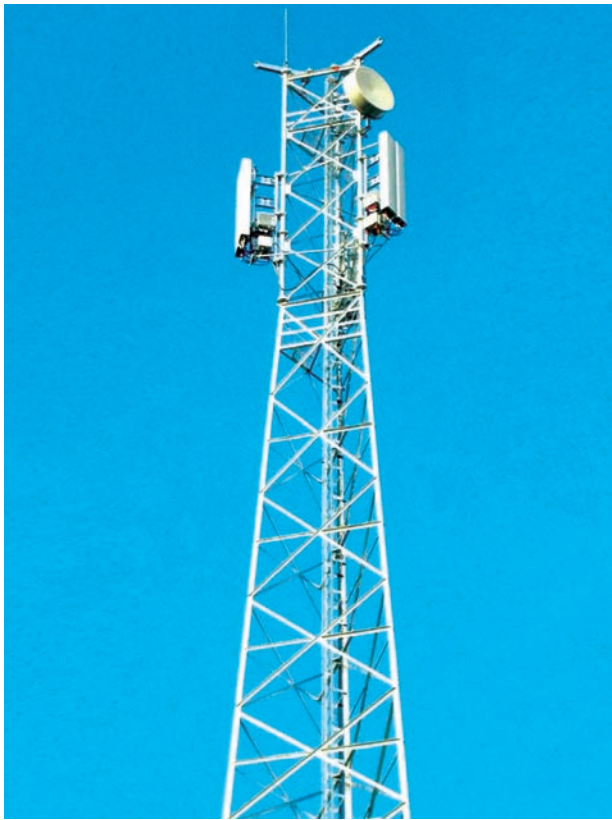
It is time to give serious consideration to disaster risk reduction

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Communication tower installed with devices in Natogyi Township



NATOGYI, 12 Oct — Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications, Telenor (Myanmar) and Ooredoo communication companies erected towers for giving better services to the mobile phone users in Natogyi of Mandalay Region.

So far, MPT has erected five communication towers, Telenor (Myanmar)

five and Ooredoo three, totalling 13 in the townships.

On Saturday, Ooredoo installed communication devices at its towers.

Local people expect to get smooth telecommunication facilities in their connection through Ooredoo and Telenor (Myanmar) towers.

Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)

Donations of meals to monks successfully conclude

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct — Sasana Rekkhita Dhammayon in Wunna Theikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township held the successful concluding of offering meals to members of the Sangha.

A ceremony to mark the ceremony of the donations was held at the Dhammayon where local well-wishers offered rice and offertories to 150 members of the Sangha from 20 monasteries.

The ward has donated dawn meals to members of the Sangha during the retreat period of monks for three years.

Than Naing (Zabuthiri)



MCF to organize examinations for IT enthusiast youths

YANGON, 12 Oct — Myanmar Computer Federation will organize the Information Technology Passport Examination (IP) Fundamental IT Engineer Examination (FE) and Applied IT Engineer Examination (AP) at the exam centres in Yangon, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Sagaing, Magway and Bago regions and Mon

State on 26 October.

Exam supervisory committee in-charge Daw Thida Tun of Myanmar Computer Professionals Association said that those who passed the matriculation examination, students of University of Computer Studies and University of Technology and IT certificate, diploma and degree holders may sit for the IP,

FE and AP examinations.

Myanmar joined the ITPEC Council in 2003 together with Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Mongolia. Opportunities will be given to those who passed the examinations to appoint them at the information and communication technological jobs in Myanmar and other seven

ITPEC countries.

The examinations are held twice a year in Myanmar. One month before the exams, MCF gives training to the candidates to the exams.

This year, one outstanding exam winner of FE and AP will be sent to Japan to attend a training to be opened in March 2015.—Aung Thura

Digital meters installed at lamp-posts in Magway Township

MAGWAY, 12 Oct — Electricians and engineers carried out substitution of new power lines in the placement of old ones, installed new transformers and old wooden lamp-posts for safety of electricity for the people. Moreover, the electricians emphasized installation of OMR digital meters in the placement of analogue meters so as to control loss of power and develop the electric power sector in Magway.

According to the coordination among the departmental officials of the township, skilled electricians installed over 10,000 digital meters at the concrete lamp-posts.

Zeyatu (Magway)



Caravan Jet to give sightseeing services to passengers to enjoy aerial views over Myanmar

MANDALAY, 12 Oct — At present, a large number of globetrotters arrive in Myanmar due to tourism season, Mandalay Branch of Myanmar Airways manages to fly the sightseeing flights from Chanmyathazi Airport as of 12 October.

“It is aimed at enabling the tourists to enjoy aerial panoramic views of Myanmar’s forests and mountains in addition to sunset views. Grand Cavan Jet can give 10 seats to the passengers.

The chartered flights will cost K750,000 but single passenger can cost a least amount of money. The passengers can book the tickets through telephone,” said the manager of the Mandalay Branch.

The flight schedules for sightseeing are the Chanmyathazi-Bagan-NyaungU-Chanmyathazi route, and the Chanmyathazi-Bagan-NyaungU-Monywa-Chanmyathazi route. The flights will start at 7

am and 3.30 pm. The flight hours will be one hour or 1.30 hours.

Mandalay Branch operates the 15-passenger Beech Aircraft jet to NyaungU-Heho-Kalay-Bhamo-Homalin route.

Tickets for the sightseeing flight are available at the branch at least three days ahead of flights, dialing 09-975116030 and 09-797225401.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)

NATIONAL

PhD in Educational Leadership conferred on former principal of MMMC

YANGON, 12 Oct—Akamai University of Hawaii of the U.S. conferred honorary PhD in Educational Leadership on retired principal of Myanmar Mercantile Marine College U Win Thein who is member of Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Legal and Special Affairs Assessment Commission at Summit Parkview Hotel in Yangon

on Saturday morning.

Secretary of Board of the university Dr James Ferrell and Vice President for Asia Program Professor Dato Dr Ben Lee made speeches. Officials conferred PhD degree on U Win Thein who spoke words of thanks.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and

Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung and guests.—MNA

Officials confer honorary PhD in Educational Leadership on U Win Thein, former principal of Myanmar Mercantile Marine College.

MNA



Union Ministers meet township development affairs committees

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Union Ministers at the President Office U Soe Thane and U Tin Naing Thein attended a ceremony to clarify progress of the nation at Ayeya Shwewah Hall in Patheingyi on Satur-

day. Ayeyawady Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung extended greetings.

The Union ministers explained reform process of the nation and progress of development projects.

Chairmen of town-

ship development affairs committees reported on requirement in implementing the development projects in their respective townships, and Union minister U Soe Thane fulfilled their needs.—MNA

Union Minister inspects harvesting and irrigation facility in Bago

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—U Myint Hlaing, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, oversaw the harvesting of a 2,000-acre paddy plantation on a highway linking Nay Pyi Taw to Yangon in Oktwin town-

ship, Bago Region, on 11 October, sources said.

Later, the union minister went to the Gaungsaykyun canal project in Bago, where he inspected work being carried out with the use of heavy machinery and technicians, giving instructions on timely completion of the project.

U Myint Hlaing also visited the Training Centre of Irrigation Development in Bago, where he met the principal and faculty members and urged them to actively participate in com-

munity-based development tasks.

The Irrigation Department plans to dredge 21,225 feet long and eight feet deep Mazin Creek from Mazin Dam to Bago River, the 250 feet long and four feet deep Mazin creek's rivulet, 7,400 feet long and seven feet deep Gaungsaykyun Creek from Gaungsaykyun Bridge to Bago River and 4,100 feet long and 18 feet deep SintObo curve at the exit of Bago River-Tarwa sluice gate.—MNA

Union minister observes social protection activities in Britain

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin observed social security and

aged care tasks on her trip to Britain from 6 to 9 October.

The Union minister held a talk about social care and aged care tasks in Britain with Chief Executive

Officer Mr Toby Porter of Help Age International and Director Mr Chris of Age International at Tavistock Square in London on 6 October.

She also met with

Minister of International Development Rt Hon Desmond Swayne at White Hall to exchange views on co-operation tasks.

On 7 October, officials of Age UK held discussions on social care activities in cooperation with the British Government with the Union minister.

On 8 October, the Union minister attended the roundtable discussions with CEO Mr Michal Lawrence and representatives of 25 organizations at Asia House. They exchanged views on social protection, aged care activities, disaster management and humanitarian tasks.

The Union minister then visited Stones End Day Care Center for the Aged at Age UK Lewisham and Southwork.—MNA

Progress of development projects under inspection in Salin Township

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Oct—Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw viewed a 200-KVA transformer for electrification in Wetthaik and Tegen villages in Salin Township of Magway Region on 10 October after meeting with township departmental officials.

At Maha Withutayama monastery in Salin, he held a talk with Region Hluttaw MPs, township manage-

ment committee members and departmental officials.

On Saturday, the Union minister donated meals and offertories to 400 members of the Sangha in Salin.

During his trip, the Union minister inspected maintenance of Minbu-Salin road, and Salin-Kanbya-Sedoktara road and bridges, cultivation of monsoon paddy along both sides of the roads and development of Salin.—MNA



Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin holds talks with British officials about social production.—MNA

IMF optimistic about . . .

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Department commented on foreign bank cooperation.

"We are recommending not to allow them (foreign banks) to start their operation before the enactment of the foreign bank operation law and before the system is built," said Mr. Rhee who led the press conference on October 2014 Asia and Pacific Re-

gional Economic Outlook Update.

Myanmar recently approved preliminary banking licenses for nine foreign banks — Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ), Bangkok Bank, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (BTMU), Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), Malayan Banking

Berhad (Maybank) Mizuho Bank, Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and United Overseas Bank (UOB).

The director added that Myanmar needs to take a little more time to prepare for the sound system and enhance its capacity to supervise and regulate the nine approved financial institutions and

then start operation.

According to the announcement of the foreign bank licensing committee, applicants will have to fulfill commitments they made in their answer to the applications, ensure functional banking operation and comply with requirements from the Central Bank of Myanmar during the 12-month period for the award of final license.

GNLM

Officers from Ministry of Border Affairs leave for Singapore

YANGON, 12 Oct — U Min Thant, Principal of Central Training School under the department of education and training and the twenty-two officers from Ministry of Border Affairs, who are attend-

ing the proficiency course jointly organized by the ministry and Nippon Foundation of Japan left here for Singapore to observe the development of Singapore on Sunday.

MNA

Abe eyes summit with Palau leader by next spring



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

TOKYO, 12 Oct — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is considering holding a summit with Palau President Tommy Remengesau by next spring in Japan, ahead of the planned visit to the Pacific island country by Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, Japanese government sources said on Saturday.

Abe aims to lay the groundwork for the trip by the imperial couple, expected around next April, to the islands that Japan once governed and where a fierce battle was fought during World War II, the sources said.

The emperor and empress hope to console the souls of the war dead during the Palau trip next year, the 70th anniversary of the end of the war.

Remengesau is also expected to meet with the emperor during his possible visit to Tokyo and extend an official invitation to the couple.

The timing of the president's visit remains uncertain, but the sources said it could be sometime between January and March. Abe last held a bilateral summit with Remengesau in December 2013 in Tokyo.

In 2005, the imperial couple visited Saipan, another Pacific island that Japan controlled until its defeat in the war, to mark the 60th anniversary.

Separately, Abe and Remengesau are scheduled to co-chair a summit meeting of Japan and Pacific island nations next May in Fukushima Prefecture.

Kyodo News

India's Modi seeks state election wins to support reform agenda

MUMBAI, 12 Oct — Prime Minister Narendra Modi spearheaded his party's campaign for elections later this week in Maharashtra state, knowing that victory in the home of India's financial hub Mumbai will make it easier to push through economic reforms.

The smaller northern state of Haryana also votes on Wednesday. But it is the western state of Maharashtra that will provide the best test of how well Modi's appeal is holding up, five months after he stormed to power in a general election with promises to mend a country battered by corruption scandals, high inflation, and sharply slowing growth.

Modi has campaigned personally in Maharashtra, betting he can help his Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) win big in a state with a population of 110 million spread across an area the size of Italy.

Local polls predict the BJP will win, but perhaps only with a narrow margin. *Newspaper Mail Today's*

survey showed the party is close to gaining the 145 seats needed to clinch a majority in the 288-member state assembly. Maharashtra, along with Haryana, announces results on 19 October.

The BJP surprised analysts by breaking off a decades-old alliance with Shiv Sena, a right-wing regional party popular among the region's Marathi people that is now expected to provide formidable competition.

The opposition Congress party, which has ruled Maharashtra with an ally for 15 years, faces defeat on the same anti-incumbency wave that toppled it from power in the general election but retains pockets of support in the state.

Modi is making two dozen campaign stops across the state, and his gift for working a crowd was on full display at a rally in Mumbai on Thursday.

"Unless Mumbai and Maharashtra progresses, the country won't move forward. You have wasted 15 years — please don't

waste any more time," he said as the crowd chanted his name.

Hopes that Modi would revive an economy that for two consecutive years has grown under 5 percent — a rate too slow for a country with India's demographics — have spurred a record-setting rally in shares and attracted \$34 billion worth of foreign funds in markets this year.

But Modi has so far unveiled none of the "big bang" reforms needed to revive the stagnating economy, focusing instead on small initiatives to reform governance.

Some of the major expected reforms, especially a reduction of price controls in diesel, could prove unpopular. Others such as changes in goods and services taxes or the government's right to acquire land faces strong opposition from some states.

A big win in Maharashtra could make it easier to forge ahead on reforms in the run-up to the annual budget next February.



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi

"Modi will have more space to undertake bolder reforms if his party receives a strong political mandate at state level," said Rupa Rege Nitsure, chief economist of Bank of Baroda in Mumbai.

Maharashtra will also provide the BJP a testing ground for its go-it-alone strategy for future state elections, given the need to narrow the lead held by Congress and its allies in the upper house of parliament.

State elections allot seats to the Rajya Sabha, where the BJP and its allies

control 56 seats, behind the opposition Congress alliance's 90 seats. Although less powerful than the lower house, the Lok Sabha, the body still plays a critical role in passing legislation.

"This is a carefully thought-out strategy," said Girish Kuber, editor of Marathi daily Loksatta and a political analyst.

"Earlier, they didn't have the legs to make it on their own in states where regional allies are strong, but given Modi's pan-Indian appeal, it seems that they will succeed." —Reuters

At least 6 killed by severe cyclone "Hudhud" in E India



A man carries his wife to a safer ground after a wave hits a beach in Gopalpur in Ganjam district in the eastern Indian state of Odisha on 12 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 12 Oct — At least six people were killed Sunday when severe cyclone "Hudhud" hit the east coast of India with winds of almost 200 kmph, said officials.

The strong wind

pulled down electricity poles, shut road and railway transport, and forced tens of thousands to take refuge in government camps in the state of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa.

Three persons were killed in rain-related mishaps in Andhra Pradesh, two of them by falling trees. "Two died after trees fell on them and one in collapse of compound wall," Andhra Pradesh

chief secretary I.V.R. Krishna Rao told the media.

Meanwhile, two people were killed in Kendrapara and one in Puri in Orissa, said the state's special relief commissioner P.K. Mohapatra.

The cyclone made its landfall north of Visakhapatnam earlier Sunday, bringing wild rains and wind.

The local authorities and residents are fighting to control the damages from the storm to the minimum.

The India Meteorological Department said even after landfall, "Hudhud" would maintain the intensity of very severe cyclonic storm for six hours and gradually weaken into a cyclonic storm.

The Indian navy and air force has kept warships and aircraft on standby in storm-hit areas, while relief teams have been sent to the spots to help people.

Over 400,000 have been evacuated to safe places by the government.

Cyclone "Hudhud" is named after an Israeli bird. *Xinhua*

Philippines to improve airport for more tourists next year

MANILA, 12 Oct — The Philippine government is doing significant improvements in the country's major airport as more tourists are expected to visit the country next year, a senior government official said on Saturday. Deputy Presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte cited the ongoing rehabilitation work at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 1. "We expect significant improvement because apart from the fact that we continue to invite more tourists, more visitors to our country, we will have really more visitors next year because we are hosting APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation)," she said over a state-run radio station. She also cited Manila's hosting of the Madrid Fusion, an international culinary event, in April 2015. The Philippine Department of Tourism is targeting 6.8 million foreign tourist arrivals for this year and as much as 10 million in 2015.—Xinhua

WORLD

Putin orders defence ministry to bring back troops after drills

SOCHI, 12 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the Defence

Ministry to bring back troops to permanent bases after military exercises in

southern Russia's Rostov-on-Don region.

He gave this order at a

meeting with Defence Minister Sergey Shoigu after an urgent meeting which the head of state held with permanent members of the Russian Security Council on Saturday.

"The minister reported to the Supreme Commander-in-Chief about the end to summertime training at firing ranges in the Southern Military District," presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov said. "After the report Putin ordered to bring troops back to permanent bases," he said, adding that these military force makes "a total of 17.6 thousand servicemen who passed drills at firing ranges in Rostov-on-Don region," Peskov added.

Itar-Tass

Gaza reconstruction in spotlight in Cairo conference

CAIRO, 12 Oct — US Secretary of State John Kerry arrived in Cairo early Sunday to participate in a conference aimed at raising billions of dollars to rebuild war-battered Gaza Strip, official news agency MENA reported.

Senior officials from 50 countries and 20 organizations will attend the talks. President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi will address the international conference.

Sisi will highlight his country's commitment to the Palestinian cause in general and particularly the safety and interests of Palestinians living in the Strip, state-run Ahram newspapers reported on its website.

Sisi's statement will also affirm Egypt's com-

mitment to cement the Palestinian national unity government to promote wider Palestinian reconciliation.

Egypt has mediated indirect ceasefire talks between Palestine and Israel after the enclave endured more than 51-day Israeli war this summer. The Israeli military operation killed nearly 2,200 Palestinians, mostly civilians, while attacks by Gaza militants killed 73 on the Israeli side, mostly soldiers. The conference will be attended by Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas, Ban Ki-moon General Secretary of the United Nations, chief of Arab League Nabil Al Arabi and representatives of International Tripartite Committee.—Xinhua



Emperor, empress visit Nagasaki A-bomb memorial

NAGASAKI, 12 Oct — Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko visited Nagasaki on Saturday and expressed condolences for the victims of the 1945 US atomic bombing of the southwestern Japan city.

The couple visited the Nagasaki Peace Park for the first time since 1995, when they also visited Hiroshima and Okinawa to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

The visit was part of a trip to attend the opening ceremony of the annual National Sports Festival on Sunday in Isahaya, Nagasaki Prefecture. They will

return to Tokyo on Monday.

The emperor and empress hoped to visit the park ahead of the 70th anniversary next year of the war's end, the Imperial Household Agency said. The agency is also planning their visit to Hiroshima.

The imperial couple laid white chrysanthemum at the park's monument and exchanged words with some survivors of the 9 August, 1945 bombing that killed more than 160,000 people including those who died later from injuries and effects of radiation.

Kyodo News



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (C) and German Chancellor Angela Merkel (L) visit a supermarket after the bilateral governmental consultations in Berlin, Germany, on 10 Oct, 2014.—XINHUA



Six Israeli swimmers emerge from the water during a media presentation, a day after their attempt to claim the Guinness world record for open-water relay distance swimming, in the Herzliya Marina, near Tel Aviv on 11 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

Israeli relay sextet set world record open-water mark

HERZLIYA, (Israel) 12 Oct — A group of six swimmers have claimed a world record of 380 kilometres (236 miles) for open-water relay distance swimming after crossing the eastern Mediterranean from Cyprus to Israel.

The Israeli team left Paphos at the western end of Cyprus on 5 October and set the new mark on Friday when they reached the coast south of Tel Aviv but they remained on their sup-

port yacht and came ashore together on Saturday.

The six men achieved their goal at the second time of asking after aborting an attempt last year due to rough seas.

The swim was completed in 123 hours 10 minutes, the World Open Water Swimming Association said on their website.

The previous record of 367 kilometres was set by a US sextet off the coast of California last year.

The six, ranging between 66 and 44, each spent an hour in the water and had to maintain the same rotation for the record to be recognized, said Udi Erell, 66, one of the swimmers.

"It wasn't easy but (the other five) made it easy, they were all amazing ... and not to forget that the goal was to bring to the attention of everybody that we need clean seas."

Reuters

US Defence Secretary sees long-term fight against Islamic State

SANTIAGO, 12 Oct — US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel said on Saturday that the embattled Syrian city of Kobani was a very difficult problem but added that air strikes had made some progress in driving back Islamic State militants.

Kurdish forces defending Kobani urged a US-led coalition to escalate air strikes on Islamic State fighters who tightened their grip on the Syrian town at the border with Turkey on Saturday.

“We are doing what we can do through our air strikes to help drive back ISIL. In fact there has been some progress made in that area,” Hagel told a news conference in Santiago, the Chilean capital.

“It is a very difficult problem,” Hagel said, referring to Kobani.

Hagel is on a six-day, three-nation trip to South America.

The US-led coalition escalated air strikes on Islamic State in and around Kobani, also known as Ayn al-Arab, some four days ago.

Hagel underscored that the battle against the militants, who have seized swathes of Iraq and Syria, was a long-term fight.

“It is a long-term effort. This is difficult, it is complicated. It’s going to require many factors. And we are working now (with) coalition partners,” he said.

Asked about the situation in Iraq, Hagel said Iraqi security forces were in full control of Baghdad and continue to strengthen their positions there.

“We continue to help them with air strikes, with our assistance and advisors.”—Reuters



US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel walks past a honour guard before a meeting with Chile’s President Michelle Bachelet (not pictured) at the government palace in Santiago on 11 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

Putin, Erdogan discuss bilateral cooperation, IS threats



MOSCOW, 12 Oct — Russian President Vladimir Putin has discussed over the phone with his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan a number of bilateral cooperation issues, the Kremlin reported on Saturday.

counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan a number of bilateral cooperation issues, the Kremlin reported on Saturday.

Nepal parties start decisive talks on disputed issues of new constitution

KATHMANDU, 12 Oct — For the first time in the second Constituent Assembly (CA), Nepal’s major parties started decisive talks on the contentious issues of the new constitution, party leaders said on Sunday.

The Nepali Congress, CPN-UML and the opposition party UCPN (Maoist) are engaged in serious talks on the form of government, federalism, electoral system and judiciary as the deadline of constitution promulgation looms large. Party leaders seem upbeat that they would explore a compromising

point on disputed issues of new constitution.

The major parties have prepared their respective position on contentious issues of a new constitution. The three-party started from Sunday morning and will last for a couple of days, according to cross-party leaders.

“Parties have begun a serious talks on contentious issues of new constitution, so it would be better for the journalists not to ask anything for next three days,” senior leader of CPN-UML Madhav Kumar told reporters. He said parties can

day.

The conversation was requested by the Turkish side, the Kremlin said.

Putin and Erdogan “spoke for further development of the Russian-Turkish trade and economic ties, including in the agricultural sphere and high-tech spheres,” the statement said.

When the sides were exchanging opinions on international issues, the emphasis was made on threats posed by the Islamic State terrorist group.—Itar-Tass

point on disputed issues of new constitution.

The major parties have prepared their respective position on contentious issues of a new constitution. The three-party started from Sunday morning and will last for a couple of days, according to cross-party leaders.

“Parties have begun a serious talks on contentious issues of new constitution, so it would be better for the journalists not to ask anything for next three days,” senior leader of CPN-UML Madhav Kumar told reporters. He said parties can speak something only after three days.

The largest and ruling party NC on Saturday unveiled the official position on contentious issues of a new constitution.

The party said that there should not be more than seven provinces on the basis of economic viability. The Constituent Assembly (CA) on Friday provided one week’s time for parties to seek consensus on contentious issues of a new constitution. The constitution promulgation deadline is 22 Jan, 2015.—Xinhua

Kurdish leader threatens Turkish peace deal collapse

BERLIN, 12 Oct — A senior Kurdish militant has threatened Turkey with a new Kurdish revolt if it sticks with its current policy of non-intervention in the battle for the Syrian town of Kobani.

Kurdish forces allied to the Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), the People’s Defence Units (YPG), are fighting against Islamic State insurgents attacking Kobani close to the Turkish border. Turkey is reluctant to open its border to allow arms to reach the out-gunned Kurds.

Turkey passed a mandate for cross-border military operations in Syria and Iraq but has so far refused to join the military coalition

against Islamic State or use force to protect Kobani and has resisted calls to allow the flow of weapons and volunteer fighters into the besieged town.

“We have warned Turkey. If they continue on this path, then the guerrillas will re-launch our defensive war to protect our people,” Cemil Bayik, a founding member of the PKK who is also its most senior figure not in prison, told the German network ARD in Arbil in Iraq’s autonomous Kurdistan region.

“The AK party is responsible for what is happening right now in Kobani and in Turkey,” he added. The AK party rules Turkey.

The PKK, designated

a terrorist group by Turkey, the United States and the European Union, waged a 30-year revolt for autonomy in Turkey’s rugged southeast. Last year Bayik accused Turkey of waging a proxy war against Kurds in Syria by backing Islamist rebels fighting them in the north, threatening an end to the ceasefire that was called in March 2012 when the PKK’s jailed leader Abdullah Ocalan ordered his rebel fighters to retreat from Turkey to Iraqi Kurdistan.

“Because Turkey has continued to pursue its policies without any changes, we have sent back all our fighters that were pulled out of Turkey,” Bayik said.

Kurdish leaders in Syria have asked Ankara to establish a corridor through Turkey to allow aid and military supplies to reach Kobani where YPG is struggling against an Islamic State advance.

Bayik lambasted a Turkish mandate enabling the government to authorize cross-border military incursions into Iraq and Syria to battle Islamic State militants, saying it is designed to attack the PKK.

Reuters



Turkish army tanks take position on top of a hill near Mursitpinar border crossing in the southeastern Turkish town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 11 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Kurds urge more air strikes in Kobani; monitor warns of defeat

MURSITPINAR, (Turkey), 12 Oct—Kurdish forces defending Kobani urged a US-led coalition to escalate air strikes on Islamic State fighters who tightened their grip on the Syrian town at the border with Turkey on Saturday.

A group that monitors the Syrian civil war said the Kurdish forces faced inevitable defeat in Kobani if Turkey did not open its border to let through arms, something Ankara has appeared reluctant to do.

The US-led coalition escalated air strikes on Islamic State in and around Kobani, also known as Ayn al-Arab, some four days ago. The main Kurdish armed group, the YPG, said in a statement the air strikes had inflicted heavy losses on Islamic State, but had been less effective in the last two days.

A Kurdish military official, speaking to *Reuters* from Kobani, said street fighting was making it harder for the warplanes to target Islamic State positions. “We have a problem, which is the war between houses,” said Esmat Al-Sheikh, head of the Kobani defence council.

“The air strikes are benefiting us, but Islamic



A Turkish army tank manoeuvres near Turkish Kurds watching over the Syrian town of Kobani from atop a hill near Mursitpinar border crossing in the southeastern Turkish town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 11 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

State is bringing tanks and artillery from the east. We didn’t see them with tanks, but yesterday we saw T-57 tanks,” he added.

While Islamic State has been able to reinforce its fighters, the Kurds have not. Islamic State has besieged the town to the east, south and west, meaning the Kurds’ only possible supply route is the Turkish border to the north.

The UN envoy to Syria on Friday called on Turkey to help prevent a slaughter

in Kobani, asking it to let “volunteers” cross the frontier to reinforce Kurdish forces defending the town that lies within sight of Turkish territory.

Turkey has yet to respond to the remarks by Staffan de Mistura, who said he feared a repeat of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre in Bosnia. Kurdish leaders in Syria have asked Ankara to establish a corridor through Turkey to allow aid and military supplies to reach Kobani.

A senior Kurdish militant has threatened Turkey with a new Kurdish revolt if it sticks with its current policy of non-intervention in the battle for Kobani.

Islamic State “is getting supplies and men, while Turkey is preventing Kobani from getting ammunition. Even with the resistance, if things stay like this, the Kurdish forces will be like a car without fuel,” said Rami Abdelrahman, who runs the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors

the conflict in Syria through sources on the ground.

US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel said on Saturday that retired General John Allen, a US envoy charged with building an international coalition against Islamic State, had just returned to Washington and reported progress.

“There was considerable progress made by General Allen specifically with Turkey,” Hagel told a news conference in Santiago. He said US military teams would hold talks in Turkey next week. “They’ll be spending a good deal (of time) next week with Turkey’s general staff and appropriate leaders going through the specifics of Turkey’s commitments to help the coalition specifically to train and equip areas of their contribution,” he added.

Turkey has been reluctant to help the Kurds defending Kobani, one of three areas of northern Syria where Kurds have established self-rule since the Syrian civil war began in 2011. The main Syrian Kurdish group has close ties

to the PKK, which waged a militant campaign for Kurdish rights in Turkey and is listed as a terrorist group by Turkey and its Western allies.

Tall plumes of smoke were seen rising from Kobani on Saturday and the sound of gunfire was close to constant as battles raged into the afternoon, a *Reuters* journalist observing from the Turkish side of the frontier said. After sunset, the sounds of gunfire and shelling continued. Red tracer gunfire lit the sky in the eastern sector of the town, much of which has fallen to Islamic State. Battles also raged at the southern and western edges of the town.

A Kurdish military official in the Syrian city of Qamishli, another area under Kurdish control, said thousands of fighters stood ready to go to Kobani were Turkey to open a corridor.

But Ghaliya Naamat, the official, said the fighters in Kobani needed better weaponry. “Medium-range weapons is what is lacking,” she told *Reuters* by telephone.—*Reuters*

Three car bombs kill 25 north of Iraq’s Baquba

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct — Three car bombs exploded at a government compound north of Iraq’s Baquba city on Sunday, killing 25 people including military personnel and civilians, hospital sources said. Sixty people were wounded in the blasts 80 km (50 miles)

north of Baquba, the sources added. In a separate incident, two improvised explosive devices detonated at a local market in the Dur al-Dhubat district in southern Baquba, killing six civilians and wounding 10, a police source said.

Reuters



Soldiers of Chinese People’s Liberation Army Navy take part in a shoot training on Changbaishan warship, on 11 Oct, 2014. Changbaishan warship is part of the 18th batch of convoy fleet sent by the Chinese People’s Liberation Army Navy for escort missions in the Gulf of Aden.—XINHUA

Senior police officers among seven dead in Iran plane crash

DUBAI, 12 Oct — An Iranian police plane crashed late on Saturday killing four high-ranking officers investigating the deaths of police in a province that borders Pakistan and Afghanistan, state news agency *IRNA* reported.

Three crew also died in the crash, underscoring concerns about Iran’s aging aircraft fleet which Teheran has been unable to modernize due to international sanctions.

All seven on board perished when the twin-engined turbo-prop Commander aircraft went down in the mountains outside Sistan-Baluchistan’s capital of Zahedan, *IRNA* said.

Two generals including Mahmoud Sadeghi, a senior officer in charge of investigations, and a colonel, were among the dead, *Fars* news reported.

The police were traveling from Teheran to investigate the killing of four Iranian police officers in

the province.

Impoverished and relatively lawless Sistan-Baluchistan has been plagued by unrest from disgruntled Sunni Muslim minorities in predominantly Shi’ite Iran and is rife with drug and arms traffickers.

The wreckage of the aircraft has been found but the cause of the crash remains unknown, *IRNA* said.

Iran’s airlines have been plagued by crashes, which Teheran blames

on international sanctions imposed over Teheran’s disputed nuclear program. The measures prevent firms from replacing their aging fleets. About 22 crashes involving Iranian aircrafts were reported from 2000 to August 2014.

Most recently, at least 39 people were killed in August when an Iran-140 Sepahan Air passenger plane crashed after takeoff from Teheran’s Mehrabad airport.

Reuters

Senior Iraqi police officer killed in bomb attack in Ramadi

BAGHDAD, 12 Oct—A high-ranking police officer and provincial police chief was killed on Sunday in a bomb attack in the volatile province of Anbar in western Iraq, a provincial security source said. Major General Ahmed Saddak al-Dulaimi was killed when a roadside bomb struck his

convoy in Albu Risha area in the northern part of the provincial capital city of Ramadi, some 110 km west of the Iraqi capital of Baghdad, the source told *Xinhua* on condition of anonymity.

Albu Risha area is the stronghold of the tribal leader Ahmed Abu Risha, who heads the govern-

ment-backed paramilitary groups of Awakening Councils, or Sahwa. The area has been the scene of fierce clashes during the past few days between the Abu Risha followers backed Iraqi security forces and Sunni tribal groups, including the Islamic State militant group, an al-Qaeda offshoot.

Since December last year, insurgent attacks continue in the Sunni Arab heartland in west of Baghdad that stretches through Anbar Province, which has been the scene of fierce clashes that flared up after Iraqi police dismantled an anti-government protest site outside the city of Ramadi.—*Xinhua*

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 13 October, 2014

It is time to give serious consideration to disaster risk reduction

By Kyaw Thura

The world we live in is now experiencing challenges unheard of before. One challenge affecting the world most is disasters, both man-made and natural. In fact, disaster risk reduction is a global concern which requires strategic planning and integration in all sectors, countries and communities. It is therefore important to realize that the reduction of disaster risks and their impacts is a shared responsibility.

Bearing this in mind, the world has designated 13 October as the International Day for Disaster Reduction (IDDR). The objective of the observance of the day is to raise awareness of how people and communities can come together to reduce their risk to disasters.

It is time for all of us to awaken to the realization that our world is ageing. As United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon put it, there is no plan B as there is no planet B. His words highlights that we have to galvanize our action in response to disasters. We cannot leave anyone behind in this process. That is why IDDR this year has pointed out the need for a more inclusive approach for older people in disaster risk reduction and recognize the critical role they can play in building resilience through their experience and knowledge.

In any outbreak of disaster, older people are vulnerable to risks. This calls on us to reverse this tragedy and optimize the contributions of older people

to early warning systems, social protection mechanisms, evacuation and emergency response plans and public awareness campaigns for our collective safety and wellbeing.

Senior citizens are older people but they still possess strengths and can serve the interests of their communities. We can count on their years of experience when it comes to disaster risk management and other planning and decision-making processes.

All in all, the word is old age does not mean inability.

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.

COURAGE

Kyi Mun

To dare nobly, to will strongly;
Never to falter in the path of duty.

-Anonymous

Courage means : Daring to struggle and daring to win; daring to scale the heights.

It also means : Being resolute, fearing no sacrifice and surmounting all difficulties to win victory.

Analytically, courage means:

- C for Character
- O for Obstacles Exist to be Overcome
- U for Unique Spirit of Winning Victory
- R for Risk-taking Bias
- A for Audacity
- G for Goal
- E for Endurance

CHARACTER

Character is what you are. Character is what you are made of — timber or steel. High character begets high courage; and low character begets low courage. Character, in essence, is the manifestation of AEIOU—Active Embodiment of Sense of Righteousness, Ethics, Integrity, Obedience to Higher Beliefs & Values, Universal Goodness such as Lovingkindness & Compassion.

OBSTACLES EXIST TO BE OVERCOME

Courage is not a really bold and brave courage if it dares not confront and overcome all obstacles, difficulties, bottlenecks, impasses, hindrances, problems, challenges, etc. If you think you have courage, would you be resolute, would you believe you fear no sacrifice, would you be so confident that you would turn heaven and

earth upside down to surmount all difficulties to win victory ? Courage is made up of two separate parts: Satti & Vyatti; Satti means daring to think and daring to struggle; Vyatti means daring to confront and endure all the consequences of carrying out the MISSION IMPOSSIBLE.

UNIQUE SPIRIT OF WINNING VICTORY :

In life there are two options to choose :

- Gain or Loss
- Victory or Defeat
- Win or Losev
- Triumph or Giving up & Giving In
- Success or Failure
- Advancing or Retreating
- Going Forward or Turning Backward
- Holding High the Banner or Lowering the Banner
- Fight or Flight
- Going After Victory or Running Away from the Foe
- Courage or Fear
- Hope or Despair
- Faith or Doubt

RISK-TAKING BIAS

Life is basically risky. Life is full of uncertainties. Life is always in a flux. Life is never permanent; it is ever changing. So, you have got to take a risk. You have to bet; you have to gamble. But, never blindly. You have got to calculate the costs and benefits. You have got to shape the outcome of your adventure with brilliant strategy and tactics. You have got to think, to weigh, to balance and to anticipate the outcomes. To must be good at estimating and planning. You should be very meticulous in your prior preparations. You have got to have the capability to outperform for a final decision for winning victory. It won't do for you to follow the tactic of the ostrich burying its head in the sand in the face of the oncoming dangers. You have got to stand up and fight and keep on fighting until the final victory.

AUDACITY

Audacity means : courage, boldness, bravery, temerity, fearlessness, daring, sacrificing, risking everything for the sake of truth and justice. It means being strong inside, permitting no defeat and fighting all you can. Audacity is never giving up, never giving in, standing up to all obstacles and fighting through to victory. The motto of AUDACITY is : Fear and Be slain; Believe and Live.

GOAL

So long as you have fire in your guts and courage in your heart, you are sure to have a goal of your choice for your life and for the lives of others. The courage you possess will never let you down. Even if your head is bloody, you would remain unbowed; and you will be your master of your fate, and you will always be captain of your soul. Go forward to do the one thing of your heart's passion. Forget all things, which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before and most forcefully press towards the mark.

ENDURANCE

It is said that : "The wisdom of life is to endure what we must and to change what we can". If you have courage, you would surely dare to endure all the afflictions and reverses that you might have to face. Just keep on keeping on no matter how hard the going may be. You only have to take one step at a time and to keep on in order to surmount all obstacles and win the final decisive victory.

CONCLUSION

Courage has to confront and overcome many foes or adversaries; but if you have:

- A burning desire
- An indomitable will
- An unyielding effort / courage
- And an insight wisdom

there is nothing that can withstand your resolute forward march to the final victory.

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



Academic skills of teachers improved at the workshop

DAWEI, 12 Oct — A workshop on free education was held at the hall of No 1 Basic Education High School in Dawei of Taninthayi Region on Saturday.

Deputy Director Daw Aye Aye Myint of Dawei District Education office made a speech. Assistant Director (Finance/Admin) U Win Maung explained the management of the workshop. The workshop was attended by 265 senior teachers from Dawei District on 11 and 12 October. It was aimed at improving academic skills of teachers.

Po Shwe Thun-Dawei

Solo arts show displays over 80 water colour paintings

MANDALAY, 12 Oct—A solo arts show of Artist Kyaw Thu Wint of Mandalay was held at No 17 Thiri Fine Arts Gallery on Mingala Housing Street in 73rd street in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay on Sunday.

Media persons, artists, literati and enthusiasts enjoyed over 80 water colour painting works.

The artist attended the State School of Fine Arts in Mandalay. He has held the solo arts shows in Yangon and Mandalay four times.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

LOCAL NEWS

HPA-AN, 12 Oct—A ceremony to release fingerlings and fry shrimps into Yaybok Dam in Htilon Village of Hlaingbwe Township in Kayin State on Saturday, aimed at ensuring local food sufficiency.

Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Deputy Speaker of Kayin State Hluttaw U Mahn Hla Myaing and Head of Kayin State Fisheries Department Dr Nyunt Wai together with staff released 40 viss of fresh water fry shrimps, 6,000 lobsters and over 30,000 fingerlings into the dam.

The fingerling release ceremonies were held at the dam three times.

Nay Myo Lwin (IPRD)

Fry shrimps, fingerlings released into dam



No 1 inter-district road under maintenance

NATOGYI, 12 Oct—Township Department of Rural Development in Natogyi of Mandalay Region started repairing of the 24-mile No 1 inter-district road passing Natogyi Township, spending over K200 mil-

lion in 2014-15 fiscal year.

It was for the first time of maintenance after the department accepted the duty and functions for the road from Development Affairs Department. The Department of Rural De-

velopment will repair three wooden bridges, three conduits and four culverts, to repave the road with asphalt concrete and expand the pavement.

The inter-district road links TadaU, Natogyi,

Wundwin and Mahlaing townships. At present, people have access to Natmauk of Magway Region from Mandalay through the district road.

Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)

Mdy Region Chief Minister visits Enterprise India Show



MANDALAY, 12 Oct—The Enterprise India Show continued till Sunday at Mandalay City Hall.

On Saturday, Chief Minister U Ye Myint and region ministers visited the Enterprise India Show.

The Indian Consul-General and responsible persons of companies conducted the Chief Minister and party round the booths which showcase automobiles and machinery, battery and invertors, agricultural machinery, foodstuff and packaging materials, textile and handicrafts, electronics and equipment, kitchen utensils and others.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Indian entrepreneurs hope for trade and investment opportunities in Mandalay Region

MANDALAY, 12 Oct—Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint received Indian entrepreneurs led by Mr Viresh Oberoi of Mjunction Services Ltd of India at the hall of Mandalay Region government on 10 October.

They cordially dis-

cussed trade and investment matters in Mandalay Region.

It was also attended by Mandalay Region Ministers U Kyaw Hsan, U Aung Zan and U Kyaw Myint, and Indian Consul-General Dr N Nandakumar.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

People repair damaged road in Kyunhla Township

KYUNHLA, 12 Oct—People of villages in the western part of Thaphan-seik Dam in Kyunhla Township in Sagaing Region repaired the roads damaged in the floods of creeks on a self-reliant basis.

Over 70 villages are located in the western part of the dam.

Paygon-Leiksin-taung-Paybinchaung Village road was paved with gravel for giving transport service to the local people.

The creeks near the road eroded the inter-village road and bridges due to flood. Therefore, the local people repaired the road and bridges.

“Local people, students, departmental personnel and vendors rely on the road for their transportation. So, we make concerted efforts in maintenance of the road,” said village administrator U Han Tun.

Myo Win Nyo (Kyunhla)



Air France-KLM to press ahead with low cost brand in France



Air France planes are parked on the tarmac at the Charles de Gaulle International Airport in Roissy, near Paris on the second week of a strike by Air France pilots on 22 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

PARIS, 12 Oct — Air France-KLM is pressing ahead with expansion of its low cost brand in France

and has a back-up plan if a deadlock with pilots continues, its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Alexandre de Juniac said in an interview published on Sunday.

Pilots ended the air-

line's longest strike since 1998 in late September despite continued deadlock with managers over the development of the firm's low-cost operations.

Asked why the pilots suspended the strike when the final decision was not taken, Juniac said in an interview to weekly *Le Journal du Dimanche*: "Sense of responsibility prevailed. Our proposals remain on the table".

Air France-KLM has put the total cost of last month's two-week pilots strike at up to 500 million euros (392 million pounds), enough to wipe more than a fifth off its estimated full-year core profit.

If pilots do not agree to sign the proposals, Air France may choose to set

up a subsidiary of Transavia, Transavia Development, in France in a bid to develop the low-cost business with new planes that arrive in the coming months.

"But it would be more simple and logic if pilots agree," de Juniac said.

"With Frederic Gagey (CEO of Air France), we strongly hope that we will soon agree on the best conditions to develop Transavia France," he added.

The pilots launched their strike in an effort to force Air France-KLM to revise plans to expand its low-cost brand, Transavia in Europe, fearing that the project would erode their own pay and conditions.

The airline thus dropped its proposal to expand its Transavia low-cost

operations beyond France and the Netherlands to a total of 100 planes.

In a sign of continued tensions in the aftermath of the dispute, Air France said it had been forced to cancel a meeting with unions last week to present its plans for Transavia due to the absence of unions representing a minority of staff.

The Alter union, which represents a minority of pilots, said it had not been invited and urged Air France to inform all the company's labour organisations about its plans for Transavia.

"We should move quickly to avoid the risk of leaving the room for our competitors, especially at Orly (airport), where slots may become available," de Juniac added. — *Reuters*

Spanish nursing auxiliary infected by Ebola remains in stable condition

MADRID, 12 Oct — Teresa Romero, the 44-year-old Spanish nursing auxiliary infected with the Ebola virus remains in a critical but stable condition, according to the latest reports on Saturday.

Romero, the first person to become infected with the virus outside of Africa, is being treated on the sixth floor of the Carlos III Hospital in Madrid, where she has spent the past five days after being confirmed as having been infected by the virus last Monday.

She is currently undergoing a range of treatments, which include the

experimental ZMapp serum, which has produced positive results against the virus, a serum made from the blood of a survivor or Ebola and an anti-virus drug.

Her condition had deteriorated on Thursday and she was described as being in a "very critical" condition, although that has apparently stabilized over the past 48 hours.

As well as Romero a further 16 people are now under observation at the Carlos III Hospital, which was visited by Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy on Friday.

None of these 16 peo-



ple has shown any symptoms yet of the Ebola virus, but are under observation after possible exposure to the virus. Among those 16 is the doctor who first treated Romero when she developed early signs of the

illness.

These patients are on the fourth and fifth floors of the hospital and it has been confirmed that the third floor of the building is also being prepared for further possible arrivals. — *Xinhua*

Airbus to establish A330 delivery centre in China

BEIJING, 12 Oct — Airbus has confirmed the intention of setting up an A330 Completion and Delivery Centre in China's northern city of Tianjin.

This latest move was aimed at supporting the fast growth of air traffic in China with larger aircraft, company sources said.

The in-service Airbus fleet with Chinese operators now comprises more than 1,000 aircraft. Between 2014 to 2033, Airbus forecasts a demand in China for more than 5,300 new commercial aircraft with over 100 seats in addition to freighters.

"In its 30 years history the Airbus partnership with China keeps on growing and expanding.

The intended establishment of an A330 Completion and Delivery Centre will add a new exciting chapter to our longstanding track record of mutual achievements," said Fabrice Bregier, Airbus president and CEO.

The A330 Family, which spans 250 to 300 seats, has attracted more than 1,300 orders, with over 1,000 aircraft flying now with more than 100 operators worldwide.

Xinhua

European bank mergers still face hurdles post-stress tests

PARIS, 12 Oct — Health checks on Europe's banks may reveal takeover targets, but because protectionist regulation across the region has yet to be addressed, any post-"stress test" tie-ups are likely to be along national lines and could make a splintered industry more so.

The European Central Bank takes direct authority over the currency area's 120 top banks on 4 November after publishing the results of its review of their balance sheets on 26 October.

But prospects for subsequent cross-border mergers have faded since Europe has yet to address national regulators' power to stop capital moving across borders, company law requiring subsidiaries to be run independently and secrecy laws.

All have a chilling effect on cross-border investment. "There are two key obstacles," said a senior bank executive with long experience of cross-border operations, who spoke on condition of anonymity to avoid antagonising regulators.

"One is fragmentation that takes various forms — capital, liquidity, legal and structural. The other is that it is inherently more difficult to generate synergies with cross-border mergers." Bank mergers prompted by the launch of the euro in 1999 have stalled since Lehman Brothers collapsed in 2008 — an event that prompted then Bank of England governor Mervyn King to observe that "global banks are global in life but national in death". Data

compiled by *Reuters* show cross-border banking mergers and acquisitions in the euro area peaked in 2007 — the year a consortium led by Royal Bank of Scotland bought ABN AMRO of the Netherlands in a deal that turned disastrous for all parties.

Deals have since dwindled to barely \$1.5 billion in value in the first nine months of this year as bankers were put off by the cost of unwinding soured mega-deals and new rules which make major banks more expensive to run.

Nonetheless, some European banking experts are optimistic the obstacles will diminish over time, once the ECB settles into its role as single supervisor and gets to work.

Reuters



Protestors left some barbed wire in front of the euro sign landmark outside the headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) before the ECB's monthly news conference in Frankfurt, on 4 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

Sears says Kmart stores hit by data breach

NEW YORK, 12 Oct — Sears Holdings Corp SHLD.O said it was the victim of a cyber attack that likely resulted in the theft of some customer payment cards at its Kmart stores, the latest in a series of computer security breaches to hit US companies and dealing a fresh blow to the struggling US retailer.

The US Secret Service confirmed it was investigating the breach, which occurred in September and compromised the systems of Kmart, which has about 1,200 stores across the United States. The breach did not affect the Sears department store chain.

A Sears spokesman said he could not say how many credit and debit card numbers had been taken. He added that the personal information, debit card PIN numbers, email addresses and Social Security numbers of its customers remained safe.

Security professionals said they were not surprised to learn that yet another major retailer was

reporting a breach, adding they believe many big merchants do not have adequate systems for detecting cyber attacks, which means they still remain easy prey for hackers.

“This is going to continue indefinitely until people change their practices,” said Shawn Henry, a former senior cyber cop with the FBI who is now of the president of cyber forensics firm CrowdStrike Services.

He said that hackers are able to get into networks because they are “so broad and vast” that attackers will always find a way in. Retailers need to do a better job of quickly detecting them before they begin to steal data, he said.

Sears said that the attackers used malicious software that was undetectable using anti-virus software, highlighting the challenge of keeping up with the evolving techniques of computer hackers. Company spokesman Chris Brathwaite said Sears had been upgrading its systems even before the recent spate of



Customers walk into a Sears store at Fair Oaks Mall in Fairfax, Virginia, on 7 January, 2010. Sears Holdings Corp forecast fourth-quarter earnings well above Wall Street expectations, sending its shares up 15 percent in pre-market trade.

REUTERS

incidents involving retailers, which included a massive breach of the systems of Target Corp TGT.N in late 2013.

“Our IT team was able to quickly remove the malware and we are deploying further advanced software to protect our customers’

information,” Brathwaite said.

Security experts say retailers have traditionally not invested enough in security, partly because of the industry’s relatively thin profit margins.

The breach comes as Sears is struggling to

revive itself under Chief Executive Eddie Lampert, who has been closing stores and slashing costs to try to return to profitability. Critics say Lampert has been investing too little in the Sears and Kmart stores, contributing to nine straight quarterly losses.

Tom Kellermann, chief cybersecurity officer with security software maker Trend Micro, said that retailers need to be prepared to deal with malicious software crafted specifically for the purposes of burglarising retailers.

“It is debatable whether they had sufficient security in place to thwart these thieves. The real question that needs to be asked is why haven’t they learned the lessons from the attacks on Target and others.”

Kmart apologized to its customers on Friday and said it was working with federal authorities, banking partners and security firms in the probe.

On Thursday, restaurant chain Dairy Queen, owned by Berkshire Hathaway Inc BRKa.N, confirmed that it may have compromised payment card information of customers across 46 US states. Other widespread breaches include those of Home Depot Inc HD.N, Michaels Stores Inc and Neiman Marcus.

Reuters

Archeologists unearth ancient village in an Arizona national park

PHOENIX, 12 Oct — Archeologists have unearthed a village believed to be about 1,300 years old and containing more than 50 sandstone-walled homes at a US national park in northeastern Arizona, one of the researchers said on Friday.

The discovery was made by a team that surveyed part of the Petrified Forest National Park during the summer and broadly dated the homes and other artifacts found at the site to between 200 AD and 700 AD.

“The ceramics at the site tell us that what we found falls within that time,” said Amy Schott, an archeologist who works for the park. “Other similar sites there have been carbon dated and roughly fall within that period.”

Surveyors found the first traces of some 50 to 75 buried “pit houses” in sand dunes at the park in June, and they estimate the village could have had as many as 125 inhabitants.

Schott said the homes are believed to have been inhabited during the so-called Basketmaker era, when Na-

tive American communities in the area were beginning to grow crops for food and establish settlements.

“Most of these sites you find are small,” said Schott, who took part in the project. “This one is so large and interesting because it had so many structures and features all in one spot.”

Along with ancient pottery, the researchers also found rudimentary tools made of stone and petrified wood as well as pendants crafted from shells. No human remains were found, Schott said.

This is the second such large-scale find by archeologists within two years as surveys are carried out as part of an effort to more than double the size of the park. Plans call for the park to grow to 218,500 acres (88,500 hectares) under the Petrified Forest Expansion Act passed by Congress in 2004.

The park, which straddles Arizona’s Apache and Navajo counties, is a popular tourist attraction, visited by an average of 600,000 people a year. —Reuters

Snapchat blames third-party apps for any leaked photos

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Oct — Mobile messaging company Snapchat blamed third-party software apps for possible security lapses that may have led to its users’ private photos being at risk of online publication by hackers.

A file containing at least 100,000 Snapchat photos has been collected by hackers who were preparing to publish them online, according to a report on the Business Insider blog. Snapchat lets users send photos and videos that disappear in seconds.

“We can confirm that Snapchat servers were never breached and were not the source of these leaks,” the company said in an emailed statement.

Users were “allegedly victimized by their use of third-party apps to send and receive Snaps, a practise that we expressly prohibit in our terms of use precisely because they compromise our users’ security.”

A Snapchat representative noted the company’s statement was based on reports of leaked photos,

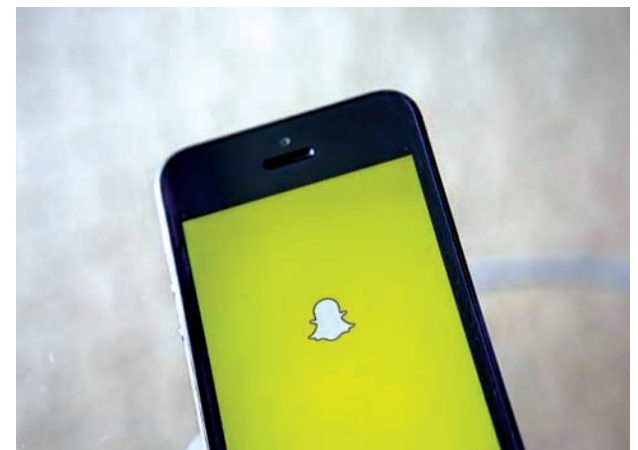
and that it could not verify whether hackers had breached third-party software containing stolen Snapchat photos.

Snapchat, one of a crop of new apps that compete with Twitter Inc and Facebook Inc, is popular among teenagers. Some media reports raised concerns that the hackers’ file could contain nude “selfie” pictures of teens who expected the photos to be deleted.

Leaked photos could also become problematic for Snapchat, which has faced criticism over privacy practices. It is now raising money in a funding round that would give it a \$10 billion valuation, according to reports.

Reuters was unable to verify whether any Snapchat photos had been posted online.

According to Business Insider, hackers may have obtained the photos by breaching third-party services that allow consumers to save the Snapchat photos they receive. Users of the online forum 4Chan downloaded the files and are creating a searchable database



A portrait of the Snapchat logo in Ventura, California on 21 Dec, 2013.—REUTERS

of the stolen photos, the report said.

Tal Klein, a vice president at cloud security firm Adallom, said he could not rule out the possibility that the entire incident was a hoax.

He noted that some of the purported Snapchat photos posted on 4Chan had digital signatures that matched his firm’s database of stolen images previously circulated online.

That suggests the episode could be fictitious, or that the supposed cache of new photos was a collection of previously stolen Snapchat images aggregated by hackers, said Klein.

The potential publish-

ing of private Snapchat photos comes shortly after nude pictures of actress Jennifer Lawrence and images purporting to be of dozens of other actresses were posted on 4Chan. Media reports said Apple Inc’s iCloud accounts had apparently been hacked to obtain the photos.

In May, Snapchat settled charges with US regulators accusing it of deceiving customers by promising that photos on its service disappeared forever. According to the Federal Trade Commission, photos sent on Snapchat could be saved using several methods.

Reuters

India celebrates Satyarthi's Nobel win

NEW DELHI, 12 Oct—The whole of India on Saturday celebrated the co-winning of the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize by Indian activist Kailash Satyarthi for his work for more than three decades to abolish child labour and other issues related to child rights.

The prize was on Friday jointly awarded to Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani schoolgirl who has become an icon for her devotion to women's education. Satyarthi has so far rescued nearly 80,000 child laborers from servitude and rehabilitated them into mainstream society. "Having won this award, my team and I are once more inspired to continue our fight with renewed energy and vigour," he said in a statement. He added that much more needs to be done because there are more than 165 million child labourers in the world, of which 65 million are in India alone. He said the idea of child labour hit him for the first time when he was barely 5 years old.

"It was first day to school. And, on the way I noticed a child working as a cobbler. I asked him why he doesn't go to school. He replied that he is born to work and not be educated. I posed this question to my teachers, but didn't get any convincing answers. And, perhaps it was the first incident I can recall today which forced me to work for this cause in the latter part of my life," he said.

According to Satyarthi's resume made available on Friday, he successfully spearheaded a countrywide movement to make education a constitutional provision which subsequently paved the way for the fundamental right to free and compulsory education for children in 2009 in India.—*Kyodo News*



Kailash Satyarthi

Joksimovic: EU to grant EUR 60.2 million worth of aid



BELGRADE, 12 Oct—Serbia should be granted EUR 60.2 million worth of donations from the EU Solidarity Fund for the reconstruction of infrastructure in parts of the country hit by recent floods, Serbian Minister without portfolio in charge of European integration Jadranka Joksimovic stated.

We got a piece of great news from Brussels on Friday, since the Euro-

pean Commission issued a recommendation to the European Parliament and the European Council to allocate EUR 60.2 million worth of aid for Serbia from the EU Solidarity Fund, Joksimovic told *tanjug*.

She underscored that this is the best indicator of the importance of Serbia's EU path because citizens can see the real-life benefits the country would have

from the candidate member status.

She said that back in May when the flashing floods hit Serbia, she had a chance to have talks with the then commissioner for regional policy concerning the application procedure for the allocations from the Solidarity Fund which was completed in late July.

Now the European Parliament and the European Council should decide on this matter, Joksimovic said and added that she expects the contract to be signed by the end of the year.

The funds should be placed at our disposal by the end of the year, she said.

The Solidarity Fund is available to EU members and candidate countries which can apply for funds in case of natural disasters on the same terms as full EU members.

The funds can be used for reconstruction of infrastructure and repair of the

vulnerable areas, but the money cannot be allocated for the construction of private houses, Joksimovic said.

A good aspect of the allocations granted from the Solidarity Fund is the fact that they can be used retroactively, for already launched projects of repair and reconstruction, Joksimovic said.

She recalled that the EU has so far granted Serbia around EUR 150 million of aid, of which EUR 30 million were delivered by IPA funds, EUR 50 million came from 2014 IPA programming and EUR 60 million were delivered from the Solidarity Fund.

Speaking about the destination of the allocations from the Solidarity Fund, Joksimovic said that project prioritisation would be completed in cooperation with the Office for Reconstruction and Flood Relief.

Tanjug

Lava flow seen at Mayon volcano in Philippines

MANILA, 12 Oct — Lava flow was observed from the Mayon volcano in eastern Philippine province of Albay on Sunday morning, the state seismology agency said.

The latest update of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) said that visual and aerial

observations found a "short and stubby lava flow" approximately 350 meters in length, slowly and quietly flowing down the eastern side of Bonga Gully along the southeast slope of Mayon volcano.

"The small number of volcanic earthquakes and rockfall events for the past few days suggest

a sluggish movement of the lava flow, and slow extrusion of lava from the crater," the state agency added.

With the impending eruption of Mayon volcano, Philippine President Benigno S Aquino III has ordered his Cabinet officials to assess the situation in 48 evacuation

centers where nearly 13,000 families or more than 55,000 individuals were being served.

PHIVOLCS reiterated that Alert Level 3 remains hoisted over Mayon volcano, meaning that magma is at the crater and that a hazardous eruption is possible within weeks.

Xinhua

1/3rd of monitoring cameras at Monju reactor found broken

TSURUGA, 12 Oct—Approximately a third of 180 monitoring cameras at the Monju prototype fast-breeder reactor were found to be broken during a safety inspection last month, a source familiar with the matter said on Saturday, fueling concern about the reactor operator's safety management system.

In May last year, the Nuclear Regulation Authority effectively banned operation of the Monju reactor located on the Sea of Japan coast, after finding more than 10,000 pieces of equipment at the facility in Fukui Prefecture had not been properly inspected.

The broken cameras are among 180 installed to monitor the area surrounding coolant pipes in a secondary cooling system at the reactor building. The cameras were installed following a major fire in 1995 caused by the leakage of sodium used as coolant, and put into operation in 2007, according to the source. Around a third were broken when the NRA conducted an inspection last month —

and some had been so for more than 18 months, the source said.

The Japan Atomic Energy Agency, which operates Monju, said it was aware of the problem but could not replace broken cameras with the same type as they were no longer being made. Last month the operator said it will extend the period of intensive reform of the Monju management system by six months through March.

The JAEA seeks a lifting of the effective ban by the NRA on operating the reactor within fiscal 2014, which ends next 31 March. But the latest finding could lead to a prolonged ban, the source said.

Since achieving criticality in 1994, Monju has remained largely offline due to a series of safety problems. The reactor was developed to play a key role in Japan's long-standing nuclear fuel recycling policy, potentially pointing the way to energy independence for the world's third-largest economy.

Kyodo News

Powerful typhoon threatens to sweep through Japan's main islands



Pedestrians battle strong winds while walking on a street in Naha, Okinawa Prefecture on 11 Oct, 2014, as Vongfong, a powerful typhoon, approaches Japan's southernmost prefecture.—*KYODO NEWS*

TOKYO, 12 Oct—A powerful typhoon is on track to sweep through the Japanese archipelago after moving over the southern islands of Okinawa and injuring dozens, the Japan Meteorological Agency said on Sunday.

Typhoon Vongfong is expected to head toward the southwestern island of Kyushu, the next main island in its path, and may make landfall Monday morning, it said. At 10 am, the slow-moving typhoon with an atmospheric pres-

sure of 960 hectopascals at its center and packing winds of up to 180 kilometers per hour was heading north-northeast some 220 km west of Amami-Oshima Island. Strong winds whipped the Okinawa and adjacent Amami regions on Saturday, injuring more than 20 people, according to local governments.

The typhoon is expected to start causing violent winds and heavy rain on the main island of Honshu on Monday, according to the agency.—*Kyodo News*

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Invitation for Expression of Interest for the Position of

“Advisor for establishment of Myanmar Communications Commission”

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (“MCIT”) now invites eligible international individual consultants (“Consultants”) to indicate their interests to provide hands on provision of Consulting Services to MCIT and its Posts and Telecommunications Department (“PTD”) to conduct and assessment of Regulation in the Sector and to provide Ongoing Technical Support towards the establishment of the Myanmar Communication Commission.

All submissions of the EOI are requested to deliver the documents (including CV/ resume) to the address below by October 30, 2014.

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Post and Telecommunications Department
Attn: Mr. Than Htun Aung, Project Director, Telecom Sector Reform Project

Building Number 2, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar
Tel: +95 67 407435

Fax: +95 67 40 7539

E-mail: thanhtunaung@mptngw.net.mm,
tsrproject2014@gmail.com

The Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) and Terms of References (TOR) are available at <http://www.mcit.gov.mm/news>



People take part in an action art activity for environment protection in the “Yangrenjie” scenery spot in Chongqing Municipality, southwest China, on 11 Oct, 2014. The participants promote more green plants and less smoking and driving cars.

XINHUA

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Search for lost helicopter resumes in southern Siberia



KRASNOYARSK, 12 Oct—The search for a lost helicopter Mil Mi-8 of Tyva-Avia Airline has resumed with dawn in southern Siberia’s republic of Tyva, the website of the Tyva regional emergencies department said on Sunday.

Additional rescuers

join searches for missing Mi-8 helicopter in Tyva “Ten aircraft, including four aircraft from the Siberian regional emergencies centre are planned to involve on the third day of the search operation.”

Eight ground search teams are also engaged in the operation,” Tyva rescuers said.

The search-and-rescue grouping numbers 331 and 43 units of machinery, including 95 emergency workers and 14 units of machinery.

The helicopter Mi-8

which went missing in Tyva on 10 October carried 12.

The helicopter was en route from the town of Sorug in Todzhi district of the republic to the republican capital city of Kyzyl. Specialists on board the machine were making snow measurements in the area where snow-measuring equipment should be mounted for the Sayano-Shushenskaya hydropower plant where a man-made disaster broke out on 17 Aug, 2009.

Itar-Tass

Thousands march in St Louis to protest police violence

FERGUSON, 12 Oct — Thousands of protesters marched through St Louis on Saturday as part of a weekend of demonstrations against police violence organized after the fatal shooting of an unarmed black teenager by a white officer last summer.

After a peaceful, 1/2-mile march through downtown, protesters rallied at Keiner Plaza. Organizers included Hands Up Unite, an activist group that emerged after the 9 August shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown in suburban Ferguson, Missouri.

Civil rights organizations and protest groups have invited people from around the country to join vigils and marches in the St Louis area from Friday to Monday.

Tory Russell, one of the founders of Hands Up United, vowed to keep up the pressure on police to change how they deal with young black men. He said



A woman holds a sign as demonstrators rally in St Louis, Missouri on 11 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

he expected the grass-roots movement that sprang from the Ferguson shooting to pick up momentum.

“This isn’t going to stop until there is change with police and black youth,” said Russell on the sidelines of the rally.

The weekend got off to a tense but peaceful start on Friday night, a break from the clashes with police that have erupted in the area in recent days. Police said there had been no

arrests, injuries or damage from the night’s protests.

Under partly cloudy autumn sky, the Saturday afternoon rally was joined by union members, gay rights activists and people from the Occupy movement.

There were even supporters of the Palestine cause carrying placards reading “#Palestine2Ferguson.” There was no visible police presence in the square.

On Friday afternoon, hundreds marched through the rain to the St Louis County courthouse in Clayton, adjacent to St Louis. Protesters have called for the arrest and prosecution of Darren Wilson, the Ferguson police officer who shot Brown. A grand jury is considering evidence in the case.

Some 300 people later assembled outside the nearby Ferguson Police Department, chanting phrases like “Who are we? Mike Brown!” and “Indict. Convict. Send those killer cops to jail.” Just a few feet away stood dozens of officers clad in riot gear.

Early Saturday morning, many protesters moved to the St Louis neighbourhood of Shaw, where 18-year-old Vonderrit Myers Jr was shot dead on Wednesday by an off-duty white officer working for a private security firm.

Reuters

Two people killed in plane crash

BELGRADE, 12 Oct—Two individuals were killed in the accident when a light sport aircraft Skylander 600 crashed in northern Serbia at Saturday some time around noon, Tanjug learnt in the Serbian Ministry of Interior Affairs (MUP).

The plane crashed in a corn field near the Backi Jarak airport, some 100 kilo-

metres from Belgrade, due to still unknown reasons. Two bodies were recovered from the plane wreck.

Fire-fighters and ambulance are currently at the site of the crash and the police are conducting preliminary investigation.

The bodies of the victims have not been identified yet and the reasons for the crash will soon be es-

tablished, the Interior Ministry reps said.

The plane crashed at the opening of the new private airport and the ceremony was attended by a number of people in the aviation profession, one of the eyewitnesses told Tanjug. Witnesses say that the owner of the new airport wanted to take a friend for a flight in the ultra-light

sport aircraft.

They took off and cruised above the runway at minimum speed, and the plane dropped at one point, most likely due to insufficient power, its wing hitting the field behind the runway. The aircraft immediately exploded, killing the pilot and co-pilot on the spot.

Tanjug



Nintendo’s new 3DS console hits shelves in Japan Photo shows the New Nintendo 3DS portable game consoles (front) at an electronics store in Osaka, and people lining up to purchase them on 11 Oct, 2014. Nintendo Co launched the product, which comes in two sizes, the same day in time for the year-end shopping season.—KYODO NEWS

Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 13th October, 2014:, Rain or thunder-showers will be isolated in Kayah State, scattered in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon, Aye-yawady and Taninthayi Regions, Kachin, Shan, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Lower Sagaing Region, Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Chin State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Honesty is the key to good relationship: Lily Collins



Lily Collins does not think there is an ultimate secret to falling in love and staying in love.—PTI

LONDON, 12 Oct— ‘Abduction’ star Lily Collins says honesty is the recipe for a successful relationship.

The 25-year-old actress does not think there is an ultimate secret to falling in love and staying in love but believes being truthful with your partner builds the best foundation for long-term happiness, reported Contactmusic.

“It doesn’t matter how long it takes to get there, to be in love, as long as in the end people are honest. When you’re honest it pays off.

“Everyone has their own speed at which they’re honest, so I would say it’s beautiful but it depends on person to person,” she said.—PTI

I have been told I am not sexy: Anne Hathaway



LOS ANGELES, 12 Oct—Anne Hathaway says she has been told many times that she is not sexy enough for movie roles.

Hathaway, who faced a lot of criticism during the run up to the Oscars 2013 where she won the best supporting actress gong for her portrayal of a prostitute in ‘Les Misérables’, says her successes have not come easy.

“Even though I’ve had great success, touch wood, it hasn’t been easy. A lot of people have told me, ‘You’re not this and so can’t play that,’ and I can’t tell you the amount of times I’ve been told I’m not sexy.

“I just go: ‘I’m a lot of things. Just because I don’t wear my sexiness overtly doesn’t mean that I can’t become that girl for a role. That’s what I do; I become

things. Use your imagination, buddy’,” Hathaway told Harper’s Bazaar in an interview. “So in terms of not listening to what other people told me about who I was as an actress and then really pursuing it, I think I’ve been daring in that way,” Anne, 31, said. The actress also addressed criticism of not being genuine and fumbling during her Oscar speech. “One of the things I’ve been accused of is being inauthentic. And they were right – but not for the reason they thought. “I couldn’t tie this moment to what I really wanted to say. And that’s on me, because Lupita did it,” she said while referring to Lupita Nyong’o’s moving speech after winning Best Supporting Actress for “12 Years a Slave” earlier this year.—PTI

14th Chinese Film Media Awards held in Beijing



The 14th Chinese Film Media Awards was held in Beijing, Capital of China, on 11 Oct, 2014.
XINHUA

Hugh Grant opts out of ‘Bridget Jones 3’



Hugh Grant said his absence will not affect the prospects of the film.—REUTERS

LONDON, 12 Oct — Actor Hugh Grant has revealed he will not return for the third instalment of ‘Bridget Jones’. The romantic comedy series is based on Helen Fielding’s novel of the same name, which is a re-interpretation of Austen’s ‘Pride and Prejudice’. The 54-year-old actor, who starred in the first two films as Daniel Cleaver, said his absence will not affect the prospects of the film, reported Free Radio.

“I decided not to do it. But I think they’re going to go ahead and do it without Daniel. The book’s excellent, by the way, but the script is completely different, well, the script as I last saw it a few years ago.” The third film is to be based on Fielding’s third book, ‘Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy’, which received excellent reviews last year.

PTI

Cameron Diaz sparks engagement rumours

LOS ANGELES, 12 Oct—Actress Cameron Diaz has been spotted wearing a gold ring, fuelling rumours that she is engaged to guitarist boyfriend Benji Madden.

Diaz, 42, sported the ring with a thin band and sparkling stone set in a swirly setting on her ring finger at an event, reported E! Online. The couple, who has been dating for some time now, has not commented yet.—PTI



GENERAL

Federer halts Djokovic run to reach Shanghai final

SHANGHAI, 12 Oct — Roger Federer brought world number one Novak Djokovic's juggernaut to a halt when a 6-4 6-4 victory in the Shanghai Masters on Saturday set up a final against unseeded Frenchman Gilles Simon.

The 33-year-old Swiss was in aggressive mood against his younger opponent, who was on a 28-match winning streak in China, and converted his third match point with a backhand volley to end a semi-final slugfest that lasted one hour 35 minutes.

Federer, who will return to second in the rankings on Monday, broke serve in the fifth game of the first set after a couple of unforced errors from the twice Shanghai Masters champion.

The 17-times grand slam winner, seeded third in Shanghai, broke again in the opening game of the second set and went on to exact sweet revenge for his defeat in their last meeting, at the Wimbledon final in July.

The 27-year-old Djokovic kept muttering to himself and appeared frustrated



Roger Federer of Switzerland returns a shot during his men's singles semi-final match against Novak Djokovic of Serbia at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai on 11 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

during the match but was effusive in his praise for his opponent.

"I think I did not play too bad," he said. "It's just that he played everything he wanted to play. He played the perfect match."

"I think he's going to tell you how he felt, but that's how I felt he played. He played an amazing match." Federer hit 35 winners, four more than his opponent, committed less errors and faced just a single break point in the match which he saved.

"It was a great match, I agree," said Federer. "I

think I played very well. There was nothing in the game today that wasn't working. "I think it was a high-level match. I'm unbelievably happy with the way it went."

Earlier, Simon moved into his first Masters Series final in six years after outclassing Spaniard Feliciano Lopez. The world number 29 faced little pressure on his serve and dominated the match from the baseline with some sumptuous groundstrokes to beat the 33-year-old Lopez 6-2, 7-6 (1). Lopez, who knocked out Rafa Nadal in the sec-

ond round, netted a backhand volley to hand Simon the first break of the match in the third game and the tall Spaniard only had himself to blame as a double fault gifted a second break.

The frazzled world number 21 finally held to make it 5-2 but the Frenchman wrapped up the set in 25 minutes with an ace down the middle that swerved teasingly away from the left hander.

Lopez mixed up his tactics in the second set, opting to attack the net more to hustle his opponent, with some success but lost the tiebreak 7-1 owing to a mix of double faults, netted returns and wild smashes.

Federer has a 4-2 head-to-head record against Simon, whose only previous Masters Series final appearance came in 2008 in Madrid, and sounded a warning for Sunday's opponent. "I'm not going to come into the match and play terrible," he said. "It just won't happen — not in the finals, not against Simon. That's the confidence I have right now."

Reuters

Stosur downs Diyas to take another Osaka title

TOKYO, 12 Oct — Australia's Samantha Stosur continued her love affair with the Osaka hardcourts by claiming a third Japan Open title after edging Zarina Diyas of Kazakhstan in Sunday's final.

The top seed prevailed 7-6(7), 6-3 over her 20-year-old opponent, who was competing in her first WTA final.

The 2011 US Open winner was broken in the first game of the match as Diyas confidently held on for a 5-3 advantage before losing serve for the first time as she tried to close the set out.

Diyas recovered in the tiebreak and held two set points but could not convert as the 30-year-old Stosur fought back to take it and avoid dropping her first set of the week.

The Queensland native, ranked 18th in the world, then scored an early break at the start of the second set and claimed another to seal her sixth career title and first of the season.

World number 37 Diyas, who had never reached a WTA semi-final before, was one of four players selected earlier this week to take part at the WTA Rising Stars Invitational event on the sidelines of the WTA Tour finals in Singapore later this .—Xinhua

Forget Keane or Pietersen, Hodgson is a Dave Sexton fan

LONDON, 12 Oct — Autobiographies by former footballer Roy Keane and ex-England cricketer Kevin Pietersen have dominated the headlines this week but the best book England manager Roy Hodgson has read was by former Manchester United manager Dave Sexton. Sexton, who also managed Chelsea, Queens Park Rangers and the England Under-21s during a long coaching career, died in 2012, but Hodgson recalled his book at the end of a week when Keane attacked his old United manager Alex Ferguson and Pietersen weighed in against many of those he played with for England. "I'm not a great reader of autobiographies

but that doesn't mean I wouldn't or don't want to," said Hodgson in the build-up to England's Euro 2016 Group E qualifying match against Estonia in Tallinn on Sunday. "I've read one or two from American Football and basketball which made a big impression on me but that is on the leadership front, more than the nuances of their sport or explaining their past," said Hodgson.

"The best book I ever read was Tackle Football by Dave Sexton."

"There were elements of leadership but it was his ideas on principles of play and how you should defend and attack. There were interesting things that stuck



England's soccer team coach Roy Hodgson

in my mind about how to deal with players. It was about coaching rather than his life."

Hodgson, 67, could impart plenty of wisdom about coaching after almost 40 years in the trade and

is something of a rarity in football circles too — often seen as an erudite, educated man who, rarely for an Englishman, can speak five foreign languages and who has coached extensively overseas too.

His current preoccupation is coaching England towards the European Championships in France and, after a disappointing World Cup in Brazil, England have started the qualifying campaign brightly with wins over Switzerland and San Marino.

They should make it three out of three with a victory in Tallinn over Estonia, who lost 1-0 away to Lithuania on Thursday after beating Slovenia by the same score in their opener.

England are expected to win the group, which comprises Switzerland and San Marino as well as Lithuania, Estonia and Slovenia, but Hodgson was taking nothing for granted

before the squad flew to Tallinn on Saturday. "In the first game Estonia got their three points and only lost by the odd goal on Thursday so the group we are in looks like it will have quite a few tight games and it will not be as simple as some think with one or two teams flying away with it. "We know San Marino are minnows and they accept their position as minnows — to be fair to them they are just like a town rather than a country and they don't do too badly considering. "They fight with the weapons at their disposal which is to try to keep the score down and make it difficult, in my opinion they are getting better at it.— Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(13-10-2014, Monday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:20 am

* Physical Exercise

6:30 am

* Nice & Sweet Song

7:00 am

* News / Weather Report

7:20 am

* People Talks

8:00 am

* News / International News

8:30 am

* Documentary (ASEAN)

10:00 am

* News

10:20 am

* Weekly Entertainment News

12:00 noon

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

12:25 pm

* Myanmar Movie

3:00 pm

* News

3:15 pm

* Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

4:30 pm

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

5:00 pm

* News

5:30 pm

* TV Drama Series

6:00 pm

* News / Weather Report

6:20 pm

* AFC U-19(2014) CHAMPIONSHIP (LIVE) (Myanmar U-19 Vs Iran U-19)

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

9:00 pm

* News

* Documentary Socio Economic Scenes

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(13-10-14 07:00 am~ 14-10-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Products of Myanmar - Craft Blacksmithing
- * World News
- * Myanmar Traditional Art Bronze Casting
- * Local News
- * Adventure Abroad A Short Trip With Steve (South Korea)
- * World News
- * Temple Stalls
- * Local News
- * Taste Of Myanmar: "Milk Noodle"
- * World News
- * MONASTERY (Bargayar Kyaung)
- * Local News
- * Youth of the Future: Vocalist, L-Jar Ngaing
- * World News
- * [Doctor][Painter]
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- * World News
- * Today Myanmar "Visiting Neighbours Thailand"
- * Local News
- * Lisu: Their Life and Customs (Part- II)
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- * Local News
- * Come and Visit, no matter the distance (Pathein)
- * World News
- * The Photographer (Portiature) "Aung Kyaw Moe"
- * Local News
- * A Glance At A Naga Family Life
- * World News
- * Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations (Gem Stone Painting)

Bryans achieve another record with Masters slam

SHANGHAI, 12 Oct — American twins Bob and Mike Bryan added another accolade to their lengthy resume after taking the Shanghai Masters men's doubles title on Sunday to become the first pair to win all nine ATP World Tour Masters 1000 tournaments.

The 35-year-old siblings defeated French Open champions Julien Benneteau and Edouard Roger-Vasselin 6-2, 7-6(3) on the Chinese hard court to take an unprecedented 101st career title in their 152nd final. The Masters 1000 events are the top ranking tournaments on the ATP Tour outside of the grand slams with the Bryans now boasting 31 of them after multiple wins in Indian



Bob Bryan (L) and his brother Mike Bryan of the US pose with their trophies after winning the men's doubles final against Julien Benneteau and Edouard Roger Vasselin of France at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament on 12 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Wells, Paris, Rome, Monte Carlo, Miami, Toronto, Madrid and Cincinnati. They also won the now defunct

Hamburg Masters in 2007. Sunday's victory was their fifth Masters 1000 title of the season, a joint personal best,

after they secured the year-end doubles number one ranking earlier this week for the 10th time.

"It's another great milestone," Bob Bryan said. "This week was full of them for us. To come and get in the title match, have a shot at winning the tournament that's eluded us, complete the Golden Masters, is amazing. "It was really the last thing left for us to do. We can definitely shut it down today and be happy guys."

The duo have also won 16 grand slam titles together, a record for a pair, and in 2012 became only the second team to complete a golden slam after they won the London Olympics doubles title.—Reuters



Alison Riske of the United States holds the trophy during the awarding ceremony after the women's singles final against Belinda Bencic of Switzerland at the 2014 Tianjin Open tennis tournament in Tianjin, north China, on 12 Oct, 2014. Riske won 2-0 to claim the title.—XINHUA

Poland stun world champions Germany with first win



Poland's Arkadiusz Milik scores past Germany's goalkeeper Manuel Neuer and Jerome Boateng (R-L) during their Euro 2016 group D qualifying soccer match at the National stadium in Warsaw on 11 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

WARSAW, 12 Oct—Poland struck twice on the break to stun wasteful World Cup winners Germany 2-0 on Saturday, earning their first ever victory over their illustrious neighbours and taking control of Euro 2016

qualifying Group D.

Arkadiusz Milik put them ahead with a well-timed header in the 51st minute and Sebastian Mila added another late in the game to hand the hosts a memorable victory against

bitter rivals Germany after 18 previous failed attempts.

The feat was even more impressive given Germany had not lost an away qualifier for either the World Cup or Euros since 1998.

"In such games a squad gains its identity," Poland coach Adam Nawalka told reporters. "I hope this will be the beginning of a new road for the national team."

"We made a small step, but let's not be too euphoric. We play Scotland on Tuesday and this is our focus now." Poland, who had scored once in their previous six competitive meetings and had lost 12 of 18 games against either Germany or West Germany, now go top of Group D on six points, as many as Ireland. Poland are now unbeaten in their last seven European Champi-

onship qualifiers, equalling their all-time record. Germany are third on three points after two games.

Wearing the black and red striped tops they had last worn during their 7-1 demolition of Brazil in the World Cup semi-final in July, Germany had control of the game but were wasteful with their chances.

"Obviously we are very disappointed," said Germany coach Joachim Loew. "But I can't say much about the team. The only thing is that we were a bit sloppy with our chances in the first half. "Also in the second half we played well and created chances but Poland scored with their first dangerous ball," said Loew. "Our game execution was good. Our finishing wasn't."

Reuters

Klinsmann recalls World Cup starters for Honduras friendly

MIAMI, 12 Oct—United States head coach Juergen Klinsmann has recalled several players from his World Cup squad for Tuesday's friendly against Honduras in Boca Raton, Florida.

A youthful US team drew 1-1 with Ecuador in a friendly on Friday which effectively served as a farewell match for striker Landon Donovan who has retired from the team. With Major League Soccer fixtures running through the international break, several regular starters were left out of the US squad for the Ecuador game to allow them to feature for their clubs.

But striker Clint Dempsey, midfielders Michael Bradley and Graham Zusi and Jermaine Jones and defender Matt Besler have all been called up to face Honduras along with reserve goalkeeper Sean Johnson. Borussia Dortmund midfielder Joe Gyau will miss the game after picking up a knee injury against Ecuador.—Reuters

Fabregas pleads for patience as Spain criticism mounts

BARCELONA, 12 Oct — Midfielder Cesc Fabregas has hit back at criticism levelled against Spain's new-look team and pleaded for time following a surprise Euro 2016 qualifying defeat by Slovakia.

Spain have introduced several new players after they failed to defend their World Cup title in Brazil and results have been mixed, with a victory over Macedonia in their opening Euro qualifier coming between a friendly defeat to France and Thursday's shock result.

They have an opportunity to get back on track with another Group C clash against Luxembourg on Sunday after the Slovakia result led to captain and goalkeeper Iker Casillas and

striker Diego Costa coming under fire.

"In difficult moments we need to ignore what is being said about us, it doesn't interest us and we need to be more united than ever. The media have different interests to us," Chelsea player Fabregas told a news conference. "We need to keep trying and looking to play our football and we will get it right. Hopefully it won't take too long."

Midfielders Xavi and Xabi Alonso and striker David Villa, who were core players in Spain's period of dominance when they won European championships either side of their 2010 World Cup victory, all retired from the international game after their failure in



Cesc Fabregas of Spain challenges Juraj Kucka of Slovakia (R) during their Euro 2016 qualification soccer match at the MSK stadium in Zilina on 9 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

Brazil. "We want to play a style of football which is not easy to achieve," Fabregas continued. "There have only been three games since we lost some very good players

and people are making out it is more like 20. "There are new faces that have to settle in but they will pick up the ideas, the different style and we will get going. "Other

teams like France, Italy and England have all been given time and that is all we need. We will improve and we will get the results. Obviously we rely on results. Decisions are made and then we live by the results of those decisions."

"We respect that people have the right to have opinions but for us we are just concentrating on the jobs that we have to do."

Team mate Gerard Pique felt it was important that Spain maintain their trademark passing game that has brought them success in recent years. "There are always debates when we lose, but there shouldn't be any discussion about our style of play," he told a news conference. "It would be an error to change with the players

that we have. Our style is all about possession and touch."

Pique also had to respond to questions over comments he made backing a possible referendum on independence for Catalonia. He denied that his views conflicted with him representing Spain. "I am only defending rights for Catalans, we are talking about a question of democracy which I think is important to defend. It is something totally different to me playing football and I always enjoy being with the national team where I give everything," said Pique.

"I express my opinions because I am a footballer and a citizen. When I feel I should express myself I will and this doesn't affect my profession."—Reuters