

President U Thein Sein to attend 10th ASEM in Italy

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct—President U Thein Sein left Nay Pyi Taw by air on Wednesday to attend the 10th ASEM in Milan, Italy.

The President was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Union ministers.

The President was accompanied by Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein, U Ye Htut, Region Chief Minister U Thein Aung, State Chief Minister U Hong Ngai, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Deputy Ministers U Ohn Than and U Myo Aung and officials.

The Asia-Europe Meeting is held in Asia and Europe once in every two years alternatively. Myanmar became member of the ASEM in 2005. President U Thein Sein attended the 9th ASEM in Laos in 2012 for the first time and will attend the 10th ASEM in Europe for the first time.

MNA

President U Thein Sein being seen off by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun and Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing at Nay Pyi Taw Airport.

MNA



Printing and Publishing Rules released

The Printing and Publishing Law was enacted on 14-3-2014 under the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No 13. Under the sub-section (a) of Section 25 of the law, the Ministry of Information issued the Printing and Publishing Rules under the notification No 48/2014 on 10 October 2014 in accord with the agreement of the Union government.

The Printing and Publishing Rules is posted at website of the Ministry of Information www.moi.gov.mm and the website of Information and Public Relations Department www.moi.gov.mm/iprd for public observation.

Moreover, the rules was distributed to Myanmar Press Council (Interim), Myanmar Writers Association, Myanmar Journalists Association,

Myanmar Printers and Publishers Association, Myanmar Producers and Publishers Association, Myanmar Periodicals Union and Myanmar Journalists Network.

Those wishing to applying for printing and publishing and renewing the registration are to contact the Copyright and Registration Division of IPRD.

MNA

Decades-old ships cause IWT navigable transportation capacity decrease

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 15 Oct—Inland Water Transport urgently needs to replace its decades-old ships running along the navigable waterways with modern and faster ones to recover from its losses.

The number of navigable transportation service routes operated by IWT has been spirally decreased

as the state-owned decades-old ships have caused delays and higher costs and cannot compete with modern ones run by private entrepreneurs, according to the ministry.

IWT has been operating passenger cum freight services and ferry services, along the navigable waterways in Myanmar with a fleet of over 400 ships and cargos including 225 pow-

ered vessels, 138 passenger-cum cargo ships, 27 cargos, 30 powered barge, one water tender, 22 Tugs, one oil tanker, 149 non-powered vessels, 138 cargo barge, 11 oil barge and 39 station pontoons, according to the last year statistics of Ministry.

Meanwhile, Inland Water Transport, which has been operating its transportation services at losses, is facing challenges for transforming its services from public service to commercial basis with its decades-old ships and to be able to stand on its own budget after the new government adopted a new policy.

“The policy has been changed. But, still, we cannot change our old ships yet. We have to stop some of our navigable transportation services,” said an official of the IWT.

To be able to build passenger and cargo ships including vessels for transportation services along coastal lines, IWT needs to carry out reforms, running its services with joint venture, an official said.

IWT had been operating its transportation at losses and at affordable prices for the people for decades thanks to the budget allocation from the successive governments.



Inland Water Transport's ferry on the Ayeyawady River.—PHOTO:VAGABONDTRAVELTALES.COM

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
to discuss bills

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct—At the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session on Wednesday, the Bill Committee of the Hluttaw reported their reviews on two bills sent back from the president with remarks including the Amendment Bill of Constitutional Tribunal Law (2014) and the electricity bill.

The bill committee then submitted their recommendations for the

bills.

Then, the speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw invited representatives to submit their name to debate the bills.

MNA

Wednesday's session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw in progress at Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw.

MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw

Pyithu Hluttaw convene its
17th day meeting

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct—Pyithu Hluttaw held its 17th day meeting on 15 October here on Wednesday.

Regarding the question of U Aung Zin, representative of Pazundaung township constituency, U Win Myint, deputy minister for Immigration and Population said that Myanmar has taken census to adopt sound policies depending on the number of population.

The Deputy minister also said that the policies on population will include plans for appropriate population for the country, natural resources, economy, social affairs, culture, demographic of population,

increasing rate of population, settlement, migration, life expectancy, population density of neighbouring countries, ratio of dependent family members, per capita, education and national security.

U Khin Maung Aye, deputy minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, said that the ministry has been constructing and repairing dam, irrigation facilities, sluice gates for agricultural water in 2013-2014 fiscal year.

He also said that repair and maintenance works at more ponds and dams will be carried out in Mandalay

region depending on the budget of 2014-2015.

The central Myanmar regions has water pumping-up system from river and underground, and plans have been made to set up more 16 facilities to pump up river-water and underground water.

The ministry has made five-year plan up to 2015-2016 fiscal year, 20-year plan up to 2030-2031, as well as water supply system will be set up at three regions of dry zones with the support of JICA and 336 water supply system will be set up across the country with the support of UNICEF.—MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw

Land plots at fair price for investors
available at Ponnagyun Industrial Zone

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct—The 11th regular session of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) continued for the 17th day at its hall on Wednesday.

Dr Myat Nyana Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No 4 raised questions, asking whether there is a plan to solve the high price for land plots not only for local entrepreneurs but for foreign investors in hiring land plots from the owners. Deputy Minister for Industry U Thein Aung replied that a management committee has been formed to supervise the construction of factories and industries on the allotted plots. The plot owners who fail

to construct factories and industries on their lands in the project period must return their plots to the government and who cannot complete construction tasks must pay fines to the government. Under the supervision of the industrial zone supervisory committees, respective region and state governments arrange construction of factories and apartments to lower land plot prices. The local and foreign investors are to contact region and state governments except Yangon Region to have land plots in the industrial zones at fair prices. Investors may rent the land plots at fair price at Ponnagyun In-

dustrial Zone in Rakhine State.

Defence Services Personnel Representative Brig-Gen Kyaw Oo Lwin read the report of the Bill Committee over the Bill amending the Farmers Rights Protection and Raising Interest.

Chairman of the Bill Committee U Khin Maung Yi submitted the committee's report over the national races' rights protection bill. The Hluttaw approved the treatment of emergency patients care bill 2013 and the Pyithu Hluttaw development fund bill with the amendment of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House).

MNA

INTEXPO Myanmar 2014 to boost trade and economy
between Myanmar and India

YANGON, 15 Oct—The INTEXPO Myanmar 2014 held at Parkroyal Hotel in Dagon Township was aimed at developing textile industries between Myanmar and India.

With the assistance of Indo-Myanmar Chambers of Commerce and Industry, entrepreneurs from 15 companies of India arrived in Yangon to meet Myanmar businessmen. At the opening ceremony of the expo, Indian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Gautam Mukhopadhyaya said Myanmar imported textile worth US\$ 2 million from India last five years. Now, both countries has improved the border trade routes. In September and October 2014,



Guests view round textile products at booths at INTEXPO Myanmar 2014 at Parkroyal Hotel in Dagon Township.

India's expos were held in Yangon and Mandalay for three times, he said.

Man-made fibre of India are being used in Europe, Middle East, Asia and the US, totalling over 140 countries of the world.—Aung Thura

Pyithu Hluttaw representatives
leave for Singapore

YANGON, 15 Oct—At the invitation of UN Women Singapore Committee, Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) representatives Daw Nang Wah Nu and Daw Nang Sae Awa left

Yangon International Airport on Wednesday to attend the Women, Policy and Political Leadership Meeting to be held in Singapore on 16 and 17 October.—MNA



Pyithu Hluttaw representatives Daw Nang Wah Nu and Daw Nang Sae Awa seen at Yangon International Airport on their departure for Singapore.—MNA

NATIONAL

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw meets law students

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct — Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Thura U Shwe Mann received 40 students from Diploma in Business Law and Diploma in International Law of the Law Department of the Mandalay University who observed the 11th regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw at the hall of the

Hluttaw Complex in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Economic and Trade Development Committee U Maung Maung Thein, Chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Education Promotion Committee Dr Chan Nyein, Secretary Dr Mya Oo and officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office. **MNA**



Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann explains process of Pyithu Hluttaw to Law major students of Mandalay University.—MNA

ACWC meeting highlights protection of women and children



YANGON, 15 Oct — The 9th ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and 13th ASEAN Women's Affairs Committee meeting was held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon on Wednesday morning.

Union Minister for SWRR Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin with delegates to 9th ACWC Meeting.

MNA

Chairperson of Myanmar National Women's Affairs Committee Chairperson of Myanmar Child Rights National Committee Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin delivered an address.

Myanmar is realizing four main rights and three tasks of the child rights in the UN Charter, 10 rights of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and three fundamental rules.

Myanmar enacted Early Child Care and Development Law in February 2014. Myanmar cooperates

with relevant organizations in health and nutrition, supply of potable water and sanitation, education and child development and child protection tasks.

The government is implementing 12 sectors of the national strategic plan for women development as of 2013. The meeting urged the delegates to soonest implement the prevention of violence against women and child submitted to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) held last May.

The meeting and related meetings will be held on 16 October.—MNA

Gem merchants check gems and jade stones

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct — The 4th Gems and Utility Jade Sales continued for the second day at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday, visited by 3,392 people. Gem merchants checked the gems and utility jade stones at the Mani Yadana Jade Hall and respective

places. They put the proposal for prices to the tender boxes.

On 16 October, 160 gems lots will be sold at open tender. A total of 6,982 lots of utility jade will be sold from 17 to 20 October.

Local gem merchants are to submit the price for

gem lots from No 1 to No 160 and the tender winners will be announced on 16 October.

Likewise, winners in the tenders for jade lots will be announced from 17 to 20 October. Thanks to the sales, the gems entrepreneurs will have materials.—MNA



Gem merchants check gem stones and utility jade stones at Mani Yadana Jade Hall in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Workshop on role of courts in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms kicks off



Workshop on role of courts in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in progress at Royal Ace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Oct — Under the MoU on Singapore-Myanmar bilateral cooperation in legal affairs, the Supreme Court of the Union and Ministry of Law of Singapore jointly organized the Workshop on role of courts in alternative

dispute resolution mechanisms at the Royal Ace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday.

Supreme Court Judge U Soe Nyunt and Registrar Ms Tan Ai Leen of International Arbitration Centre of Singapore ex-

tended greetings.

The workshop focused on role of courts in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, attended by judicial officers, judges at district level up to 15 to 17 October.

MNA

Awards presented to winners in body-building, physical culture contests

MANDALAY, 15 Oct—The Mandalay Region Chief Minister's Cup Body-building Contest and Mandalay Region Women's Affairs Organization Patron's Cup Physical Contest took place at the City Hall in Mandalay on Tuesday.

A total of 27 body builders from all clubs of Mandalay took part in the 60-, 65-, 70-, 75- and above 75 kilos classes and 24 contestants in the physical culture senior and junior events.

Chairman of the Mandalay Region Body building and Physical Culture Subcommittee U Han Myint presented certificates to the wellwishers who contributed to the organizing the contests.

On behalf of the Mandalay Region Chief Minister, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing presented cash award and championship trophies to first prize winner Aung Soe Min (Mylife Club), second prize winner



Chit Ngwe (Mogok) and third prize winner Nyi Nyi Phyu (Black Pearl Club) respectively.

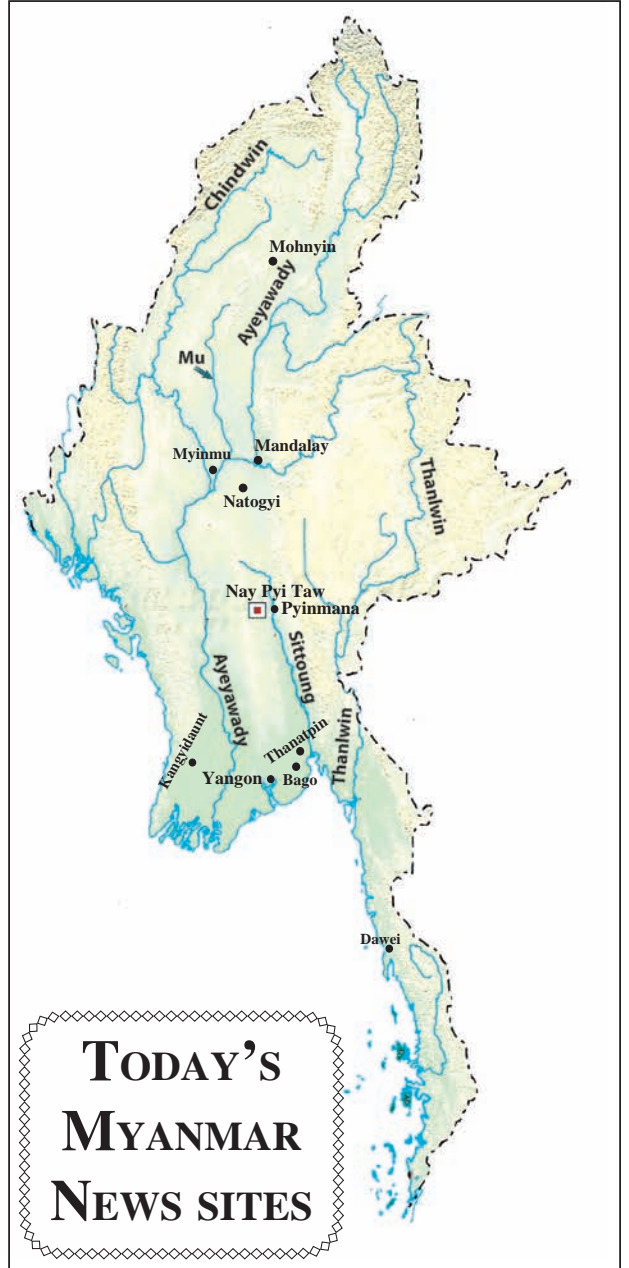
Owner of Black Pearl Gym Daw Than Than Myint presented K200,000 each to first prize winners in the respective kilo classes.

Chairperson of Mandalay Region Women's Sports Committee Daw Ni

Ni Hlaing gave cash award and trophies for first prize to Nang Lauk Kham, second to Hsu Myint Win of Mylife Gym and third to Tayu Taya Hlwar of Yadanabon University in the junior physical culture contest. Member of the panel of patron of Mandalay Region Women's Sports Committee Thudhamma Theingi Daw Mya

Sanda Win (Tawwin Diamond House) presented cash award and trophies to first prize winner Cherry Maung of Flora Gym, Nang Hsai Mwe Huam of Bahtoo Club of TadaU Township and Nay Chi Tint Wai of Bahtoo Club of Madaya Township in the senior event.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Taninthayi Region Cooperative Syndicate holds AGM



DAWEI, 15 Oct — Taninthayi Region Cooperative Syndicate held the annual general meeting for 2013-14 fiscal year at its office in Dawei of Taninthayi Region on Tuesday.

Chairman of the syndicate U Kyaw Win and heads of Mon State and Taninthayi Region Cooperative Departments made speeches.

BOD member Daw

Than Nwe read the BOD report and financial statement and Auditor U Khin Maung Chit the audit report.

The meeting chairman sought the approval for the reports from members of the syndicate.

Managing Director U Than Myint reviewed the discussions of the syndicate members over the BOD work report and fi-

nancial reports and then sought approvals for two major repairs, sales of syndicate-owned office works and furniture and retendering of land plot and warehouses of the syndicate.

The meeting chairman sought approval from members to extend the term of BOD from four years to five years.

Po Shwe Thun-Dawei

Natogyi Tsp gets 16-bed station hospital

NATOGYI, 15 Oct — The government is turning out health staff yearly with the aim of ensuring new strength for health sector and opening health centres one after another across the nation.

The government allot-

ted K500 for construction of a 16-bed station hospital in Kanna Station of Natogyi Township in Mandalay Region as part of efforts for providing health care services to the local people.

Myingyan District Deputy Commissioner U

Myint Thin Aung, Township Administrator U Kyaw Naing and members of the township development supportive committee inspected the site for construction of the new hospital.—Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)



REGIONAL

Abu Sayyaf to negotiate with Philippine FM for German hostages

ZAMBOANGA CITY, (Philippines), 15 Oct — The Abu Sayyaf rebel group said on Wednesday that it is open to negotiating with Philippine Foreign Minister Alberto Del Rosario for the release of two German hostages.

In an interview with a local radio station, Abu Sayyaf spokesman Abu Rami said they are willing to allow del Rosario to serve as mediator and secure their demands.

“We would like to talk to the Philippine Foreign Affairs chief because his agency isn’t corrupt. We would reiterate to him our demands,” said the spokesman.

He said they would not impose a deadline if talks would focus on meeting their demands for the release of the two Germans — a ransom of 250 mil-

lion pesos (5.6 million US dollars) and a halt to the campaign against Islamic State militants by the government.

The group had threatened to kill the two Germans if their demands would not be met by 17 October. One of the two German hostages, Stefan Viktor Okonek, said in a separate interview that he was brought by his captors to a 3-metre by 5-metre pit supposedly for his execution. “(The Abu Sayyaf) told me this is my grave,” said Okonek, adding that he was separated from his wife, Henrike Dielen, on Monday. The German couple has been in captivity since April, when they were taken away by the militants from their yacht off the western Philippine province of Palawan.

Xinhua



People offer alms to monks during the ceremony marking the 2nd anniversary of the death of King Father Norodom Sihanouk in Phnom Penh on 15 Oct, 2014. Cambodia on Wednesday commemorated the second anniversary of the death of the country's most revered King Father Norodom Sihanouk by offering alms to Buddhist monks and paying tribute to his statue.

XINHUA

India state elections could unlock Modi reform push

MUMBAI, 15 Oct — Indian voters from two states headed to the polls on Wednesday for the first major elections since Prime Minister Narendra Modi stormed to power five months ago, in a test of support that could unlock a round of delayed economic reform.

Opinion polls showed Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was likely to win in Haryana and Maharashtra, unseating unpopular incumbents, but fall short of a majority in each.

State elections allot seats to the Rajya Sabha, or upper house of parliament, where the BJP and its allies do not have a majority. Although less powerful than the lower house, the body still plays a critical role in passing legislation and building the BJP's seat tally there will help push through reform.

“Urging the people of Haryana & Maharashtra to go out & cast their votes. Youngsters must show the way & ensure record turnout,” Modi posted on Twitter as polling stations opened.

Apparently with an eye on the elections, Modi's government has put

off unpopular decisions on raising the price of natural gas and ending a price cap on diesel. Both measures are expected to be implemented once the elections are out the way.

Modi's caution has disappointed some investors who feel he has moved too slowly on reform despite winning the first parliamentary majority in more than 30 years on promises of reviving the economy and jobs.

After a weak showing for the BJP in a round of by-elections last month, Modi hit the stump hard in Maharashtra, home to financial hub Mumbai, and Haryana, where north Indian tech-city Gurgaon is located.

The party has never been a major force in either state.

He has addressed dozens of rallies, railing against the Congress party incumbents in the states and trumpeting achievements such as attracting investment promises from Japan and opening bank accounts for the poor.

“Ever since he came to power, prices of vegetables etc. haven't risen as much as they had earlier,” said

Suvidha Kamath, a housewife in central Mumbai. “We cannot judge Modi so soon. Let's give him a couple of years to prove himself.”

Results of the elections are due on Sunday.

Bagging two more state governments for his party would also make it easier for Modi to move ahead with a much-anticipated national goods and services tax to replace a labyrinth of levies that analysts say restrain the economy.

“Rather than delivering on big bang reforms, Modi's approach as of now

has been on repairing the economy through bridging the gaps which were existing,” said Upasna Bhardwaj, an economist with ING Vysya Bank in Mumbai.

“We should definitely expect Modi's government to have a bigger appetite for bold reforms if they were to acquire a strong hold in the upcoming two state elections.”

Despite the relatively muted performance of Modi's government so far, investors still view him positively, as reflected in Mumbai's financial markets. — Reuters



Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (R) waves as he leaves Tokyo's Haneda airport on 15 Oct, 2014, for Italy to attend a two-day Asia-Europe Meeting summit that will begin the following day in Milan.—KYODO NEWS



A woman casts her vote at a polling station during Maharashtra state elections, in Mumbai on 15 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Seminar seeks business opportunity on 21-century Maritime Silk Road

BEIJING, 15 Oct — A seminar titled “Building Maritime Silk Road of the 21st Century and Zhuhai Expanding Economic & Trade Cooperation with ASEAN Free Trade Area” was held in Zhuhai City, south China's Guangdong Province recently.

Nearly a hundred representatives from local government departments

and entrepreneurs attended the event.

Xu Ningning, executive president of China-ASEAN Business Council, said in a keynote speech that “New Maritime Silk Road” is a road leading to win-win economic cooperation.

As the Chinese government vows to rejuvenate the Maritime Silk

Road, the city of Zhuhai should seize the chance and make use of its geographical advantage, take positive actions to innovate pragmatic cooperation, he added.

Xia Baowen, president of SM International Wholesale (China) Centre Sdn Bhd, advised Chinese companies to take advantage of bonded processing

zone in Malaysian Port Klang Free Trade Zone to develop overseas market.

He said the Port Klang is the world's 12th largest and second largest port in Southeast Asia, playing a comprehensive role of industry, commercial, trade and logistics.

Enterprise investing in Port Klang enjoy a preferential policy free of in-

come tax for ten years, he said.

Deputy chief of Zhuhai Commerce Bureau Liu Xiaoman said relevant city government departments and enterprises in Zhuhai should give full play to regional advantages, speed up maritime interconnection and interworking and explore business opportunities brought by the

Maritime Silk Road of the 21st century.

The seminar was jointly held by China-ASEAN Business Council Secretariat, Zhuhai Commerce Bureau, and the Investment Promotion and Economic Cooperation Office of Commerce Department of Guangdong Province.

Xinhua

Resetting Russia-US relations impossible as long as sanctions are in effect — Medvedev

Moscow, 15 Oct — Resetting Russian-US relations is impossible as long as sanctions against Russia are in effect, Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said in an interview with CNBC TV channel.

“It’s absolutely impossible. Let’s be clear: we did not come up with these sanctions. Our international partners did,” Medvedev said. The prime minister noted that any suggestion of a “reset” is out of the question.

By pulling back troops from the border with Ukraine, Russia did not intend “to give a signal” to Washington, Medvedev noted. “This is not a signal to Washington. It is Russia’s domestic decision. This can be interpreted in any way, but this is not a signal,” the premier said. “Any decisions that Russia takes, including those regarding our armed forces, are within our authority, the authority of the Russian president, and are not linked with the situation we witness there (in Ukraine), though we are certainly quite strongly



Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev

concerned about it,” Medvedev explained. Medvedev believes

that amid Western sanctions, other countries will take niches which European partners held previously on the Russian market.

“Eventually pragmatic considerations, the possibility to earn money will prevail, and these niches, which will become vacant if European producers quit, will be filled,” he said. “I would like to note that we do not seek this, and the current situation can be reversed in theory,” Medvedev noted.

Itar-Tass

Chile can serve as bridge between South America, Asia-Pacific

SANTIAGO, 15 Oct — Chile can serve as a bridge between South America and the Asia-Pacific region and thus help boost Latin America’s competitive edge in the Asian market, Chile’s top diplomat said here on Tuesday.

Chile has a privileged geographic location and fully functioning trade agreements with all of the member countries of the trade bloc Southern Common Market (Mercosur), as well as countries in the Asia-Pacific region,

Chilean Foreign Minister Heraldo Munoz said in an interview with *America Economia* magazine.

The Chilean government makes its ties with Latin America a priority in its foreign policy, especially its ties with its South American neighbours, said Munoz.

A seminar will be held on 24 November in Chile, for which members of Mercosur, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Pacific Alliance are invited, he said.

Xinhua

US airbase starts dismantling “Elephant Cage” antenna in north Japan



A ceremony is held in front of an antenna array at the US military’s Misawa Airbase in Aomori Prefecture on 15 Oct, 2014, before the military began dismantling the aged facility, nicknamed the “Elephant Cage,” that was used to intercept radio transmissions during the Cold War era.—KYODO NEWS

AOMORI, (Japan), 15 Oct — The US military began on Wednesday a year-long project to dismantle an aged antenna array nicknamed the “Elephant Cage” at its Misawa Airbase in northern Japan that was used to intercept radio transmissions during the Cold War era.

In 2012 the US military stopped using the array of antennas, about 40 metres high and placed in a circle over 440 metres in diameter, due to their age and changes in communication technology.

The facility went into

service in 1965 to intercept transmissions from countries including the former Soviet Union and China.

After the dismantlement, sports facilities for US military personnel and their families are likely to be set up.

Officially called AN/FLR-9, the array was one of two such facilities set up by the US Forces in Japan following the end of World War II. The other in Yomitan, Okinawa Prefecture was demolished in 2007.

Kyodo News

Two Koreas hold 1st general-level military talks in 7 years

SEOUL, 15 Oct — North and South Korean general-level military talks, the first in seven years, were being held on Wednesday at the truce village of Panmunjeom, *Yonhap News Agency* reported, citing military and parliamentary sources.

The talks, which were last held in December 2007, come amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula in the wake of two brief exchanges of gunfire between the two Koreas’ militaries last week.

“At this moment, I can’t confirm anything,” Unification Ministry spokeswoman Park Soo Jin said at a Press briefing when asked if she could confirm the report.

“We can’t confirm everything regarding inter-Korean relations because there is the other side (to consider),” she added, lending credence to the report.

Yonhap quoted the parliamentary source as

saying the talks got under way at 10 am but the North “does not want to make it public.”

Another source from South Korea’s military said the agenda would include “how to relieve inter-Korean military tensions that have been heightened recently.”

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula spiked last week after naval boats of the two sides briefly exchanged gunfire near the western sea border on 7 October.

Three days later, North Korea soldiers on the land border fired anti-aircraft machine guns at balloons carrying anti-Pyongyang leaflets. Some of the shots landed south of the border, prompting the South Korean military to fire back.

There were no reports of casualties.

Inter-Korean general-level talks with the two-star generals representing each side have been held off-and-on since 2004,

dealing mainly with issues of easing military tension and building confidence.

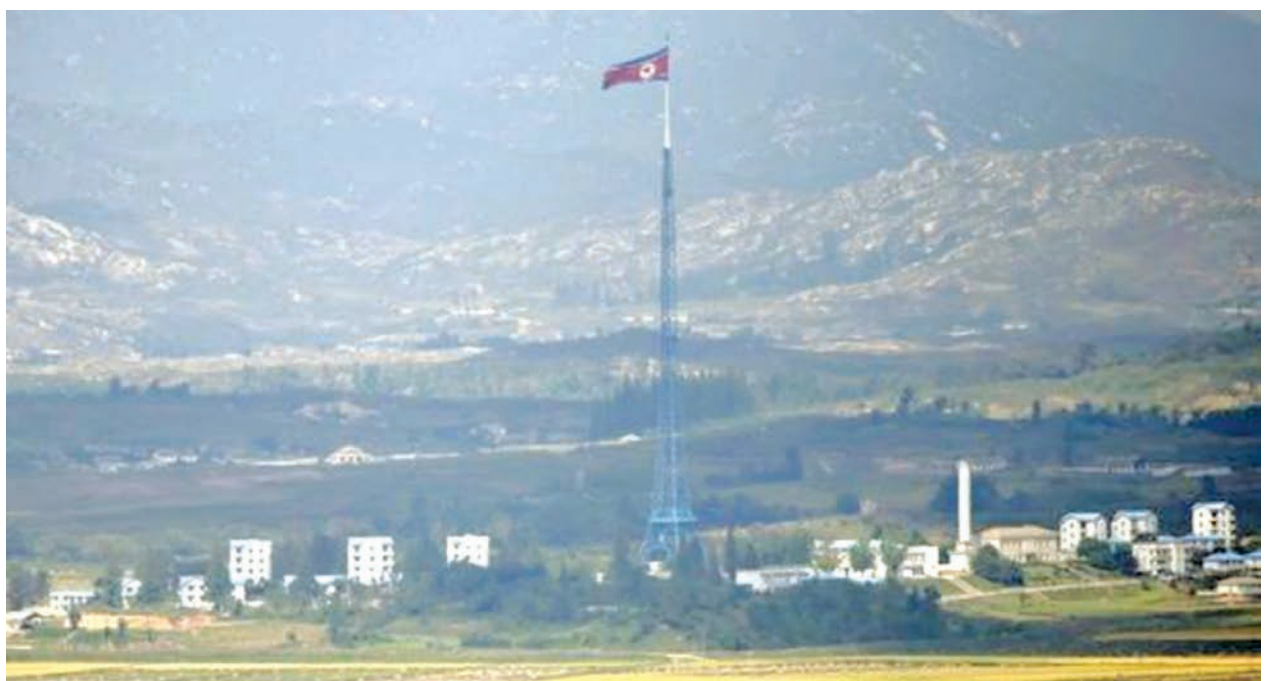
In previous such talks, the two sides reached agreements on preventing accidental clashes at sea

and discontinuing propaganda activities along the Military Demarcation Line and remove equipment used for propaganda, for example, while they considered the idea of estab-

lishing a joint fishing area in disputes areas of the Yellow Sea to prevent clashes.

The latest such talks come some 10 days after high-ranking figures from North Korea made a sur-

prise visit to the South and met with senior government officials here, resulting in an agreement to hold another round of high-level talks in early November at the latest.—*Kyodo News*



A North Korean flag is seen on top of a tower near the truce village of Panmunjom in the demilitarised zone (DMZ) separating North Korea from South Korea, about 55 km (34 miles) north of Seoul on 25 Sept, 2013.

KYODO NEWS

WORLD

Drecun: There is strong network of radical Islam in Kosovo



Milovan Drecun

BELGRADE, 15 Oct — Milovan Drecun, chair of the Serbian parliament's committee on Kosovo-Metohija (KiM), said on Tuesday that Kosovo's Interior Minister Bajram Redzepi is trying to ease the gravity of graffiti on the Serbian Orthodox monas-

tery of Visoki Decani that call for the Islamic State and the establishment of the Caliphate.

Redzepi qualified it as an act of vandalism, claiming that the graffiti on the walls of the monastery had been written by three minors.

In a broadcast on Radio-Television of Kosovo 2, Redzepi said that police would talk with the parents of the minors so as to ensure that such nonsense does not happen again.

"Redzepi wants to diminish the gravity of this event, which is actually very serious," Drecun told reporters in the Serbian parliament.

"In the last 20 years, these areas have become an Islamic Jihad stronghold which has the full potential for recruiting jihadists, which we have seen in the case of Syria and Iraq," Drecun said.

"Although the network has become regional, there is still no proper response, there is no strong, joint re-

gional action and the action of the entire international community against that," he warned.

That network is particularly strong in Kosovo-Metohija, where radical Islam is preached in several hundred mosques, the jihadist ideology that emphasizes that Christians are a natural enemy to Muslims," Drecun said.

"Many children in Kosovo-Metohija grow up with that radical ideology and become an easy prey for jihadists," he added.

"Writing graffiti on the property of the Monastery of Decani is not innocuous at all, and reveals the presence of a network of radical Islam which is especially strong in the areas of De-

cani and Pec.

That is why the explanation that the minors are responsible for this incident and that this has no gravity cannot possibly be accepted.

"It is even more dangerous if children wrote such messages as this means that they are growing up in the surroundings where radical Islam is being preached and that they can become an easy prey for radical Islamists," the chairman of the committee on KiM said.

"I think that these are strong messages, even more so because it has been noted recently that there are two channels for recruitment of radical Islamists for Syria and Iraq,"

Drecun added.

He noted that in its recent meeting, the committee on KiM addressed the degree to which Serbs in KiM are at risk from radical Islam, and concluded that there is still need for the presence of international forces in KiM.

"For various reasons, the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) does not have the necessary capacity to protect Serbs and prevent actions of radical Islam," Drecun said, underscoring that the arrests of a big group of Islamists in August this year were a result of the West's pressure and Pristina's attempt to show that it is doing something in the fight against extremism and terrorism.—*Tanjung*

Austrian anti-terror chief warns of IS threat

VIENNA, 15 Oct — Austria is under "a certain kind" of threat of terrorist attacks from the extremist group of Islamic State (IS), a senior security official said on Tuesday.

About 150 people, most of whom have Russian citizenship and are believed to be Chechens, have travelled from Austria to take part in conflicts in Syria and Iraq, Peter Gridling, director of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution and Counterterrorism, said in an interview with the *Kleine Zeitung* newspaper.

In addition, a number of others with Turkish, Bosnian, Egyptian,

Macedonian and Serbian backgrounds have also taken part in the conflicts, he said, adding that 15 to 20 percent of them are believed to have Austrian citizenship.

"The main problem is with those who return, because we cannot see inside their minds," Gridling said. "The responses from them range from 'I have had enough of what I saw there,' to 'the Jihad should not only be fought there.'"

Additionally, there are an even larger number of people in the country — perhaps at thousands — who either approve of the activities of these individuals or are not explicitly

opposed to them, although they would not necessarily commit themselves to terrorist plots, he added.

Meanwhile, the director pointed out that most Muslims in Austria are opposed to terrorism, and most mosques and prayer houses are not believed to be part of the radicalization process, with only 20 of the 360 such establishments in the country causing concern.

As regards whether IS would attack Europe, he said that as long as the military advances of the group are stopped, there is no reason for it to make strikes in Europe.

Xinhua



People in Pakistan celebrate Malala's Nobel win: Girls participating in a gathering hold message boards in Islamabad, Pakistan on 14 Oct, 2014, to congratulate Malala Yousafzai, a Pakistani teenager and education activist, on winning the Nobel Peace Prize on 10 Oct.— KYODO NEWS

US files death penalty charges against Benghazi suspect

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct — A federal grand jury issued a new indictment on Tuesday that includes a possible death penalty against Ahmed Abu Khatallah, a Libyan militant accused of involvement in the September 2012 attacks on the US diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya.

The indictment supersedes earlier accusations brought against Khatallah in July, and adds 17 charges, including allegations he led an extremist militia group and conspired with others to attack the facilities and kill US citizens.

Khatallah was captured in Libya in June by a US military and FBI team and transported to the United States aboard a US Navy ship to face charges in



A motorcade believed to be carrying Libyan militia leader Ahmed Abu Khatallah speeds away from the US federal courthouse in Washington on 28 June, 2014.

REUTERS

Washington federal court.

Khatallah's attorney, public defender Michelle Peterson, said she was not allowed to discuss any evidence the government had provided her in connection with the case, but she cautioned against a "rush to judgment." "It's certainly not the first time the government has been wrong about Benghazi," she said.

Four Americans were killed in the attack, including the US ambassador to Libya, Christopher Stevens. The attack ignited a political firestorm in Washington that could still resonate if Hillary Clinton, secretary of state at the time of the attack, runs for president as expected in 2016.

Republicans accused Clinton of failing to put in

place security measures to protect US personnel in Libya. In the attack's immediate aftermath, Obama administration officials, including Susan Rice, currently White House national security adviser, stoked political controversy by initially saying the attack was a spontaneous protest against an anti-Muslim video that had surfaced in the United States.

Evidence later emerged that US agencies had been warning for months about weak security and possible attacks against US facilities in Libya. Evidence also emerged that soon after the attack, the United States had strong reason to believe that organized militant groups had been involved.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 16 October, 2014

Reform for revenue collection system is essential

By Myint Win Thein

Every country on the world relies on revenue from taxes as the main financial source for day-to-day operations of governments as not every country has natural resources to export. Even for a country with abundant natural resources like Myanmar, excessive

dependence on income from export of natural resources will not bring benefit forever. Incomes from the export of natural resources will not always be available in the long run as they are limited. Myanmar should also depend on revenue from taxes as most countries in the world do.

However, the taxation system has many loopholes and tax evasion is so rampant at every level of the society that this will hinder the progress of the country in the future.

As Myanmar is now undergoing the democratic transition, international financial institutions have reengaged with Myanmar and they have given valuable advice to reform the taxation system of Myanmar.

In other words, cause of the problem has been

identified and correct measures to address it has been offered by international financial institutions which have offered Myanmar technical support for the reform of the revenue collection system.

It is only our commitment that will bring about changes in the revenue collection system for the future of Myanmar.

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.

Asia-Europe Meeting

By May Hnin Aye

ASEM or the Asia-Europe Meeting is a cooperation forum for Asian and European countries. It was initiated to strengthen dialogue and interaction between Europe and Asia, the two pivotal regions in the world. The ASEM is a process of dialogue and cooperation involving 30 countries Europe, 19 countries from Asia, as well as member states of EU and ASEAN, making a total of 51 partners.

ASEM does not have secretariat office, however, the coordination team involves one from member of ASEAN and one from representative countries of Asia, while one from European Union and one representative country of Europe, totally 4 groups. A member of ASEAN and a member of EU take the permanent seats, while the two representative members are alternately selected.

The ASEM has emerged after the leaders from Europe and Asia have seen the possible benefits from promotion of cooperation between the two regions due to changing situations in 1990s.

In November 1994 during an official visit, French president Jacques Chirac discussed with Singapore premier Go Choke Tong to establish ASEM for holding a forum for informal meeting of leaders from Asia and Europe. Europe Commission issued the paper 'Towards a New Strategy for Asia' in July

1994, and it could pave the way for ASEM. Mr Chris Patten, the last Hong Kong Governor of the United Kingdom and later worked at European Commission, took a key role for the establishment of Asia-Europe cooperation.

The inaugural ASEM Summit was held in Bangkok, Thailand, in 1996 and since then the meeting of Heads of State or Government has been organised every two years alternately in Asia and Europe. While ASEAN Summit could be held after the bloc was first founded, the ASEM convene its summit together with its establishment. This is the prominent character of ASEM. Foreign ministers of ASEM meet during the year when ASEM Summit is not held in Asia and Europe alternately. Late, ministerial meeting of ASEM have been held every year, together with biannual high-level meeting of foreign affairs ministries. The meetings of economic ministers are also held every two years with occasional meeting of financial ministers. The topics in these meetings include not only issues of Asia and Europe, but also global matters such as anti-terrorism, trade negotiations and future collaboration.

ASEM is different from ASEAN and EU. While the meeting between ASEAN EU is just concerned with the blocs, ASEM covers ASEAN,

EU, members of ASEAN and EU or the countries located in Asia and Europe regions. As Myanmar is a member of ASEAN and it is also located in Asia region, it is a member of ASEM. Therefore, President of Republic of Union of Myanmar is scheduled to attend the 10th ASEM Summit which will be held in Milan, Italy, on 16 and 17 October this year.

The participation of Myanmar in ASEM is very meaningful. Myanmar President will represent for not only Myanmar, but also the ASEAN as a rotating chairmanship of the bloc. During two decades, ASEM meetings could widen the cooperation of Asia and Europe in the fields of politics, economy, monetary, finance, culture, education, culture and youth issues.

There have been many remarkable events in the history of relation between Myanmar and ASEM. ASEM was established in 1996 and Myanmar becomes a member of ASEM in 1997. Since 1996, Myanmar encountered pressure and restrictions of EU due to the political situations of southeast Asia country.

The second ASEM was held in London in 1998, with the participation of seven members of ASEAN, China, Japan, South Korea, and 15 members of the EU. The European side, especially the EU, expressed their strong disapproval of the inclusion of Myanmar in the ASEM. On the other hand, the ASEAN

demand the presence of all of its ten members in the meeting.

At that time, the ASEM had not taken shape yet. And Myanmar had not yet signed the ASEAN-EU Protocol 1980. The signing of the protocol would mean entering into heated discussions on democracy and human rights issues. At that time, Myanmar was deemed a blockage in Asia-Europe relations. The ASEAN had never yielded to demands made by European countries for the exclusion of Myanmar from the ASEM. In addition, the bloc displayed their unity by responding that no member of the ASEAN would attend the meeting if Myanmar's participation was ruled out. As the EU preferred the participation of its new members in the ASEM, it unavoidably had to allow all new members of the ASEAN. Even so, the European side limited Myanmar's participation in various ways. They did not allow Myanmar to take part in discussions; they used Myanmar's former name, which was Burma; and they wanted Myanmar to send only its foreign minister instead of head of state. Myanmar, together with its ASEAN members, demanded equal partnership. At ASEM-related meetings, Myanmar elaborated on its constructive political progress. External elements who were against the Myanmar government at that time took advantage of that dilemma in pressing Myanmar.

Thus, Myanmar could send its foreign minister to the ASEM, which took place in Helsinki, Finland, in 2006. The same thing could be said for ASEM in China in 2008 and in Belgium in 2010. Since 2006, Myanmar has participated in foreign ministers' meetings, finance ministers' meetings and economic ministers' meetings.

With full support from the ASEAN, Myanmar had to overcome lots of obstacles to join ASEM. Europe presented Myanmar delegates with more difficulty in getting entry visas than Asia did, when the meetings were organized there.

Every obstacle Myanmar had encountered is now a thing of the past. Myanmar delegates enjoy encouragement and support in ASEM. The EU is now all in favour of Myanmar's democratic reforms. Better relations between Myanmar the EU will help cement not only the relations between the ASEAN and the EU but also the cooperation with the ASEM. At the time of the newly elected government, President U Thein Sein himself attended the ninth ASEM for the very first time, which took place

in Vientiane, Laos, on 5-7 November 2012. President U Thein Sein received a warm welcome extended by leaders of European countries as they showed enormous interest in and enthusiasm about the ongoing democratic reforms in Myanmar. In addition, they gave the Myanmar president informal meetings. Among them were leaders from Luxembourg, Denmark, Italy and Finland. Myanmar's foreign minister was not an exception too. Thus, ASEM has turned out to be a forum that strengthens not only the relations between Asia and Europe but also the relations between Myanmar and Europe.

President U Thein Sein is scheduled to attend the 10th ASEM, which will be hosted in Milan, Italy, from 16 to 17 October. It will be the first time Myanmar will ever participate in ASEM to be held in Europe. As a summit that draws representatives of nearly 50 countries from Asia and Europe, ASEM will definitely help Myanmar improve its relations with the international community and vitalize its democratic reforms.

Trs:AK+KTY

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (15-10-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K653,400 per tical: Selling K654,000

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K653,300 per tical: Selling K654,300

FE RATE

USD Buying K994: Selling K998

SGD Buying K778: Selling K78

Euro Buying K1,245: Selling K1,265

LOCAL NEWS

Mandalay Region launches performing arts competition

MANDALAY, 15 Oct — A ceremony to open the 21st Mandalay Region national races' performing arts competition was held at the National Theatre on 66th Street in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay on Tuesday.

After opening the ceremony, Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint explained the purpose of holding the competition.

Pyae Phyto Khaing who has won five gold

medals presented the song in the basic education aged 15-20 singing contest, five gold medalist Phyto Thiha Kyaw performed dances and Fine Arts Department, Kyaukse elephant dancing.

The song, dance and music contests are being held at the training hall of the State School of Fine Arts and the song composing contest at the Fine Arts High School.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Advantages of insurance lectured to trainees at driving course

MANDALAY, 15 Oct—Myanma Insurance held a talk about its insurance services at the Lamin driving school in Hsinbyukan Ground on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay on 13 October.

Mandalay Region Manager Daw Toe Toe Sein explained meaning of the insurance, purpose, advantages from insurance and rights for customers.

It was attended by Principal U Lwin Lwin Tun and trainees totalling 350.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



UMFCCI meets with Mandalay Region CCI

MANDALAY, 15 Oct—Officials of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and those of Mandalay Region CCI held a meeting at the latter's office of Yadanabon Super Centre at the corner of 78th and 34th streets in Chanayethazan Township on Tuesday.

President of UMFCCI U Win Aung urged those present to make concerted efforts for long-term development of the federation and seeking approval for organizational setup and rules.

Chairman of the Mandalay Region CCI U Aung Win Khaing discussed progress of his association and

vice chairmen requirement of the association. The president reviewed their discussions.

The special session of the Mandalay Region CCI will be held on 16 October to discuss records of the organizational setup and its rules.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



Rice and alms donated to members of the Sangha in Bago

BAGO, 15 Oct — Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win and wife Daw Myint Myint Soe offered rice to 2,803 members of the Sangha at Maha Sivali Ordination Hall of Shwemawdaw Pagoda in Bago on 8 October. Speaker of Bago Region Hluttaw U Win Tin and wife also donated alms to 2,150 members of the Sangha at Kyakhatwaing Pariyatti Monastery and Chief Justice of the High Court U Maung Maung Shwe of Bago Region High Court and wife 700 monks at Maha Kalyani Ordination Hall. The chief minister on 9 October attended the special sale centre of Kenbo in Oktha Myothit of Bago.

Officials of Kenbo donated cash to the fund for all-round renovation of Buddha Athan Dhamma Beikman of the region to Bago District Deputy Commissioner U Ye Htut.

Region IPRD

New school building put into service in Thanatpin Tsp

THANATPIN, 15 Oct — Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win attended the opening of new school building in Kyonpachaungwa Village in Thanatpin Township of Bago Region recently.

The chief minister presented K2 million for copy books and school desks

to the headmaster of the school. Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Po Zaw explained regional development tasks.

The chief minister formally opened the new school building and fulfilled the requirements of the local people.

Bago Region IPRD

Uniforms presented to members of Zeyar Green Land (Myinmu) Association



MYINMU, 15 Oct—A ceremony to hand over uniforms to members of Zeyar Green Land (Myinmu) Association was held in Myinmu of Sagaing Region on Tuesday.

In his address, Chairman of the Township Management Committee U Thein Zaw said that the association has been formed with over 100 members from four wards of the urban area and rural area with the aim of carrying out sanitation of the town and environmental conservation.

He stressed the need to organize the youths and the people to participate in the public welfare tasks.

The chairman and officials presented uniforms to members of four wards.

Under the leadership of the Sagaing Region government, members of the association are carrying out sanitation of the urban area and participating in environmental conservation activities of the township.

Po Kha

US-led air strikes intensify as Syria conflict destabilizes Turkey

MURSIPTINAR, (Turkey)/ ISTANBUL, 15 Oct — American-led forces have sharply intensified air strikes in the past two days against Islamic State fighters threatening Kurds on Syria's Turkish border after the jihadists' advance began to destabilize Turkey.

The coalition had conducted 21 attacks on the militants near the Syrian Kurdish town of Kobani over Monday and Tuesday and appeared to have slowed Islamic State advances there, the US military said, but cautioned the situation remained fluid.

US President Barack Obama voiced deep concern on Tuesday about the situation in Kobani as well as in Iraq's Anbar Province, which US troops fought to secure during the Iraq war and is now at risk of being seized by Islamic State militants.

"Coalition air strikes will continue in both of these areas," Obama told military leaders from coalition partners including Turkey, Arab states and Western allies during a meeting outside Washington.

The fight against Islamic State will be among the items on the agenda when Obama holds a video conference on Wednesday with British, French, German and Italian leaders, the White House said.

War on the militants in Syria is threatening to unravel a delicate peace



Smoke rises from the Syrian town of Kobani, seen from near the Mursitpinar border crossing on the Turkish-Syrian border in the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa province on 15 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

in neighbouring Turkey where Kurds are furious with Ankara over its refusal to help protect their kin in Syria.

The plight of the Syrian Kurds in Kobani provoked riots among Turkey's 15 million Kurds last week in which at least 35 people were killed. Turkish warplanes were reported to have attacked Kurdish rebel targets in southeast Turkey after the army said it had been attacked by the banned PKK Kurdish militant group, risking reigniting a three-decade conflict that killed 40,000 people before a ceasefire was declared two years ago.

Kurds inside Kobani said the US-led strikes on Islamic State had helped,

but that the militants, who have besieged the town for weeks, were still on the attack.

"Today there were air strikes throughout the day, which is a first. And sometimes we saw one plane carrying out two strikes, dropping two bombs at a time," said Abdulrahman Gok, a journalist with a local Kurdish paper who is inside the town.

"The strikes are still continuing," he said by telephone, as an explosion sounded in the background.

"In the afternoon, Islamic State intensified its shelling of the town," he said. "The fact that they're not conducting face-to-face, close-distance fight but instead shelling the

town from afar is evidence that they have been pushed back a bit."

Asya Abdullah, co-chair of the dominant Kurdish political party in Syria, PYD, said the latest air strikes had been "extremely helpful". "They are hitting Islamic State targets hard and because of those strikes we were able to push back a little. They are still shelling the city centre." It was the largest number of air strikes on Kobani since the US-led campaign in Syria began last month, the Pentagon said. The White House said the impact was constrained by the absence of forces on the ground but that evidence so far showed its strategy was succeeding. —Reuters

Blast in downtown Cairo wounds 12

CAIRO, 15 Oct — A homemade bomb exploded near the Supreme Court in downtown Cairo on Tuesday night, injuring 12 people while also destroying a car and damaging some shop fronts, the interior ministry and security sources said.

It was not clear if a particular individual was targeted in the attack, the second in the Egyptian capital in less than a month. There was no immediate claim of responsibility.

Last month, a bomb blast near the Egyptian foreign ministry killed three policemen in the worst attack in central Cairo for months. Islamist militant group Ajnad Misr claimed that attack.

Egypt has faced rising Islamist militant violence since then army chief Abdel Fattah al-Sisi ousted Islamist President Mohamed Mursi last year after mass protests against his rule.

He has since cracked

down on Mursi's Muslim Brotherhood, which the government has declared a terrorist group. The Brotherhood says it is peaceful but Islamist militant groups, particularly in the remote but strategic Sinai have stepped up attacks against security forces in recent months.

The challenge of containing militants has become more complex since Islamic State fighters expanded their control over northern Iraq and eastern Syria in June and declared a caliphate, inspiring other groups including some based in Sinai and along Egypt's border with chaotic Libya.

While the casualties of Tuesday's blast were low. But any attack in the capital is bound to cause alarm and cast doubt over the effectiveness of Egypt's security forces, which have vowed to end the militant bloodshed that has hit tourism, a pillar of the economy.

Reuters

Afghan district governor, police killed in Taleban ambush

LASHKAR GAH, (Afghanistan), 15 Oct — An Afghan district governor was killed along a policeman while six police were injured after Taleban mil-

itants carried out an ambush attack in the country's southern province of Helmand overnight, said an official on Wednesday.

Xinhua

Houthi rebels take over Yemen's Hodeidah port — residents

SANAA, 15 Oct — The Shi'ite Muslim Houthi movement which seized Yemen's capital Sanaa last month has extended its control to the Red Sea port of Hodeidah, deploying checkpoints and also taking control of the city's airport, local officials said.

Hodeidah is the second largest port in the impoverished Arabian peninsula nation after Aden, a southern city on the Gulf of Aden. Residents in Hodeidah told Reuters the Houthis had sent forces to all the city's entry points on Tuesday, including its airport, meeting little or no resistance from security forces.

The Houthis' capture of the capital Sanaa on 21 September stunned Yemenis, whose country has been gripped by po-

litical turmoil since mass protests in 2011 forced its long-serving president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, to step down. The Houthis, whose stronghold is in Yemen's northern highlands, have imposed informal control of government ministries in Sanaa and have struck a power-sharing deal with President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi and other political forces.

Hadi named Yemen's United Nations envoy, Khaled Bahah, as prime minister on Monday in a move welcomed by the Houthis, who have refused to leave Sanaa until a new government is formed.

Bahah is expected to name his government in the coming weeks. Political analysts said the Houthi presence in Sanaa was even-

tually likely to disappear, with many of the fighters who entered Sanaa virtually unopposed set to be incorporated into the country's military and security forces.

Yemen, where central authorities have struggled to keep control since 2011, also faces an al-Qaeda insurgency and a separatist movement that aims to resurrect the socialist state in the south that merged with the northern half of the country in 1990. The United States and other Western and Gulf countries are worried that continued instability in Yemen could strengthen al-Qaeda. They have supported a UN-backed political transition since 2012 led by Hadi that is meant to shepherd Yemen to stability after decades of autocracy.

Reuters



Shi'ite Houthi militants patrol the vicinity of a venue where a mass funeral for victims of a suicide attack on followers of the Shi'ite Houthi group was being held in Sanaa on 14 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

BUSINESS & HEALTH

China inflation slips to near five-year low, more stimulus measures expected

BEIJING, 15 Oct — China's consumer inflation slowed more than expected in September to a near five-year low, adding to concerns that global growth is cooling fast unless governments take bolder measures to shore up their economies. While much of the decline was due to falling prices for food, fuel and other commodities, which are benefiting consumers globally, the data also pointed to broad weakness in the world's second-largest economy.

Facing mounting risks to growth and rising risks of deflation, Beijing is widely expected to continue rolling out a steady stream of stimulus measures in coming months, though most economists believe it will hold off on more aggressive action such as an interest rate cut unless conditions sharply deteriorate.

"Policymakers in Beijing should begin to be concerned that global disinflationary pressures are spreading to China," said Dariusz Kowalczyk, senior

economist at Credit Agricole CIB in Hong Kong.

"The low inflation readings will open the door to further targeted monetary and fiscal easing. There is also less need for a strong currency to offset imported inflation." The consumer price index (CPI) rose 1.6 percent in September from a year earlier, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Wednesday, missing market expectations for a 1.7 percent rise and down from 2 percent in August.

Reuters

Deepening divergence seen for Asia economic outlook amid global slowdown

SINGAPORE, 15 Oct — As top financial officials from the world's largest economies fretted about the weak global economic growth over the weekend, analysts forecast a mixed outlook for Asian economies with those implementing tough structural reforms likely to outperform.

After two days of discussions last week in Washington, finance officials from the Group of 20 nations called for bolder action to tackle sub-par global growth problems, citing the eurozone as the top concern.

Even in Asia, latest economic data such as the purchasing managers' index (PMI) and industrial production have suggested that growth momentum also seems to have stalled in recent months. According to Deutsche Bank Research, China remains characterized by anemic domestic demand. Some glimmer of an upside comes from hints of a pick-up in exports, which would be critical to maintain steady growth.

India, for its part, is undergoing a modest recovery with business and consumer confidence rising, while production and auto sales are also picking up. But weak bank credit growth and tax collection, as well as lackluster trade, underscore a lack of vigor in the economic dynamic.

Political risk has spiked in Indonesia with adverse implication for capital flows, interest rates, and the rupiah. South Korea, meanwhile, seems to be hampered by an uncertain external demand environment and weak domestic demand. Thailand is also struggling

to get out of its economic and political doldrums.

On the bright side, Malaysia and the Philippines are Asia's stalwarts in this cycle. In Malaysia, economic fundamentals are improving with rising growth, steady current account surplus, and structural reform-induced decline in the fiscal deficit. As for the Philippines, strong consumption and investment continue to shore up growth.

While Asia is by no means about to flounder, things are not quite as shiny upon closer inspection. HSBC Global Research said a stronger US dollar, easing property prices, and wary consumers are depriving Asian economies of fuel.

The underlying challenge that the region faces is the slowdown in Asia — not cyclical but structural. For Asia's economies to be on a more sustainable growth path, each Asian country needs to enact more reforms, rather than keep relying on stimulus to drive growth.

As a full recovery of demand in the West sufficient enough to pull Asia out of its malaise remains a distant prospect, Standard Chartered Global Research pointed out that reviving growth in Asia is largely dependent on how individual economies carry out deep structural reforms such as pruning subsidies, spending more on quality infrastructure, boosting education, opening up further to foreign direct investment, and, perhaps most importantly of all, introducing greater competition in local markets.

Xinhua

News study gives details why sleeping on sofa is deadly for babies

BEIJING, 15 Oct — A large portion of sleep-related deaths occur when infants are placed on sofas, and certain behaviours are linked to those deaths, according to a new study published in the journal *Pediatrics*.

While previous research had shown that couches were particularly hazardous for infants, the new study published on Monday identified significant factors linked to infant deaths on sofas.



Customers choose goods at a shop in Beijing on 14 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

Jeffrey Colvin, a pediatrician at Children's Mercy Hospitals in Kansas City of Missouri, United States, and his colleagues, analyzed data collected between 2004 and 2012 from 24 states on the sleep-related deaths of 7,934 infants aged 12 months or younger.

The researchers found infants who died while sleeping on sofas were more than twice likely to be sharing the space with others, for instance, with

parents who put the baby between themselves and the back of the sofa.

Sofa surfaces often sloped toward the back, allowing babies to easily roll and wedge between the cushions, researchers wrote in the published article.

The study also suggested that infants' sudden and sleep-related deaths are more likely to occur when infants are sleeping on their side.

Additionally, re-

searchers found that the infants who died while sleeping on sofas were more likely to use the sofa for a nap than overnight sleep.

The researchers urged parents to be very cautious to put their newborns on sofas.

Colvin said, "Infants need to sleep alone, on their backs and in a crib. It doesn't matter if it's for a nap or overnight, and it doesn't matter if the parent is awake or asleep."

Xinhua

WHO says Ebola epidemic still spreading in West Africa

GENEVA, 15 Oct — The Ebola epidemic is still spreading in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia and projections show there could be between 5,000 and 10,000 new cases a week in early December, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday.

The death toll so far in the outbreak, first reported in Guinea in March, has reached 4,447 from a total of 8,914 cases, WHO Assistant Director General Bruce Aylward said. WHO said the number of cases in West Africa will exceed 9,000 this week.

While there are signs that rates of infection are slowing in some of the worst-hit areas, Aylward said the disease has now reached "more districts, counties and prefectures" than it had a month ago, and case numbers would continue to rise. He stressed it would be "really, really premature" to read success into the apparent slowing numbers in some areas.



Bruce Aylward, World Health Organization assistant Director General in charge of the operational response on Ebola gestures during a news briefing at the WHO headquarters in Geneva on 14 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

Aylward told reporters at WHO's Geneva headquarters that the projections for December "could be higher, it could lower but it's going to be in that ballpark."

The published data could also be misleading because the number of known deaths is less than half the number of cases, but that gave a false impression, Aylward said. The actual mortality rate is about 70 percent, a figure that was

consistent across the three worst-hit countries, he said.

Senior UN officials briefed the United Nations Security Council on the Ebola crisis on Tuesday.

Anthony Banbury, head of the UN Ebola mission in West Africa, said the WHO had advised that by 1 December at least 70 percent of infected people must be at a care facility and 70 percent of burials done without causing further in-

fection. "If we reach these targets then we can turn this epidemic around," he told the 15-member council via video link. "I'm grateful for the commitments by member states of civilian and military personnel, of material and of money, but I am deeply, deeply worried that all of this combined is not nearly enough."

Banbury said a projection of some 10,000 cases a week by 1 December meant 7,000 beds would be needed for treatment, but under current planning only 4,300 beds would be available by then and many of those would not have staff to operate them. "To make up for the gap in beds, we must build about 2,700 beds in community care centers, or about 300 such centers. We will also need staff to manage the facilities," Banbury said. "We need to go from about 50 burial teams to about 500 and we need to equip those teams with about 1,000 vehicles."

Reuters

Serbia has a respectable army

BELGRADE, 15 Oct—Zoran Dragisic, professor at the Belgrade University Faculty of Security, said on Tuesday that it was important to hold the military parade in Serbia as a sign of returning to antifascist tradition, and that Serbia was sending a message that it was a serious country with a respectable army.

There is hardly any country in Europe of similar size and similar economic situation that has such an army as Serbia, Dragisic

said for Belgrade-based TV Pink regarding the military parade which will be staged in Belgrade on 16 October to mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation from Nazi occupation in World War II.

The parade will be attended by Russian President Vladimir Putin, and Dragisic said all necessary security measures were being taken.

He said that the event would be a parade of tanks, aircraft, helicopters, river

flotilla sailing the Danube and Sava rivers, and that Serbia would show new products of its defense industry, infantry weapons, missile systems and armored vehicles and aircraft.

The military parade will show that Serbia plays a significant role in the weapons market, because it produces high-quality weapons and sells it cheaper than the competition, said Dragisic.

Tanjung



Brazil election candidates spar over corruption, nepotism

BRASILIA, 15 Oct — Brazil's two presidential candidates traded accusations of lies, corruption and nepotism on Tuesday night in a bruising television debate that had no clear winner ahead of the hotly contested on 26 October election runoff. Leftist incumbent President Dilma Rousseff warned Brazilians that the election of her pro-business challenger Aécio Neves would lead to unemployment and put at risk social benefits gained under 12 years of rule by her Workers' Party.

Neves charged that the Rousseff campaign propaganda was a pack of lies that had misled voters that he was planning to end cash transfer programmes and privatize state banks.

The senator and former state governor hammered Rousseff for allowing state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA to be allegedly used to channel money from bribes to the Workers' Party and its allies in the governing coalition.

Rousseff retorted by pointing to an airport Neves built adjacent to an uncle's farm when he was governor



Aécio Neves, presidential candidate for the Brazilian Social Democrat Party, attend a television debate with Dilma Rousseff (not pictured), Brazil's president and presidential candidate for the Worker's Party, in Sao Paulo on 14 Oct, 2014. Brazil will hold presidential runoff between Dilma Rousseff and Aécio Neves on 26 Oct.—XINHUA

of Minas Gerais state, and she accused him of nepotism by giving government jobs to a sister, uncles and cousins.

At the end of each round of the debate, aides rushed to help the candidates like seconds tending fighters in a boxing ring.

Neves, the market favourite, has gained ground since his surprise result in the first-round vote on 5 October when he bested environmentalist Marina Silva to place second behind

Rousseff.

Surveys by Brazil's main polling firms Datafolha and Ibope show Rousseff and Neves running neck-and-neck in a race that is too close to call. New polls are expected on Wednesday.

In the narrowest election in decades, Brazilians have to choose between re-electing a government that has lifted millions from poverty or switching to more business-friendly policies advocated by Neves to pull the country

out recession. "The Brazilian people are very scared," said Rousseff, recalling the 11 million unemployed that existed when her party took office from Neves' party in 2003. Neves replied: "The fear in Brazilian society today is that the Workers' Party will continue in power for another four years." Neves hopes to ride to victory on a widespread desire for change in Brazil.

Neves acknowledged big strides had been made in improving the social lot of Brazil's people under Rousseff's mentor and predecessor, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. But he said Brazil had stopped growing under Rousseff and inflation was out of control. He vowed to restore credibility and investment flows.

Neves denied he would reduce the role of state banks such as Brazilian development bank BNDES, whose loan book is almost three times the size of the World Bank's. But he called for more transparency in the bank's lending, and disclosure of loans to communist-run Cuba to build a container port at Mariel.

Reuters

Japan to work with US for rule of law in Asia: GSDF chief

WASHINGTON, 15 Oct — The chief of the Japanese Ground Self-Defence Force pledged on Tuesday to work with the US Army to ensure the rule of law in the Asia-Pacific region, indirectly referring to China's assertiveness in regional waters where the country is engaged in territorial disputes with its neighbours.

The GSDF and the United States should play the primary role in the Asia-Pacific region and "will be able to share the regional environment based on law and order," Gen. Kiyofumi Iwata, chief of staff of the Ground Staff Office, told a US Army-related event in Washington.

"It is unfortunate and undeniable, however, that there are nations in the Asia-Pacific region that repeat their attempts to change the status quo by force," Iwata said. "These nations demand the so-

called core interest in their maritime domain" and have the capability to deploy troops from the sea onto islands, he added, apparently referring to China.

The GSDF seeks to launch a force with functions similar to the US Marine Corps by fiscal 2018 in a bid to step up defence of remote islands including the Japan-administered Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea that are claimed by China and Taipei.

"It is critically important for allies and friendly nations" to work together to avoid having those nations misinterpret that change in the status quo by force is possible, he said.

Iwata told reporters after the event, "I did not intend to name any specific country." In the South China Sea, China is involved in territorial rows with countries such as the Philippines and Vietnam.

Kyodo News

Russia to base interceptors, front-line warplanes at Yakutia airfield from 2017

KAZAN, 15 Oct — Interceptors *MiG-31* and front-line attack aircraft will be based permanently at a Russian Arctic airfield in northernmost Yakutia's location Tiksi starting from 2017, Air Force Commander Colonel-General Viktor Bondarev said.

"Reconstruction of the Tiksi airfield will compulsorily begin next year. A formation of front-line warplanes and interceptor fighters *MiG-31* will be based at the airfield in 2017. *MiG-31* will be also based at an airfield in (administrative center of the Russian Polar Chukotka autonomous area) Anadyr," Bondarev said during a three-day inspection visit to Air Force facilities under construction.—*Itar-Tass*

Photo shows Sukhoi Su-27 fighter jet. The airbase will be established in eastern Belarusian city of Babruysk and deploy Sukhoi Su-27 fighter jets.—ITAR-TASS

Russia to open airbase for fighter jets in Belarus in 2016

KAZAN, 15 Oct — Russia is due to establish an airbase in Babruysk, in eastern Belarus, in 2016 and deploy *Sukhoi Su-27* fighter jets, Russian Air Force Commander-In-Chief Colonel General Viktor Bondarev said on Wednesday.

"The airbase of the Russian and Belarusian Air Force will be created in 2016. *Su-27* fighter jets will be based there," Bondarev told reporters during his

three-day visit to the facilities under construction.

The Russian aircraft will be stationed at a military airfield, which is expected to be reconstructed.

Russia decided earlier this year to send 24 *Su-27SM3* fighter jets to Belarus's Baranovichi airfield to be used to provide inviolability of the airspace of the Union State of Russia and Belarus.

The *Su-27 Flanker* is a twin-engine supermaneu-

verable fighter jet, which can be used to perform various combat operations,

including reconnaissance and interception of enemy aircraft.—*Itar-Tass*



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**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF ENERGY
MYANMA OIL AND GAS ENTERPRISE
(INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER)
(19/2014)**

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

Sr.No	Tender No	Description	Remark
(1)	IFB-094(14-15)	Spares for Volvo Tractor (6) Items	US\$
(2)	IFB-095(14-15)	Spares for Cummins KTA-2300 C-1050 Water Pump Engine (16) Items	US\$
(3)	IFB-096(14-15)	Spares for Perkins Engine Ex 435TC P & H Crane (31) Items	US\$
(4)	IFB-097(14-15)	Spares for Cooper Well Servicing Units (11) Items	US\$
(5)	IFB-098(14-15)	Spares for Rotary Substitutes (1) Lot	US\$
(6)	IFB-099(14-15)	Spares for Rotary Swivels (1) Lot	US\$
(7)	DMP/L-025(14-15)	Hard Surface Brake Drum Rim for Drawwork (Ex EMSCO Rig) (1) Item	Ks
(8)	DMP/L-026(14-15)	AC Kilovars Meter (Ex ZJ 50D SR II Rig) (5) Items	Ks
(9)	DMP/L-027(14-15)	500 KVA, 33/ 0.4 KV Transformer and 33 KV Gas Circuit Breaker (2) Items	Ks
(10)	DMP/L-028(14-15)	Spares for SATA 1118 (Kenworth Truck) (4) Items	Ks

Tender Closing Date & Time - 12-11-2014, 16:30 Hr

Tender Document shall be available during office hours commencing from 15th October, 2014 at the Finance Department, Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise, No(44) Complex, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

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

TRADEMARK CAUTION

UD Trucks Corporation (formerly known as **NISSAN DIESEL MOTOR CO., LTD.**) a Corporation organised under the laws of Japan, Manufacturers & Merchants, of No.1, 1-chome, Oaza, Ageo-shi, Saitama-ken, Japan are the Owners and Sole Proprietors of the following trademarks:



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Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use or any other infringement whatsoever of these trademarks will be dealt with according to law.

Htain Lin Oo LL.B Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM
E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm
Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666
Yangon. 16 October 2014

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (079)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (079) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (125)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (125) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(1) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S WONGSAMUT OCEAN
SHIPPING CO., LTD**

Phone No: 2301186

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MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE
EXPORT MARKETING & MILLING DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER**

1. MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WILL SELL TEAK & HARDWOOD ROUND LOGS AND SAWN TIMBERS BY OPEN TENDERS IN US DOLLARS. PARTICULARS OF THE OPEN TENDER SALES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(a) DATE & TIME	(24-10-2014)/(27-10-2014)-(13:00)PM
(b) COMMODITIES & VOLUME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TEAK LOGS (691) TONS TEAK HANDSAWN & CONVERSION (456) TONS PADAUK/ TAMALAN LOGS (115) TONS PYINKADO/ IN-KANYIN/ THINWIN/ INGYIN/ THITSAY/ SAGAWA & OTHERS LOGS (3440) TONS HARDWOOD HANDSAWN & CONVERSION (PADAUK/ TAMALAN) (1753) TONS
(c) PLACE	TAW WIN HALL, GYOGONE, INSEIN TOWNSHIP, YANGON.

2. FOR FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE HEAD OFFICE AND ALSO VISIT MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE WEB-SITE (www.myanmar-timber.com.mm).
OPEN TENDER COMMITTEE
MYANMA TIMBER ENTERPRISE

New Zealand man jailed for receiving narcotics parcels from China

WELLINGTON, 15 Oct — An Auckland man, sentenced to four and a half years Wednesday for his role in smuggling methamphetamine precursor drugs from China, was being used by an organized crime gang, said Customs officials.

Thomas Latu, 23, had imported 3.2 kg of ContacNT hidden inside tin foil parcels and security cameras, said a statement from New Zealand Customs.

The amount of ContacNT could have yielded nearly a kilogram of methamphetamine with a street value of up to 1 million NZ dollars (783,883 US dollars).

In February last year, Customs officers linked Latu to a number of drug consignments couriered from China and raided his home, where they found more evidence of his involvement.

Latu admitted he was to be paid 500 NZ dollars (392 US dollars) for each package. Customs manager investigations Maurice O'Brien said this was another example of a catcher enticed with cash and gifts to collect packages for an organized syndicate.

"The public is also urged to be wary that criminals operate this way. Don't allow other people to use

your address or accept packages for them unless you are confident of its contents," O'Brien said in the statement.

Last week, the New Zealand Police named their second police envoy to China, saying they were hoping to build on a string of anti-drug smuggling operations with Chinese counterparts.

Then Police Minister Anne Tolley said in April that Customs and Police staff would also travel to China to take part in targeted operations and to increase the level of engagement with Chinese enforcement agencies.—Xinhua



Children attend session of the Children's Parliament in Hungarian parliament building in Budapest, Hungary on 14 Oct, 2014. Hungarian parliament and the International Children's Safety Service Tuesday hosted the fourth Children's Parliament. Hungarian children from various cities in Hungary and abroad were chosen to take part in the event and were offered the possibility to ask questions to some of the politicians attending their session.—XINHUA

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Weather report

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is partly cloudy in the Andaman sea and Bay of Bengal.

STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

OUTLOOK FOR SUBSEQUENT TWO DAYS: Likelihood of continuation of rain or thundershowers in the extreme Southern Myanmar areas.

Poor eyesight reduced my nerves: Judi Dench



LONDON, 15 Oct — Veteran actress Judi Dench believes losing her eyesight has reduced her nerves when she performs live. The 79-year-old actress suffers from macular degeneration, an age-related eye condition which leads to gradual loss of vision, reported *Daily Mirror*.

“Fortunately now I can’t see very clear, I used to be able to see every member of the audience and exactly what they were doing. I can’t do that any more which in a way is a wonderful blessing. I didn’t realise it was a blessing until I went on that night at the Proms.

“There was like a sea of corn in front of me. And I looked up and thought, ‘There is nobody upstairs’,” she said. The ‘Philomena’ star has spent the last few years in film but admits she misses working on stage and has hinted that a return to theatre may be in the pipeline.

“My daughter is on tour at the moment and we went the other night and sat there in the theatre and I thought, ‘Gosh I miss that’. “That whole thing of getting ready and going on and it being slightly different from the last night, slightly better or slightly worse. I really miss that.”—PTI



Michael Keaton makes big screen comeback with ‘Birdman’

NEW YORK, 15 Oct — Michael Keaton, who launched the ‘Batman’ franchise in 1989 before his career as a leading man,

is making a comeback in films with new movie ‘Birdman’.

Keaton said he did not worry the film might be

confused with his own story, reported the *New York Post*.

“There was that moment where you go, ‘Is

this going to be an issue in terms of having played Batman?’,” Keaton said at Le Cirque after the movie closed the New York Film Festival.

“There was almost really no time to discuss this because there was so much work to do,” he added.

The movie, which opens this Friday, is set in Broadway’s St James Theatre and shot to look like one continuous take.

PTI



Chinese actress Tao Hong looks so charming and graceful in her latest fashion shoot.—XINHUA

Brotherhood brings Pitt, cast together in war film ‘Fury’



Shia LaBeouf as Boyd “Bible” Swan, Logan Lerman as Norman, Brad Pitt as Wardaddy, Michael Pena as Trini “Gordo” Garcia and Jon Bernthal as Grady “Coon-Ass” Travis in Columbia Pictures’ *Fury*.—REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 15 Oct — When writer-director David Ayer decided to tackle the “beaten-to-death” World War Two movie genre with “Fury,” he decided to make it an intimate affair for his cast

led by Brad Pitt.

“When I told people I was going to make a World War Two movie, the eyes rolled, you hear the groan,” Ayer recalled. “It’s really the study of a family that happens to live in a tank

and kill people.”

“Fury,” out in US theaters on Friday, follows five men led by hardened war veteran Wardaddy (Pitt), overcome with fatigue and trucking along in Nazi Germany during the

final months of World War Two.

“My (motive) is bringing a cast together and turning them into a family, turning them into brothers,” Ayer said. “I haven’t really seen that level of

intense character study in a World War Two movie, and I felt like it was time for that.”

Made for \$68 million by Sony Corp’s Sony Pictures Entertainment, “Fury” is an intimate story amid war-torn battlefields. It is projected to open with \$25 million at the US box office, according to BoxOffice.com.

Joining Pitt in the tank are actors Shia LaBeouf, John Bernthal, Michael Pena and Logan Lerman, who all underwent an intensive military boot camp to research and bond.

“It’s really tough,” said Pena. “From the rations to waking up early to being sleep deprived, you’re really having to rely on the other person to get through.”

Pena, who previously worked with Ayer on 2012 police drama “End of Watch, jokingly compared working with the director to a root-canal dental procedure.

“It’s always scary to do a David Ayer movie because what he likes is to make somebody uncomfortable and film that,” he said.

The experience was new for 22-year-old Lerman, best known for young adult movies such as “Percy Jackson” and “The Perks

of Being a Wallflower,” who said he learned a lot about his physical and emotional limits.

“It was very humbling to think about the people that actually have to train like that,” Lerman said.

Ayer said LaBeouf, who has more recently made headlines for bizarre antics including wearing a paper bag on his head for an art installation, “worked his ass off” to prepare for the role of God-fearing gunner Boyd “Bible” Swan.

“The crazy Shia rumours are fun, but the boring truth is he just did a lot of prep to play this character,” Ayer said. “He doesn’t showboat, and he’s so powerful and understated.”

Much of the film takes place in enclosed spaces and the violence, which is often bloody and prolific in battle scenes, aims to give context to the harsh and jarring conditions that scar the men.

“The reality of modern warfare and mechanized warfare is people are just mangled,” Ayer said. “I have to show what they’re reacting to and what they’ve seen for years, to understand the effect it’s had on them.”

Reuters

GENERAL

20 people, including nine foreign trekkers, die in heavy snowfall in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 15 Oct — At least 20 people, including nine trekkers from Canada, Israel, Poland and India, have died in blizzard and avalanches in two mountainous districts in northwestern Nepal, officials said on Wednesday.

Eight Nepalese, two Israelis and two Poles died after being buried by heavy snowfall at the Thorang La pass in the Mustang district, about 180 kilometres northwest of Kathmandu, on Tuesday, chief district officer Baburam Bhandari told *Kyodo News* by phone.

In the neighbouring

Manang district, four Canadians and an Indian trekker were buried by an avalanche at Fu village on Tuesday, chief district officer Devendra Lamichhane said.

Three local yak herders were buried and killed by an avalanche at Nar village in the same district, Lamichhane said. The trekkers at Thorang La pass were reported missing after they came under heavy snowfall and strong winds on Tuesday afternoon while crossing the pass, located at an altitude of 5,417 metres.

"There are 2 metres of snow in the area. Twelve

people buried by the snow froze to death," Bhandari said. Security personnel managed to rescue 22 trekkers in the Mustang area. Most of them were treated for frostbite and altitude sickness.

"No one knows for sure how many people were crossing the pass when weather deteriorated. It is possible some trekkers remain missing," Bhandari added.

In Manang, three Canadians and a Nepali member of the trekking team were rescued by helicopter and flown to Kathmandu on

Wednesday for treatment, Lamichhane said, adding, the bodies of those buried in the avalanche could not be immediately pulled out.

"There is too much snow in the area," Lamichhane said.

Weather conditions have deteriorated sharply in Nepal over the past few days, an effect of a cyclone in neighbouring India. There has been heavy rainfall in most parts of the country and snowfall in mountainous areas. October is a popular trekking season when people also climb smaller mountains. — *Kyodo News*

UN panel warns global temperatures could rise up to 4.8 C

TOKYO, 15 Oct — A UN panel on climate change warned that the world's average temperatures could rise up to 4.8 C by the end of the 21st century if greenhouse gas emissions continue at their current pace, a draft report of the panel showed on Wednesday. Continued emissions will be "increasing the likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems," according to a copy of a final draft of the report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recently obtained by *Kyodo News*.

The IPCC's fifth assessment report, which will be released later this month, gives an even sterner warning about climate change and will be the most comprehensive assessment of scientific knowledge on climate change since the previous report in 2007.

The draft, which also called for a threefold or fourfold increase in the rate of

renewable energy by 2050, is also expected to have a strong impact on efforts to create the post-2020 global framework for curbing global warming. The draft will be discussed for approval at the panel's meeting in Denmark on 27-31 October.

The document said human influence "on the climate system is clear" and is "extremely likely to have been the dominant cause of the observed warming since the mid-20th century."

If greenhouse gas emissions continue at their current pace, sea levels would also increase by 82 centimetres, it said. The draft also said that some areas of the world will experience extreme weather conditions such as flooding and drought, which could lead to a shortage of food and water. Poverty could worsen, more and more people would be displaced and conflicts could break out, it added.

Kyodo News

S Korea handling of Japan reporter could be humanitarian issue

TOKYO, 15 Oct — Japan's top government spokesman said on Wednesday that South Korea extending by three months the travel ban imposed on a Japanese journalist facing trial for defaming the president may become a serious humanitarian issue.

Tatsuya Kato, 48, the former Seoul bureau chief of Japan's *Sankei Shimbun* daily, was indicted last week on charges of defaming South Korean President Park Geun Hye in an article and was already banned from leaving South Korea for more than two months since early August.

"The former Seoul bureau chief has been deprived of the right to move freely for more than two months already," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said at a press conference. "If the ban is extended for an additional three months (as sought by South Korean prosecutors),

this will become a serious humanitarian problem." "We will continue to express our concern to South Korea and ask for appropriate steps," Suga added.

In an article published online in August, Kato suggested that Park was not at her office for seven hours on 16 April, the day the Sewol ferry sank causing about 300 deaths, possibly because she was meeting clandestinely with a recently divorced former aide. Kato cited hearsay among stock brokers and quoted from the *Chosun Ilbo*, a major South Korean newspaper that first reported the rumour but has not similarly been charged with defamation.

The Seoul Central District Prosecutors Office has said Kato's story contained "falsehood" and defamed the president, accusing him of "not making the minimum efforts" to verify the facts. — *Kyodo News*

MYANMAR TV

(16-10-2014, Thursday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:35 am

* Song of Yester Years

7:00 am

* News / Weather Report

7:20 am

* People Talks

8:00 am

* News / International News

8:30 am

* TV Drama Series

9:00 am

* News / International News

10:20 am

* TV Drama Series

11:00 am

* Sing & Enjoy

12:00 noon

* News / International News / Weather Report

12:25 pm

* Hluttaw Image

3:00 pm

* News

3:15 pm

* Alinka Kyaw Swar Muaic Troupe

4:00 pm

* News / Weather Report

4:30 pm

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

4:50 pm

* Documentary

5:15 pm

* TV Drama Series

6:00 pm

* (2014) AFF Suzuki Cup (Live) Myanmar & Brunei

7:50 pm

* Musical Programme

8:00 pm

* News / International News / Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Current Affairs

9:00 pm

* News

9:30 pm

* Hluttaw Image

* CLEVER

* Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(16-10-14 07:00 am~ 17-10-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Halin, A Treasure Trove of The Ancient Pyu City
- * World News
- * Great Minds of Myanmar (Anthropologist U Kyaw Win)
- * Local News
- * Walking along Orchard Road
- * World News
- * Sagaing Guitar
- * Local News
- * A Tea Business: Pankwan (Part-2)
- * World News
- * Independent Filmmaker
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Medicine ...Myanmar Betels
- * World News
- * A Girl Guide
- * Local News
- * Unique Pattern of Myanma...A Trend of Chin Traditional Dress
- * World News
- * Short Cuts: Food Trip
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- * Mesmerizing Scenes or Image of Japan Part(2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Harpist
- * Local News
- * A Diary of a Fisherman
- * World News
- * The Storytellers
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Delicate Artistic Handy Creations — The Making Procedure of Goldsmith
- * World News
- * Nang

Panasonic signs sponsorship accord for Paralympics

TOKYO, 15 Oct — Panasonic Corp said on Wednesday it has signed a new partnership agreement with the International Paralympic Committee effective through 2020, when Tokyo will host the games, in a move that will help the Japanese electronics conglomerate promote its care products for the elderly and disabled.

Panasonic has supplied audiovisual equipment to the Olympic and Paralympic Games since 1998. The new agreement additionally covers the provision of care products it has been developing, including "Powered Suit," which mechanically supports users' physical strength for purposes such as lifting heavy objects.

The sponsorship accord gives Panasonic the right to globally market those products with the Paralympics.

Panasonic in February renewed its separate sponsorship agreement with the International Olympic Committee.

It has given priority to supplying audiovisual equipment such as large-screen displays and security cameras for stadiums for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, aiming to book sales of at least 150 billion yen (about \$1.4 billion).

Kyodo News



Snowcapped Mt Ontake Photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter on 15 Oct, 2014, shows snowcapped Mt Ontake in central Japan, whose eruption on 27 September has claimed 56 lives with seven people remaining missing. Kengamine, the highest peak of the mountain, is seen in the background and one of its ponds, called Ninoike, is seen in front. — KYODO NEWS

COPENHAGEN, 15 Oct — A headed goal in second-half injury time by Cristiano Ronaldo gave Portugal a much-needed 1-0 win over Denmark in their Group I Euro 2016 qualifier on Tuesday.

Ronaldo rose to meet Ricardo Quaresma's cross and bury his header past Kasper Schmeichel to claim all three points after referee Felix Brych played five minutes stoppage time at the end of the game.

Denmark's best chance of the match came when Pierre Højbjerg muscled his way through and fed Christian Eriksen, who teed up Michael Krohn-Dehli to fire in a shot that came back off the far post.

Ronaldo's goal lifts Portugal off the bottom of the table and into third in the five-team group on three points. Denmark remain second, level on four points with leaders Albania.

Portugal coach Fernando Santos praised his captain after his late goal, saying: "Cristiano is Cristiano. He is a winner, and there are no adjectives to describe him."

Ronaldo announced his presence as early as

the seventh minute with a thumping shot on target before teeing up Danny six minutes later. Both efforts were saved, however, by Schmeichel in the Danish goal.

Denmark lost defender Nicolai Boilesen 10 minutes into the second half when the left back was stretchered off having been knocked out cold by a thundering clearance from Daniel Agger.

The Danes enjoyed plenty of possession after that, passing well on the slick, rain-soaked Parken pitch, but despite being roared on by a sell-out crowd of 36,562 they rarely threatened the Portuguese goal and were eventually punished.

"We knew that Denmark were very strong," Santos told reporters. "I think they saw the match against France and changed from their normal tactics, from a 4-3-3 to 4-4-2 trying to control the match."

With time running out, Ronaldo took centre stage, first enduring the jeers of the crowd as he was yellow-carded in the final minute for a tackle on Højbjerg, before scoring the game's decisive goal a few

Late Ronaldo header poaches three points for Portugal



Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo scores during their EURO 2016 qualifying soccer match against Denmark at Parken Stadium in Copenhagen on 14 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

minutes later.

An angry Denmark coach Morten Olsen hammered his side for their

lapse in concentration that led to Ronaldo's goal.

"You have to know the last five minutes you have

to play with discipline and concentration so that these things don't happen," he said.

"You have to be professional, these are very important points that we lost here."—Reuters

Serbia-Albania match abandoned following drone stunt, brawl



Fans and players of Serbia and Albania scuffle during their Euro 2016 Group I qualifying soccer match at the FK Partizan stadium in Belgrade on 14 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

BELGRADE, 15 Oct — The politically-sensitive Euro 2016 qualifier between Serbia and Albania was abandoned on Tuesday following a brawl between players from both sides after a flag stunt.

The Group I game, with no away fans permitted, was interrupted when a flag depicting so-called Greater Albania, an area covering all parts of the Balkans where ethnic Al-

banians live, was flown over the terraces and pitch by what appeared to be a remote controlled mini drone near the end of the first half.

A Serbian player eventually grabbed the flag at the Partizan stadium, prompting an angry reaction from Albanian players and an unsightly melee ensued.

Riot police then moved in when around a dozen

fans invaded the pitch and attacked the Albanian players, forcing them to retreat into the tunnel as flares were thrown from the terraces. After a delay of around half an hour, English referee Martin Atkinson abandoned the game, which stood at 0-0.

"What happened is something we can't comprehend at the moment," Serbia captain Branislav Ivanovic told reporters.

"On behalf of my team, all I can say is that we wanted to carry on and that we shielded the Albanian players every step of the way to the tunnel (after the riot broke out)."

"The Albanian team said they were unfit physically and mentally to carry on after talking to the officials and they will now decide the fate of this match. We can only regret that football took a back seat but it is difficult to draw any conclusions or make any comments now."

Albanian captain Lorik Cana told Albanian television: "I saw my players being attacked and hit even inside the tunnel, and even by the stewards. We were not in the right psychological or physical state to continue playing."

Serbian state television reported that Olsi Rama, the brother of Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama, was arrested in the VIP section on suspicion of instigating the flag stunt.

Albanian Interior Minister Saimir Tahiri said that to the best of his knowledge Olsi Rama had left the stadium for the airport, according to information he had from Serbia's interior ministry and Albanian officials in Belgrade.—Reuters

Beaten Americans set up Ryder Cup Task Force



Tiger Woods of the US

NEW YORK, 15 Oct — Former world number one Tiger Woods and five-times major champion Phil Mickelson have been named on an 11-man United States Ryder Cup Task Force.

The PGA of America, smarting from Europe's eighth win over the US in 10 editions of the team event last month, announced the group would examine "the entire Ryder Cup process" including the selection of the captain and the points qualifying system.

The Task Force will also contain past captains Ray Floyd, Tom Lehman and Davis Love III, players Rickie Fowler, Jim Furyk and Steve Stricker, PGA

secretary Paul Levy, PGA chief executive Pete Bevacqua and PGA vice president Derek Sprague. "The Ryder Cup is our most prized competitive asset and the PGA of America is committed to utilising our utmost energy and resources to support one of the biggest events in all of sport," said president Ted Bishop.

"The Ryder Cup Task Force, co-chaired by Derek Sprague and Pete Bevacqua, is an exciting and comprehensive initiative that will guide the PGA in developing the right strategy and building ongoing processes and infrastructure for future generations of US teams."

Woods, who missed last month's 16 1/2 points to 11 1/2 defeat by Europe in Scotland, welcomed the setting up of the Task Force. "I think this is a great step by the PGA to accomplish what we all want — to win the Ryder Cup," Woods said.

"The Ryder Cup is very important to every player who has the honour to represent his country. I'm excited to be part of this group."—Reuters