

President U Thein Sein meets Turin Mayor, visits industries, factories in Turin

TURIN, 19 Oct — At the invitation of the mayor of Turin, President U Thein Sein left Milan for Turin and visited electricity generation stations and heavy industries on Saturday.

Turin is the third largest city in Italy and industrial hub which houses over 600-year old Turin University and Turin Polytechnic.

The president and party visited the power generation station of the IREN in the morning and attended the luncheon hosted by Myanmar Honorary Counsellor Mr Andrea Ganelli in Turin.

The president and party visited Maserati motor factory of Fiat Company and the CNH industries.

In the evening, the president and party met with Mayor Piero Fassino and attended the dinner host by the mayor.

During the meeting, the president and the mayor held discussions on establishing sister cities between Turin and Yangon,



President U Thein Sein holds talks about establishing sister cities between Turin and Yangon with Turin Mayor Piero Fassino.—MNA

cooperation between Turin University and technological universities in Myanmar, sending scholars

to technological colleges and universities in Turin, conducting courses on operations and maintenance of agricultural, construc-

tion and mining machinery manufactured by the CNH industry and being used in Myanmar, business delegation's visit to Myan-

mar to study business and investment opportunities, technological exchange for construction of environmentally friendly gas-tur-

bines and hydro-turbines in Myanmar and cooperation in conservation of heritage, culture and tourism promotion.—MNA

Japan to conduct three research projects on Dawei SEZ

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 19 Oct— Japan will carry out three research projects on implementation of the Dawei Special Economic Zone with the fund of US \$700,000 as an initial step for the delayed multi-billion dollar economic zone located along the

Thai-Myanmar peninsula.

The three research projects are scheduled to start at the end of October and to complete by March, 2015, said Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Aye Myint.

Japan will conduct the research projects to find out how it can cooperate in the development of My-

anmar's industrial project and for development of the southern economic corridor in Myanmar, he added.

As part of the research projects, Japan will also draw a master plan for the Dawei SEZ and will conduct research to find out how stake-holder countries can provide technical assistance to the Dawei Special

Economic Zone and how those countries and the people can cooperate for the success of the zone, U Aye Myint said.

During a recent visit to Japan, a delegation led by U Aye Myint held talks with officials from the Japanese government and from firms over the delayed

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Union Peace-making Work Committee meets SSPP/SSA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — A delegation led by Vice Chairman of the Union Peace-making Work Committee U Thein Zaw and General Secretary of Shan State Progressive Party/ Shan State Army (SSPP/SSA) U Sao Khun Hsai and party held talks at the Shweli guest house of North-East Command Headquarters in Lashio of Shan State on Saturday afternoon.

They cordially dis-

cussed formation of a coordination group comprising members of both sides, raising the role of liaison offices to promote bilateral relations, arrangements to discuss military affairs between officials of both sides and development of the region.

The union ministers and the chief minister of Shan State explained regional development tasks.

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An artist's view of the Dawei Special Economic Zone in Myanmar. —PHOTO: DAWEIDEVELOPMENT.COM

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Union A & I minister inspects development process of Dekkhinathiri Tsp



Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing views thriving paddy plantation.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing urged the residents from Dekkhinathiri Township here to accelerate their efforts to create a developed country on Sunday on his inspection

tour of the township.

After the inspection of 10-acre Palethwe paddy field near Aungthukha Village, the Union Minister met with the abbot of the village to discuss the arrangements for holding a religious ceremony and re-

spect-paying ceremony for people aged over 90.

U Myint Hlaing urged the officials to conduct educative talks about electrical safety to the residents in Aungthukha, Yanaungmyin and Zebyugone villages in the township and

Japan to conduct three . . .

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Dawei Special Economic Zone, which is four times larger than the Thilawa Special Economic Zone.

The Dawei SEZ is divided into two parts, an initial zone for small industries and a second zone for large industries, the minister said.

The implementation of the initial zone will begin in November or December this year on 6,000 acres

of land and it includes upgrading the road linking the Dawei SEZ and Thai-Myanmar border, building a small seaport before implementing the Dawei Deep Sea Port project, undertaking power and water supply tasks and building development projects.

The initial zone of the Dawei SEZ is divided into three phases and will begin on 1,500 acres first, U Aye Myint said.

“Only after 65 percent of the factories on the first 1,500 acres of land come into operation or they create 60,000 job opportunities, will we go to next step of the initial zone on next 1500 acres of land, he added.

Japan expressed interest in the Dawei Special Economic Zone and it will become involved in the second zone for big industries even though it will not be involved in the initial zone, the minister said.

GNLM

heard the reports of the officials on progress of installing the transformers in the villages.

He also met town’s elders of Yaungaungmyin Village and officials from the department of rural development to discuss progress of Mya Sein Yaung development project, discussing current running processes for rural development.—MNA

Third 10 Days Weather Forecast on October

Bay of Bengal Condition

YANGON, 19 Oct — A Low Pressure Area may form over the Bay of Bengal and it may further intensify into a depression. Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy over the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

Rain Conditions and Rainy Days

Above normal rain are likely in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and about normal in the remaining Regions and States.

Rainy days are expected about (6) to (8) days in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and about (3) to (5) days in the remaining Regions and States.—GNLM

Rakhine State performing arts competition concludes

SITTWAY, 19 Oct — The 21st Myanmar national races’ performing arts competition was held at U Ottama Hall in Sittway of Rakhine State on 12 and 13 October, and the prize pres-

entation ceremony took place at the same venue on 16 October.

Rakhine national’s songs and dances, Khami national’s songs and dances, dramas, modern songs

and classical songs contests were held at the competition.

Local people enjoyed participation of troupes in the competitions.

Rakhine State IPRD



Contestants participate in performing arts competition of Rakhine State in Sittway.—Rakhine State IPRD

Myanmar puppeteers to take part in the world’s largest puppet festival in Bangkok

By Khaing Thanda Lwin



Myanmar puppeteers demonstrate choreography of Myanmar marionette.

HTWEOO

MYANMAR.COM

YANGON, 19 Oct — Myanmar puppeteers are now arranging to participate in the Harmony World Puppet Carnival 2014 to be held in Bangkok of Thailand from 1 to 10 November, according to a participant.

Khin Maung Htwe, Art Director of Htwe Oo Myanmar Puppetry Home, told the Global New Light of Myanmar on 19 October that a Myanmar puppeteer team with six members—Sein Tun Kyi and his daughter Cho Cho San, Sein Nan Tin, Khin Maung Htwe, Tin Tin Oo and Thet Thet Htwe Oo—will take part in the festival on 2 November.

The festival is said to focus on the exchange of art-related information about various traditional cultures.

Myanmar has seen the festival as an opportunity to bring its puppetry back to life as the old traditional marionette generation has almost faded away.

More than 100 marionette teams from 66 countries will perform in the Harmony World Puppet Carnival, the world’s largest puppet festival, he added.

The Myanmar marionette team is scheduled to leave Yangon for Bangkok on 31 October and arrive back home on 11

November.

Daw Htet Htet Khaing, a member of the ASEAN Puppetry Association (APA), said that local puppeteers frequently conduct the modern educational puppet shows at schools in order to share knowledge and resurrect the country’s traditional art of marionette.

Mostly, these activities are organized by Ma Ma Naing, a daughter of Thein Naing, who wrote Myanmar Puppet Theatre published in 1966.

Puppetry is the most popular show in Myanmar arts and culture. It usually takes place at pagoda festivals.—GNLM

President U Thein Sein meets leading business executives in Turin

Support for social economic lives of Myanmar means encouraging democratization process of the country

TURIN, 19 Oct — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met with chief executive officers of leading businesses in Italy at the Criclo Union Industriate Convention Centre in Turin on Sunday morning.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Tin Naing Thein and U Ye Htut, Lt-Gen Aung Than Htut of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief (Army), Chief Ministers U Thein Aung and U Hong Ngai and Myanmar Ambassador to Italy U Myint Naung.

First, Mayor Mr Piero Fassino made a welcoming speech and introduced the chief executive officers with the president and officials.

Then, President U Thein Sein delivered a speech. In his address, the president said that the government has been taking measures to strengthen the main pillars of the state including the economic sector since it took office in 2011 while developing plans for economic sector reform aiming at the economic growth.

Required institutions

have been established although the market mechanism of Myanmar has not been strong enough at the moment, the president added. As the economic infrastructure has changed, the market and private sector that disappeared for many years have awakened, he said.

The Framework of Economic Social Reform acceptable for lending countries was developed in cooperation with the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the International Monetary Funds and was submitted to Myanmar Economic Cooperation Forum in 2013, according to the president. As a result, the US and the EU eased almost all economic sanctions and offered the generalized system of preferences, the president pointed out. Afterwards, the president explained the economic potentials in tourism, investment and banking to the attendees.

During the three-year term of the government, it has experienced challenges, difficulties and problems. However, the government did not derail from its commitments. We have decided not to go backsliding.



President U Thein Sein together with Turin Mayor Mr Piero Fassino meets leading business executives of Italy.—MNA

Therefore, the Italian businesspersons are invited to do investment with confidence, the president concluded.

Later, Chairman Vincenzo Ilotte of Italian businesses association explained business opportunities between the two countries, Union Minister U Tin Naing Thein described the potentials of business in Myanmar, Mrchele Boario Gerardo Pataconi from UNIDO suggested Italian entrepreneurs the types of

suitable businesses and Chairman Francesco Profumo of IERN Company elucidate their plans to do investment in Myanmar.

Then, President U Thein Sein said that economic reform is one of the most crucial issues for the transition process of Myanmar, that transitional process of the country took place nearly the same time with Arab Spring, but the latter was stained with blood and anarchism while Myanmar could pass

through transitional period with peace and stability.

U Thein Sein continued that although Myanmar is experiencing many challenges, it is believed that all the difficulties could be overcome with the supports of international community, reiterating Myanmar has many opportunities for investments together with some challenges which are to be tackled with cooperation.

He also said that when Mayor of Turin visited

Myanmar next year, plans should be made to ensure better ties.

Finally, President U Thein Sein pointed out that **support for the social economic lives of Myanmar means encouraging the democratization process of the country, and called for more supports in the future.**

President and party then enjoyed luncheon served by the chairman of Italian businesspersons.

MNA

Union Peace-making Work Committee...



Vice Chairman U Thein Zaw and the leader of SSPP/SSA shake hands at concluding of peace talk.—MNA

(from Page 1)

The talks agreed to continuously hold the coordination meeting for formation of the coordination group for peace and stability and development of the region

in the designated venue.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thet Naing Win, U Khin Maung Soe, U Win Myint and Shan State Chief Minister U Sao

Aung Myat, Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Commander of Central East Command Maj-Gen Ko Ko Naing and officials.

MNA

SIM Democracy Board Game introduced to promote democratic practices

YANGON, 19 Oct — The SIM Democracy Board Game was launched here on Saturday evening to promote educative programmes for democratic practices in Myanmar.

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF) created the game and it is now launched to market the East Asia's 'Freedom Week'.

During the launching ceremony held at the Sule Shangri-La Hotel, Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Than Htay said that the use of SIM Democracy Board Game intended to give information of the role and responsibilities of gov-

ernments and citizens in a certain democratic society through a simple way by attracting the interests of young people. The union minister also said that he believed that such educative games will help encourage the participation of people in democratization processes.

Then, a member of FNF demonstrated the

game to the audiences of parliamentarians, heads of political parties and young people.

On 19 October morning Union Minister U Hla Tun inspected the construction project of the railway overpass in Insein, Yangon. The project was started in July, and has been targeted to finalize in May 2015.—MNA



Health care services mark 74th birthday of Gangaw Tahtaung Sayadaw



BOGALE, 19 Oct — In commemoration of the 74th anniversary birthday of Gangaw Tahtaung Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kelasa, a medical team comprising specialists from Yangon gave health care services to local people free of charge at the

dispensary in the precinct of the Gangaw Tahtaung Monastery in Paychaunggyi Village of Bogale Township of Ayeyawady Region on 18 October.

Specialists of the medical team performed medical checkups at over 600 patients and provided health care and medicines to them with the sponsorship of U Kyaw Han-Daw San San Myint and family of Yangon under the aegis of parents U Tin Hla-Daw Kyin May.

The clinic was established by the Gangaw Tahtaung Sayadaw in 2012. Doctors and nurses give medical treatment free of charge to the people every Wednesday and Saturday.—*Thuza Nwe (Pyapon)*

Pro1 Home Center to supply demand of local people with various products

MANDALAY, 19 Oct — The Pro1 Home Center was opened on Theikpan Street between 62nd and 63rd streets in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay on 18 October, opened by Mandalay Mayor Mandalay Region Development Affairs Minister U Aung Moun and Region Minister for Transport U Kyaw Hsan.

Constructional materials, electronic equipment, home decoration materials, CCTVs, air-conditioners, air coolers and vacuum cleaners and other products are available at fair prices at the centre which is the largest one of its kind in upper Myanmar.

The center has been opened in Yangon, and the center in Mandalay was the second branch.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



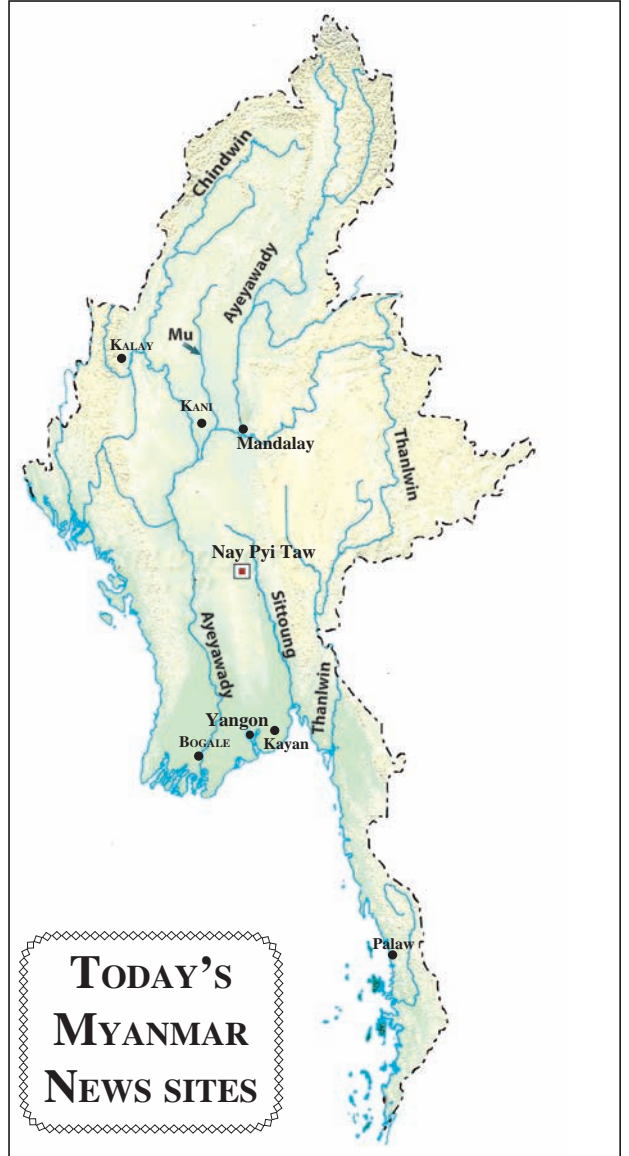
IT enthusiasts visit Mandalay Computer Show and Sales



MANDALAY, 19 Oct — Mandalay Region Computer Professionals Association and Mandalay Region Computer Industrialists Association jointly organized the Mandalay Computer Show and Sales at the city hall in Mandalay from 17 and 19 October.

A total of 45 companies opened 80 booths with the display of latest model Notebooks, Desktops, printers, projectors, cameras, books on computer IT, mobile phone handsets, memory sticks. These products were made in Thailand, China and Japan.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



People enjoy Shin Boh Mei Pagoda festival in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 19 Oct —The 584th anniversary of Buddha Pujaniya was held on the platform of Shwe Boh Mei Pagoda between 29th and 30th streets and 83rd and 84th streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay.

The festival of the pagoda Pujaniya comprised Myanmar traditional Chin-lone contest, greasing pole

contest, music concert and Anyeint troupe's entertainment.

Local people offered rice and alms to over 350 members of the Sangha on the occasion on 17 October.

The pagoda was built by Queen Shin Boh Mei in 792 Myanmar Era.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)



LOCAL NEWS



Nutritious foods making demonstration carried out in Kayan

KAYAN, 19 Oct — The low-priced nutritious foods making contest was held in conjunction with the talk on trafficking in persons at the rural health branch in Daepauk model village in Kayan of Yangon Region on Saturday morning.

Chairperson of Yangon South District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Kathy Khaing and

Chairperson of Township MCWA Daw Lay Lay Nang explained nutritious foods. Members of the association demonstrated on cooking nutritious foods. Officials of the association presented cash assistance to pregnant women and baby mothers.

Police Captain Khin Soe of Kayan Myoma Police Station presented video clip on trafficking in persons.

They fed nutritious foods to the children at the pre-primary school in the village.

Ko Min (Kayan)

Kalay Township to get new modern bus terminal

KALAY, 19 Oct — Holly Land Company is taking responsibility for construction of the two-storey RC building at the highway bus terminal in Kalay of Sagaing Region as of September to complete it this fiscal year.

The new bus terminal will consist of 18 offices for city buses and 12 offices for mini buses, totaling 30 in addition to bathrooms and toilets.

The construction of the terminal will cost about K500 million, said an official of Holly Land Company.

The construction of the terminal is under the supervision of Kalay District Management Committee Chairman U Maung Htoo and officials of Township Development Affairs Committee and Township Development Supportive Committee.

A plan is underway to install CCTV at the terminal for security of the passengers and a water purifier and dredging of drains for sanitation of the buildings.—*Joe Net*



Pipelines laid for supply of water in urban areas

PALAW, 19 Oct — Palaw Township Development Affairs Committee funded K1.62 million on substitution of old water pipelines for overcoming water shortage in the urban areas in Palaw of Tanintharyi Region.

Four 20 feet long GI pipes and two GI bars will be used in supply of water from Kyaukpahtoe Waterfalls to the people through the water tank.

Officials of the township DAC supervise the laying of water pipelines in the urban areas.—(*Palaw Township*) IPRD



Detour under construction in Kalay for smooth transport of people

KALAY, 19 Oct — Local people submitted the report to construct a detour of Kalay to the President on his inspection tour of Kalay Township. In accord with the guidance of the President, Rose Wood Land started construction of the road passing Aungthitsa

Ward to Myohla Ward with the fund of Department of Rural Development as of 16 June 2013.

The local authorities coordinated with local farmers for construction of the 10,883 feet long and 60 feet wide road passing farmlands. Under the su-

pervision of the detour construction committee, the construction is being carried out passing Aungthitsa and Myomahla wards.

Chairman of District Management Committee U Maung Htoo and officials inspected the sites for construction of three bridges

on the detour on 18 October.

At present, populous of Kalay Township and increasing number of large and small vehicles use Bogyoke Street, so the local people hope timely completion of the detour.

Joe Net

Rain fulfils wishes of local farmers



KANI, 19 Oct — Local farmers in Kani Township of Sagaing Region use quality strains of crops and paddy in the irrigated areas.

This year, the local farmers put 21,032 acres of farmlands under monsoon paddy, according to an official of Township Agriculture Department. Unexpectedly, the storm HudHud carried rains in central and upper Myanmar in the early October, contributing to successful cultivation of monsoon paddy.

“Last year, I grew Palethwe hybrid paddy on 0.5 acre of land, producing 55 baskets of paddy. This year, I cultivated the same paddy strain on 1.8 acres of land, expecting production of 240 baskets of paddy per acre. Thanks to rains of storm HudHud, paddy plantations thrive on the farmlands,” said a local farmer.

Than Htay Aung (Kani)

Nepal blizzard trek toll up to 39, more than 370 rescued

KATHMANDU, 19 Oct — The death toll in a blizzard that engulfed trekkers on a popular hiking route in Nepal rose by nine on Saturday to 39, as a helicopter search spotted more bodies stranded in the rugged, snow-covered Himalayan terrain.

Sixty more people were rescued from the Annapurna trail, a three-week route popular with foreign adventure tourists that circles the world's tenth-tall-

est mountain, bringing the total saved to 371. Dozens more were still missing.

"We have spotted nine new bodies today," said Govinda Pathak, police head in the district of Mustang. "We could not retrieve them because of bad weather conditions and snowfall. I can confirm that the toll is 39 now."

Twelve helicopters were pressed on Saturday into action to drop searchers in otherwise inacces-

sible spots, and soldiers fanned out in different directions along the 240-km (150-mile) route.

It was the most intensive effort yet to find survivors of one of the country's worst mountain disasters, which struck at a time of year when the weather is usually calm and clear.

Foreign victims included hikers from Canada, India, Israel and Poland who were caught on Wednesday by the tail end of a cyclone that battered India's eastern coast last weekend before heading northward.

Thorong La, the highest pass along the Annapurna trek, is at an altitude of 5,416 metres (17,769 feet), but the route does not require mountaineering experience. Eyewitnesses said many victims perished trying to descend the pass in freezing, white-out conditions.

In the capital, Kathmandu, survivors recounted their brush with death during the blizzard.

Reuters



A man from a local travel agency talks to his friend on a mobile phone as he reads out names from a list showing the names of patients who were rescued from the recent avalanches and undergoing treatment at the Army hospital in Kathmandu on 16 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

Modi's BJP makes big gains in Indian state polls: partial results



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi

NEW DELHI, 19 Oct — Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Hindu nationalist party made big gains in two Indian state elections, partial results showed on Sunday, in an endorsement that will encourage him to step up the pace of economic reforms.

Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was leading in 109 of 288 seats in Maharashtra, NDTV news said. That more than doubled its seat count in the western state that is home to Mumbai, the financial capital, but fell short of an outright majority.

The BJP was ahead in

47 of 90 seats in Haryana, which borders the capital New Delhi to the west, enough to rule alone. The party's showing was just down from the May general election, when it won India's first parliamentary majority in 30 years.

The 64-year-old Modi, a gifted stump orator, hit the campaign trail hard and will be able to reap capital from the victories, although the BJP did not achieve its ambition to rule Maharashtra alone.

"There is a Modi wave," said Information and Broadcasting Min-

ister Prakash Javadekar. "People want a leader who can deliver, people want a leader who is honest."

Both states, which voted on Wednesday, were bastions of the Congress party that has long dominated Indian politics. As in the general election, Congress was decimated, and risks sliding into oblivion under mother-son duo Sonia and Rahul Gandhi.

State elections determine seat shares in the upper house of parliament, where the BJP and its allies are in a minority. The BJP will need gains in a clutch of state polls until 2017 to secure the majority it needs to pass some legislation.

If final results show the BJP short of a majority in Maharashtra, it would probably team up with the regional Shiv Sena party, which is part of its national coalition. The two parties fell out during the state campaign.

Official results were due later on Sunday.

Reuters

Eight labourers killed execution style in southwestern Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 19 Oct — Eight Punjabi labourers were kidnapped and killed execution style in the southwestern Pakistan province of Baluchistan, a senior police official said on Sunday.

"We have found eight bodies and one injured person" from the mountainous Sakran area in Lasbela district, police chief Bashir Ahmad Brohi said.

Brohi said the labourer who survived the ordeal told police that they were kidnapped from a poultry farm late Saturday and taken to the mountainous area where they were lined up and shot.

Local villagers found the bodies and the injured man, and notified police, the police chief said. Lasbela is located about 125 kilometres north of Pakistan's major port city Karachi. Brohi said it was not clear why the labourers were killed. The administration often blames Baluch nationalist dissidents for killing workers from Punjab.—Kyodo News

China, US working to ensure positive results from Obama's upcoming China visit: senior Chinese official

BOSTON, 19 Oct — Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi said here Saturday that China is willing to work with the United States to make proper preparations for the upcoming visit to China by US President Barack Obama so that it can yield positive results.

Yang made the remarks during his talks with US Secretary of State John Kerry, during which they exchanged views in depth on the construction of a new model of major-country relationship as well as regional and international issues of mutual concern.

The discussions focused on the preparations for the visit to China in early November by Obama, while attending the informal leadership meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) to be held in Beijing in November.

Yang saluted "new and positive progress" that has been made in various aspects of the China-US ties since last year's summit



Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi (L) and US Secretary of State John Kerry speak to reporters prior to a meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, the United States, on 18 Oct, 2014. —XINHUA

held by Obama and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the Annenberg Estate in California, where the two leaders reached an important consensus on seeking to build a new model of major-country relationship featuring non-conflict and non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation.

The senior Chinese official said China welcomes

Obama's visit next month and is willing to work with the US side to make sure the upcoming Xi-Obama summit will achieve positive results to further push forward the construction of the new model of major-country relationship.

China and the US should strengthen strategic communication, enhance strategic trust, deepen cooperation and properly handle

differences, Yang said, adding that both sides need to turn the principles of seeking a relationship based on non-conflict and non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation into practical actions, so to ensure the healthy and stable development of the China-US ties and make positive efforts together to maintain regional and world peace.

At the same time, Yang said, China and the US also need to strengthen mutual communication and coordination in order to make sure that the upcoming APEC summit achieve the expected results in advancing the process of regional integration. The two countries should increase mutual cooperation on Asia-Pacific affairs and promote regional stability and prosperity.

For his part, Kerry said that there are many areas in which the US and China can cooperate in the future. The US is willing to work with China to enhance com-

munication, dialogue and cooperation despite their differences and disputes, thus enriching the content of building a new model of major-country relationship.

The top US diplomat said President Obama attaches great importance to his visit to China next month, and hopes to take advantage of this important opportunity to discuss with President Xi the ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Meanwhile, the US side is willing to coordinate with China to make the upcoming APEC summit a success.

During their meetings, Kerry and Yang also exchanged views on a range of other topics, including the China-US trade and economic ties, the military-to-military relations, climate change, Ebola, Korean Peninsula's denuclearization, Iranian nuclear talks, Iraq, Afghanistan, and counterterrorism Yang elaborated China's principled positions on all these issues.

Xinhua

Vucic talks with Merkel, support for reforms

BELGRADE, 19 Oct — Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic had a long and friendly telephone conversation with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Saturday in which she expressed support for Serbia's European pathway and reforms that it has to implement on the way.

Vucic and Merkel agreed that the creation of a good business environment in Serbia is an important condition for promotion of bilateral economic cooperation.

The topic of the talks



German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic.—TANJUG

was regional stability, the Serbian government's press office said.

Vucic said that re-

gardless of the incidents that occurred at a football match between Serbia and Albania, Serbia will do

everything possible to preserve political and economic stability, both in Serbia and in the region, reads the statement.

The match between Serbia and Albania in Belgrade on 14 October was abandoned after a brawl that followed the appearance of a drone with a map depicting the so called Greater Albania, a nationalist project that would include parts of Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia and Greece.

Serbian officials stated that this is a serious polit-

ical provocation and an attempt to cause unrest in Serbia and instability in the region.

Not a single official in Pristina and Tirana condemned this provocation. On the contrary, Albanian footballers were welcomed as heroes; Albanians in the region celebrated the incident as a national victory and the mayor of Tirana immediately awarded them the city's top honour.

This was followed by a series of provocations and attacks in the region — in which the target of Albani-

an nationalists and extremists were bars and shops in Kosovo-Metohija, southern part of central Serbia and even in Vienna. Moreover, ethnic.

Greeks in Albania were also subjected to attacks. During the next two days, the attacks were carried out on several bakeries and restaurants whose owners are Albanians in the Serbian province of Vojvodina, while the windows of the Albanian Embassy in Podgorica, Montenegro, were smashed.

Tanjug

Maduro supporters, foes stage rival protests in Venezuela

CARACAS, 19 Oct — Red-clad "Chavistas" rallied in central Caracas on Saturday to protest the killing of a young ruling party lawmaker, while across town a protest called by the opposition's new leader failed to attract as big a crowd.

The government says the stabbing to death of the 27-year old Robert Serra in his home earlier this month is part of a wider plot by an elitist, self-interested opposition to bring down Venezuela's socialist experiment, created by beloved late president Hugo Chavez.

"Do you know why they killed Robert Serra?" President Nicolas Maduro said at the rally in front of a podium emblazoned with the slogan "Against terrorism".

"To silence us! The right-wing fascists are scared of young rebels, young revolutionaries," said Maduro, clad in a yellow, blue and red Venezuelan tracksuit.

Several arrests have been made in Serra's case, including one of his bodyguards. Maduro has also blamed Colombian paramilitaries, although some

media say the case looks like an inside job and Venezuelan opposition leaders deny involvement.

Critics say Maduro, whose popularity has slipped, is seeking to capitalize on the crime to distract from shortages of basic goods, sky-high crime rates and 60 percent annual inflation.

"I'm here because I'm against the Venezuelan right's fascist activities," said Rosario Carabello, a 37 year-old employee at a government scholarship foundation. Carabello wore a t-shirt with the face of Chavez among a crowd whipped up by traditional 'joropo' music and speech-

es.

A few miles away in East Caracas, the Democratic Unity (MUD) opposition coalition held its first protest since several months of demonstrations that petered out in May.

"What Maduro has done is incentivize hate," said Manuel Castro, a 35 year-old administrative assistant for the opposition government of the state of Miranda.

Castro said he cannot find diapers for his child, has been robbed several times and struggles to make ends meet because of inflation.

But the opposition event only drew a couple

of hundred supporters, a far cry from the thousands at the pro-government march, albeit many bused in by state vehicles.

Many hardline opposition protesters are tired or demoralized, while moderates feel demonstrations are a nuisance that fuel accusations they are coup-mongers.

"I hope people wake up," said 18 year-old student Christopher, who was draped in a Venezuelan flag. He declined to give his last name because he said he feared repression.

The MUD is seeking to regroup and drum up support after the protests, which left 43 people dead, with victims on both sides.

MUD's inner divisions, a brief 2002 coup against Chavez, and a reputation for elitism have also long hung over it.

The MUD named Jesus Torrealba, a 56-year-old journalist, teacher and activist for the poor, to unite opposition factions and prepare for 2015 parliamentary elections.

"Today the people are showing that we can unite again and fight to recover democracy," Torrealba said during the rally.—Reuters



Venezuela's president Nicolas Maduro attends a rally for peace and against paramilitary forces in the country, in Caracas on 18 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Medinsky: sanctions do not affect Russia's cultural exchanges with foreign countries



"Culture is beyond sanctions", — Russian Culture Minister said.—ITAR-TASS

RIGA, 19 Oct — Sanctions cannot affect Russia's cultural exchanges with foreign countries including Latvia, Russian Culture Minister Vladimir Medinsky told TASS on Saturday.

"Culture is beyond sanctions," Medinsky said recalling, however, that Ukraine had banned two Russian films "The White Guard" (based on a novel of the same name by 20th-century Russian writer Mikhail Bulgakov) and "Poddubny (which tells the story of Russian and Soviet professional wrestler and athlete Ivan Poddubny).

"I am sorry for the people of Ukraine because they are depriving themselves of an opportunity to see good films," the Russian culture minister said. He added that hopefully the Ukrainian authorities would not go as far as forbidding the works of 19th-century Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko who wrote his diaries in Russian and published his poems in the Ukrainian dialect or the 19th century Ukrainian-born Russian writer Nikolai Gogol who did not write a single word in Ukrainian.

Medinsky also said he

did not see why the sanctions should affect the cultural ties between Russia and Latvia.

"Our cultural cooperation is on the rise," the Russian culture minister said adding the Golden Mask in Latvia international theatrical festival was a good example of that cooperation.

"On the contrary, we hope to increase the number of performances in Latvia and Estonia. Perhaps, we will go to Lithuania next year," Medinsky said.

The International Golden Mask in Latvia festival takes places on 13-18 October. The festival is included in an inter-state programme of cultural exchanges between Latvia and Russia and is one of the biggest Latvian-Russian humanitarian projects. Its aim is to acquaint the Latvian public with the best Russian dramatic and puppet performances as well as ballets and operas that have either won or have been nominated to the National Theatrical Award — the Golden Mask. The festival is also supposed to promote a professional exchange of views between theatrical workers in both countries.

Itar-Tass

Saudi Arabia foils elephant tusk smuggle attempt

RIYADH, 19 Oct — Saudi Arabia said on Saturday it foiled an attempt to smuggle 588 pieces of elephant tusks from Africa to Asia, *Saudi News Agency* reported.

The 588 pieces of ivory, weighing about 490 kg, was found hidden within the luggage of a passenger

at the King Khaled International Airport in Riyadh, the reports said, adding that the passenger came from an African countries and was travelling to an Asian country.

The reports didn't reveal the nationality of the passenger nor the exact names of the African and

Asian countries the passenger traveled from and intended to fly to.

Over 20,000 elephants were poached across Africa in 2013, according to a report released in June by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Although the sharp upward trend in illegal elephant killing since 2000 is leveling off, poaching levels remain alarmingly high and continue to far exceed the population growth rates of natural elephant, resulting in a further decline in elephant population across Africa.—Xinhua

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 20 October, 2014

Go organic or die from dyes

By Kyaw Thura

Once upon a time, all food was organic. I came across this statement when I was on Facebook browsing posts my friends had shared.

Newspapers have reported on the danger of the food we consume every day because food dyes are dangerous additives. According to scientists, most food dyes are found to be linked to numerous forms of cancer and hyperactivity and other behavioral problems in children.

A recent analysis categorized food dyes

into eight main types. They are Blue 1 (Brilliant Blue), Blue 2 (Indigo Carmine), Citrus Red 2, Green 3 (Fast Green), Red 3 (Erythrosine), Red 40 (Allura Red), Yellow 5 (Tartrazine) and Yellow 6 (Sunset Yellow).

According to the Food Freedom Network, the food dyes cause organ damage, cancer, birth defects and allergic reactions and are mainly used in baked foods, beverages, candies, cereal, drugs, and cosmetic products.

Business does not necessarily mean gaining profits. In fact, business means finding customers in a fair way. In our country, there is a famous saying that goes “If you don’t know how to contribute to charity, sell goods.” Selling wholesome food is a way of contributing to the wellbeing of the country. Under no circumstance can food dyes be considered safe.

Despite warnings, it is with reckless fervour that not only are manufacturers still pouring food

dyes in their products but consumers are still after artificial coloured foods, completely unaware of the risks involved.

Desperate need calls for desperate action. Nobody should turn a blind eye to what artificial food dyes are doing to our health and that of our children. New momentum should be added to educational campaigns in the belief that what is best for us and the world as a whole is to go organic. We are left with no other alternative.

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.

ENDEAVOUR

By Kyi Mun

“To Strive, to Seek, to Find and not to Yield”
- Tennyson

“Life is a journey; travel it well”
- A maxim

“Actions are ours; consequences belong to heaven”
- Author Unknown

“Prince Siddhattha endeavoured relentlessly to achieve
Enlightenment with the following great vow:
“I shall not get up, until I’ve attained Buddhahood”

- The Ven.Mahasilavamsa
“Individual endeavour should be well organized and properly planned, and must be done with initiative, resourcefulness and persistence”

- Napoleon Hill
Endeavour means: v.t Try, Strive; n: Attempt, Effort.

In order to understand the word ENDEAVOUR more comprehensively, let us analyze it as follows:

E for Energy
N for Nerve
D for Dedication
E for Earnest Effort
A for Action Plan
V for Vision & Value
O for Objective & Strategy
U for Unique Sense of Accomplishment
R for Relentless Pursuit of a Purpose

ENERGY

In every endeavour of any sort, to be effective, energy is the primary prerequisite. Energy means strength, force, power that animates and vitalizes the diligence, effort or endeavour. In every meticulous effort, painstaking energy is quite essential. Here, energy means not only physical strength, but also mental force, emotional passion, and spiritual power.

NERVE

Nerve means emotional strength, imperturbability of mind, coolness under pressure and spiritual power. It can also mean courage, fortitude and resilience. It also means steadfastness in the face of the vicissitudes of life.

DEDICATION

Dedication means single-minded devotion to duty. A dedicated mind carries a sense of total commitment to some cause or purpose. Dedication also means the hands-on, minds-on, hearts-on sort of taking charge of a duty or responsibility. Dedication is the unwavering steadfastness of mind, leaving no stone unturned in the discharge of one’s duties.

EARNEST EFFORT

An earnest effort is the manifestation of the interplay of the following forces of painstaking struggle:

The Positive Mental Attitude

The Can-Do-Spirit

The Habit of Going the Extra Mile

The Bulldog Tenacity of Purpose

ACTION PLAN

No strategy can be successfully executed without a SMART PLAN OF ACTION. SMART means:

Specific (Purpose & Direction)

Measurable (Outcomes/Results)

Attack (Offensive)

Realistic (in terms of Achievement)

Timeline (Deadline)

VISION AND VALUE

An endeavour must be in support of, and in alignment with the set Vision and Values. Every effort must be done for the realization of the established vision, and in total commitment to the set values. The clarion call for action must be ALL FOR THE MISSION (i.e Every thing for the PURPOSE of the VISION).

OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGY

Every endeavour must be done for the purpose of the achievement of the objective/s. And in order to achieve the set objective/s, an effective strategy must be formulated and carried out successfully. All the available resources must be effectively and efficiently deployed for a successful, strategic outcome. (It means strategically doing

the right things and tactically doing the things right) **UNIQUE SENSE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

Every endeavour should be carried out proactively. And proactive means not to be passive, static and reactive. Being proactive means to take charge, to be active, dynamic and to purposefully shape the outcome. The desired results must be uniquely achieved and brilliantly delivered.

RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF A PURPOSE

Every endeavour must be performed with a strong passion, and with a tremendous sense of MISSION. PURPOSE generally means Mission and Mission actually means REASON FOR BEING (in action or in business). Every effort must be made for the integrated accomplishment of the mission. And the set purpose must be pursued indomitably until the final victory.

CONCLUSION

It is generally said that life is a struggle; life is a journey. It is also poetically said that to live is to fight, to suffer and to love. So, we have nothing to lose but our philosophical poverty in following what St. John had said:

“Not to go forward is
to turn back; and
not to be gaining is
to be losing.”

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

KFC poised to enter the Myanmar market

YANGON, 19 Oct — Yum! Brands, Inc. (NYSE: YUM), together with Yoma Strategic Holdings Ltd. (“Yoma Strategic”) has announced its intentions to bring the first KFC restaurant to Myanmar in 2015 with Yoma Strategic as its franchise partner.

KFC is one of the world’s largest restaurant chains, with US \$23 billion in global sales and more than 18,000 restaurants in 118 countries worldwide. KFC is among the first handful of quick service restaurants that have plans to enter the Myanmar market.

“The announcement of the first KFC coming to Myanmar reflects our ongoing strategy of global expansion in emerging markets,” said

Micky Pant, CEO, KFC. “We’re excited to work with such a well-respected franchisee to bring the great taste of KFC to Myanmar, an important emerging Asian economy with a population of 50 million people.”

“Chicken is a staple protein in Myanmar and our people recognise the KFC brand and Colonel Sanders’ secret Original Recipe of 11 herbs and spices. KFC is a strong global brand that is now in nearly every corner of the world and we are proud to be KFC’s franchise partner to help fulfil its growth ambitions in Myanmar. Bringing KFC to Myanmar is an important step to achieving Yoma Strategic’s goal in being a key player in the country’s food and bev-

erage sector”, said Mr. Serge Pun, Executive Chairman of Yoma Strategic.

Myanmar is one of the potentially sizable consumer markets to emerge among developing economies. With 50 million people and a

growing middle class with disposable income, the country offers significant consumer opportunity for Yoma Strategic to grow KFC over the long term.

Kyaw The-ein
(MNA-Ext)



Joint Secretary-2 Daw Cho Thiri Maung of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs’ Association and party at Yangon International Airport on their departure on 14 October to attend Thai Myanmar Trade Fair 2014 from 15 to 19 October in Bangkok of Thailand.—MNA

GALLERY



President U Thein Sein views production process at Maserati modern automobile factory of Fiat Company.—MNA

**President
U Thein Sein
observes
production of
automobile,
supply of
electricity in
Turin, Italy**



President U Thein Sein and party visit products of CNH Industries.—MNA



President U Thein Sein hears clarification on supply of electricity by officials of IREN Company.—MNA

Fiercest fighting in days hits Syrian border town

URFA, (Turkey) 19 Oct — he fiercest fighting in days shook the Syrian border town of Kobani overnight when Islamic State fighters attacked Kurdish forces with mortars and car bombs, sources in the town and a monitoring group said on Sunday.

Islamic State, which controls much of Syria and Iraq, fired 44 mortars at Kurdish parts of the town on Saturday, some of which fell inside nearby Turkey, according to the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. It said four more were fired on Sunday.

The month-long battle for Kobani has ebbed and flowed. A week ago, Kurds warned the town would fall imminently and the US-led coalition stepped up air strikes on Islamic State, which wants to take Kobani to consolidate its position in northern Syria.

The coalition has been bombing Islamic State targets in Iraq since August and extended the campaign to Syria in September after Islamic State, a group that espouses a rigid interpretation of Islam and initially

focused on fighting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad's forces, made huge territorial gains. Raids on Islamic State around Kobani have been stepped up, with the fate of the town seen as an important test for US President Barack Obama's campaign against the Islamists.

NATO member Turkey, whose forces are ranged along the border overlooking Kobani, is a reluctant member of the coalition, insisting the allies should also confront Assad to end a civil war that has killed close to 200,000 people since March 2011.

"We had the most intense clashes of days, perhaps a week last night. (Islamic State) attacked from three different sides including the municipality building side and the market place," said Abdulrahman Gok, a journalist in Kobani.

"Clashes did not stop until the morning. We have had an early morning walk inside the city and have seen lots of damaged cars on the streets and unexploded mortar shells," he said.

The Observatory reported two Islamic State car bombs hit Kurdish positions



Kurdish fighters walk through a street in the Syrian town of Kobani on 19 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

on Saturday evening leading to casualties. A cloud of black smoke towered over Kobani on Sunday.

A fighter from the female units of the main Syrian Kurdish militia in Kobani, YPG, said Kurdish fighters were able to detonate the car bombs before they reached their targets.

"Last night there were clashes all across Kobani ... this morning the clashes are still ongoing," she said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Observatory said 70 Islamic State fighters

had been killed in the past two days, according to sources at the hospital in the nearby town of Tel Abyab, where Islamic State bodies are taken. *Reuters* cannot independently confirm the reports due to security restrictions.

The Observatory said some Syrian Arab fighters from the Revolutionaries of Raqqa Brigade, which are fighting alongside Kurdish fighters, had executed two Islamic State captives.

"One was a child of around 15 years old. They shot them in the head," he

said. Islamic State have also used executions throughout their campaigns in Syria and Iraq, killing hundreds of their enemies and civilians who are opposed to their cause, according to Islamic State videos and statements.

Hundreds of thousands have fled their advance. Turkey hosts about 1.5 million Syrian refugees, including almost 200,000 Syrian Kurds from Kobani.

Ankara has refused to rearm beleaguered Kurdish fighters, who complain they are at huge disadvantage in the face of Islamic State's

weaponry, many of it seized from the Iraqi military when it took the city of Mosul in June.

Turkey views the YPG with suspicion for its long-standing links with the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK), which has waged a 30-year armed campaign for self-rule in Turkey.

President Tayyip Erdogan was quoted in the Turkish media on Sunday as saying Ankara will never arm the YPG through its political wing, the PYD.

"There has been talk of arming the PYD to establish a front here against the Islamic State. For us, the PYD is the same as the PKK, it's a terrorist organization. It would be very, very wrong to expect us to openly say 'yes' to our NATO ally America giving this kind of support. To expect something like this from us is impossible," he was quoted as saying.

This stance has sparked outrage among Turkey's own Kurds, who make up about 20 percent of the population. Riots in several cities earlier this month killed more than 35 people.

Reuters

Sweden steps up hunt for 'foreign underwater activity'

STOCKHOLM, 19 Oct — Sweden beefed up its military presence in the Stockholm archipelago on Saturday to scour its waters for "foreign underwater activity", a mobilization of Swedish ships, troops and helicopters unseen since the Cold War.

The search in the Baltic Sea less than 30 miles (50 km) from Stockholm began on Friday and reawakened memories of the final years of the Cold War

when Sweden repeatedly hunted suspected Soviet submarines along its coast with depth charges.

There is now increasing tension with Russia among the Nordic and Baltic states — most of them European Union members — over Moscow's involvement in the Ukraine crisis. Finland last week accused the Russian navy of interfering with a Finnish environmental research vessel in international waters.

The Swedish military has said information about suspicious activity came from a trustworthy source, without providing details, and that more than 200 military personnel were involved in the search.

The Swedish daily *Svenska Dagbladet*, citing unidentified sources with knowledge of the hunt, said it began after a radio transmission in Russian on an emergency frequency.

Further encrypted ra-

dio traffic from a point in the archipelago and the enclave of Kaliningrad, home to the Russian Baltic fleet's headquarters, was intercepted on Friday evening after the Swedish search started, the newspaper said.

The Russian Defence Ministry said on Sunday that there were no emergency situations in the Baltic involving its vessels.

"Russian Navy ships and submarines are fulfilling their duties in the world ocean waters in accordance with the plan," *Interfax* news agency quoted a ministry spokesman as saying. "There has been and there are no extraordinary, let alone emergency, situations involving Russian warships."

Countries in the Baltic Sea region have become increasingly wary of Russia's military ambitions since Moscow annexed Ukraine's Crimea region in March following the overthrow of Kiev's pro-Moscow president by protesters. Last month, Sweden said two Russian warplanes entered its air space, calling the intrusion a "serious violation" and sending a pro-

test to Moscow's ambassador in the Nordic country.

Ships, helicopters and troops from an amphibious unit as well as the home guard combed the search area in Stockholm's archipelago. The forces include HMS Visby, a corvette that has stealth technology and equipment for anti-submarine warfare.

The Swedish military said on Friday there had been no armed intervention and declined to comment on who might be responsible for the suspicious activity, or whether the report had been about a submarine. "We still consider the information we received as very trustworthy," Captain Jonas Wikstrom, head of operations for the search, told reporters. "I, as head of operations, have therefore decided to increase the number of units in the area."

Should the search find proof of foreign military activity in Swedish coastal waters it will represent the first real test of Prime Minister Stefan Lofven's center-left minority government only weeks after coming to office.— *Reuters*

Four would-be suicide bombers killed in S Afghanistan

KABUL, 19 Oct — Four would-be suicide bombers were killed as their explosive device went off prematurely in Taleban former stronghold the southern Helmand Province with Lashkar Gah as its capital 555 km south of national capital Kabul on Saturday night, according to a statement of Interior Ministry released here on Sunday.

"Four militants were busy to plant a mine on the road in Gereshk district of Helmand province last night when the device exploded prematurely killing all the four insurgents on the spot," the statement said.

Taleban militants fighting the government and are largely relying on suicide and roadside bombings have yet to make comment.

Xinhua



Crew members onboard a Swedish Navy fast-attack craft stand guard at the Stockholm archipelago, in Sweden, on 18 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Japan rolls out 'long-held dream' with first commercial jet in 50 years

NAGOYA, 19 Oct — To the sound of drums and a children's choir, Mitsubishi Aircraft on Saturday rolled out Japan's first commercial jet in half a century, amid doubts it can attain an ambition to sell more than 2,000 aircraft in a competitive market segment.

Developed by a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries that includes Toyota Corp as a shareholder, the \$42-million regional jet, with just under 100 seats, is Japan's second bid to break into the commercial aircraft market.

"This has been a long-held dream of ours, and one that all of Japan has waited for," Hideaki Omiya, chairman of Mitsubishi Heavy, said at a factory in Nagoya in central Japan, which was also the site of the roll-out, 75 years ago, of the prototype of the World War Two-era Zero fighter plane.

The ceremony, attended by about 500 people, kicks off a sprint to complete flight tests before the first delivery of the aircraft in June 2017 to ANA



A Mitsubishi Regional Jet (MRJ) is unveiled at the hanger for its roll out ceremony at Mitsubishi Heavy Industries' Nagoya Aerospace Systems Works Komaki Minami Plant in Toyoyama town, Nagoya prefecture, in this photo taken by Kyodo on 18 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

Holdings Inc. That target is three years later than initially planned.

Japan failed in its last attempt to break into the commercial aircraft market in the 1960s, with a 64-seat turboprop dubbed the YS-11. Only 182 planes, built by a consortium that included Mitsubishi Heavy,

were ever made.

Mitsubishi has so far won 191 firm orders from customers including US regional groups Trans States Holdings and SkyWest Inc, and Japan Airlines Co Ltd.

Analysts say the figure is less than the several hundred planes it needs to sell to break even and far be-

hind the orders it needs to overtake the market leader, Brazil's Embraer SA.

That goal presents a "significant challenge," Rob Morris, head of consultancy at aviation market specialist Ascend, said before Saturday's ceremony.

The MRJ's biggest selling point, Mitsubishi

says, is its ability to burn a fifth less fuel than aircraft of similar size, thanks to new-generation engines from Pratt & Whitney, a subsidiary of United Technologies Corp.

"With the rollout we are moving from a concept on paper to actual testing of real aircraft," the MRJ's chief engineer, Nobuo Kishi, said in Nagoya, when asked what was the biggest challenge facing the development team.

The current development budget of around \$1.8 billion does not account for the costs of delays so far, Kishi added.

Mitsubishi, which is also challenging Canada's Bombardier Inc, estimates demand for 5,000 regional jets over the next 20 years, of which it aims to capture a half. Ascend puts its prospects closer to a fifth and forecasts a market for 4,071 jets worth \$128.3 billion by 2033.

Embraer will supply 2,489 of those and Mitsubishi 913, with Bombardier and newcomers from Russia and China making up

the rest, according to the Ascend Flightglobal Fleet Forecast.

Mitsubishi's problem is Embraer's headstart of more than 1,000 aircraft orders, along with an established reputation for financing, reliability and after-sales service, said Richard Aboulafia, vice president of analysis at consultancy Teal Group.

After the MRJ came into the picture, Embraer said it would upgrade its E-Jets with the same fuel-efficient Pratt & Whitney engines under the name E2. These will be delivered from 2018 only a year after the delayed MRJ.

"The E-Jet E2 will produce economics every bit as competitive as the MRJ, despite the lack of clean-sheet design," said Morris.

Mitsubishi has a better chance of displacing Bombardier, which has bet big on developing its CSeries to break into the market for 150-seat aircraft at the expense of its CRJ regional jets, said Aboulafia.

Reuters

Tesco accounting black hole to be less than originally stated

LONDON, 19 Oct — The world's third largest retailer, Tesco (TSCO.L), will state next week that it overestimated earnings by less than the 250 million pounds which it previously announced, Sky news reported on Saturday, citing an unnamed banking source.

Sky said on its website that when the firm reports its delayed first-half results next Thursday, the gap would fall "somewhere close to the middle" between 200 million and 250 million pounds (\$322 million and \$402 million).

Tesco was not imme-

diately available for comment when contacted by Reuters on Saturday.

The 95-year-old supermarket chain is suffering its worst ever crisis after issuing three profit warnings in 64 days this year. It said in September that an accounting mistake had over-valued first-half profits by 250 million pounds.

The firm is expected to update the market on Thursday into the progress of its own investigation into the error being conducted by auditors Deloitte and law firm Freshfields.

Over the last year Tesco's big out-of-town stores

have lost favour as shoppers buy more produce locally and online, while discounters Aldi ALDIEI. UL and Lidl LIDUK.UL and upmarket chains Waitrose and Marks & Spencer squeeze the middle ground.

Sky also reported, without citing its sources, that Tesco had asked the investment bank Greenhill to field offers from parties interested in buying assets, including the customer data specialist Dunnhumby.

Greenhill was not immediately available for comment when contacted by Reuters.

On Friday, CEO Dave Lewis told staff in an internal e-mail seen by Reuters that he expects to be able to give a "clear and accurate indication" of the impact of the accounting mistake when the company reports its results later this week.

He also told staff that the performance in its core food business would be "one of our strongest for a very long time".

Tesco's interim results on Thursday will cover the six months to 23 August.

Reuters

Carnival cruise ship returning to dock in Texas after Ebola concern

GALVESTON, (Texas) 19 Oct — The Carnival Magic cruise ship was en route back to the United States on Saturday with a passenger from Texas who might have handled specimens of the first Ebola patient diagnosed in the United States but is considered at low risk, a company spokeswoman said. The Dallas health care worker, who is said to have no symptoms and according to standards from the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention is at the end of the 21-day maximum incubation window for Ebola, had voluntarily gone into isolation along with a companion aboard the ship.

The Carnival Magic cruise ship, owned by Carnival Cruise Lines, was expected to dock in Galveston, Texas, on Sunday, said Aly Bello-Cabrera, a spokeswoman for the parent company Carnival Cruise Lines. Both Mexico and Belize refused to allow the ship to dock in their ports over Ebola concerns. The Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital worker did not have direct contact with now deceased Liberian patient Thomas



Tourists enjoy a ride on a catamaran as cruise ship Carnival Magic is seen near the shores of Cozumel on 17 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

Eric Duncan at the Dallas hospital but could have processed his bodily fluids 21 days ago, US officials said. The patient boarded the ship in Galveston on 12 October for a seven-night cruise. The health care worker remained in self-quarantine and was not ill, Bello-Cabrera said. "Regular debarkation will take place," she said. "The lab worker continues to show no symptoms."

The hospital worker left the country before being notified of the CDC's updated requirement for active monitoring, US government officials said on Friday. Concerns about Eb-

ola in the United States have intensified after two nurses from the Dallas hospital who cared for Duncan contracted the virus, which has killed nearly 4,500 people, mostly in West Africa. The White House is facing sharp criticism from US lawmakers over its efforts to contain the disease.

On Thursday, Frontier Airlines said six crew members were placed on paid leave for 21 days "out of an abundance of caution," after learning that a nurse who had treated Duncan in Dallas may have been symptomatic when she flew on the airline earlier this week.—Reuters



Shopping trolleys are seen at a Tesco Express in southwest London on 22 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

Ukraine says it agrees on interim gas price with Russia

KIEV, 19 Oct — Ukraine's and Russia's leaders have reached a preliminary agreement on a price for gas supplies this winter but Kiev may need international help to pay, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said on Saturday.

Poroshenko met Russian President Vladimir Putin in Milan on Friday to discuss the conflict in Ukraine's eastern regions, where pro-Russian separatists are fighting Kiev government forces.

Russia cut off gas supply to Ukraine in mid-June following more than two years of dispute on the price. Russia said Ukraine had to pay off large debts for previously-supplied gas before it would resume supply.

"(We) reached an agreement," Poroshenko said in an interview with Ukrainian TV channels. "Until March 31 we will fix the price at \$385."

An agreement signed in 2009 by former Prime



Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko (R) talks with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin (L), as France's President Francois Hollande (C) watches during a meeting in Milan on 17 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

Minister Yulia Tymoshenko called on Ukraine to pay \$485 per 1,000 cubic meters for Russian gas. Kiev is contesting the contract in a Stockholm arbitration court.

Poroshenko said that state-run energy company Naftogaz was short of funds to pay for Russian gas partly because of debts

created by consumers in eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions, controlled by pro-Russian separatists.

"We must solve the question of how we cover the deficit of funds for Naftogaz for gas purchases," Poroshenko said.

"We have several different options (including) the International Monetary

Fund."

He said a mission of the IMF is due to arrive in Kiev in mid-November to discuss amendments to the current loan programme for Ukraine.

Poroshenko said the next round of gas talks was likely to take place on 21 October in Brussels.

Reuters

Cambodia, Australia vow to honour refugee deal despite criticism

PHNOM PENH, 19 Oct — Cambodia and Australia have reiterated their commitment to comply with a refugee agreement they signed last month, despite persistent criticism from human rights groups and opposition parties of the two countries, a senior official said on Sunday.

The commitment was made during a meeting on Friday between Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop on the sidelines of an Asia-Europe summit in Italy, Kao Kim Hourn, minister attached to Hun Sen in charge of foreign affairs, said.

"At the meeting, both sides agreed to implement the agreement that the two countries signed last month," he told a press conference at Phnom Penh International Airport after returning from Italy. The official said Cambodia is a signatory to the 1951 Refugees Convention and 1967 Protocol related to Refu-

gees, so it is an international obligation for the country to take in asylum seekers.

"Cambodia will accept refugees from Australia based on a voluntary principle," he said.

Australia and Cambodia inked the refugee deal on 26 September under which Canberra will send refugees, who intend to seek asylum in Australia and are being held in an off-shore detention camp in the tiny Pacific nation of Nauru, to resettle in Cambodia.

The deal has drawn criticism from human rights groups and opposition parties in both countries. They claimed Cambodia is not rich enough to take in Australia's refugees and accused Canberra of shirking its human rights responsibilities to other poorer and under-resourced nations.

On Friday, more than 100 Cambodian human rights activists, youths and Buddhist monks marched in Phnom Penh in the latest round of protests against the deal. Long Visalo, Cambodian Foreign Secretary of State, said last month that a small group of the refugees could be resettled in Cambodia by the end of this year or early next year. Under the offshore processing scheme, which Australia says is aimed at deterring people-smugglers, any asylum-seeker arriving by boat or intercepted at sea is transferred to detention centers in Manus island of Papua New Guinea or Nauru for processing. If their asylum claims were approved, they would only be allowed to settle outside Australia.

Reuters

Reuters

German train strike leaves millions stranded

BERLIN, 19 Oct — Millions of passengers were left stranded across Germany on Saturday after train drivers began a 50-hour strike that halted two thirds of long-distance trains in a dispute over pay and negotiation rights.

The GDL drivers' union started their action at 2 am on Saturday morning for passenger trains. They return to work on Monday morning. Freight train drivers started their strike 11 hours earlier on Friday afternoon.

The drivers' second national strike in a week hit at the start of week-long, half-term holidays in nearly half of Germany's 16 federal states.

Germans this week have also faced strikes by pilots at Lufthansa's Germanwings due to a long-running dispute over an early retirement scheme.

Railway operator Deutsche Bahn said about one third of long-distance trains were running and that it had introduced a replacement timetable to minimise

disruption. It regretted the delays for passengers but blamed the union.

"This scale of strike action at such short notice is completely irresponsible and borders on the irrational," said Ulrich Weber, head of personnel at Deutsche Bahn to Bild daily, adding that the strike cost the firm at least 1 million euros (\$1.3 million) per day.

GDL announced the strike on Friday.

The union is seeking a 5 percent pay rise

for 20,000 drivers and a shortening of the work week to 37 hours from 39. Another central issue in the dispute is its demand to also set wage deals for around 17,000 train guards and other personnel, also among its members.

Deutsche Bahn, which says it will negotiate only with the larger EVG union for those categories of employees, made a new pay offer on Friday, but the union rejected it and said it would press ahead with the strike.

Woman hunter pursues coexistence of humans, animals

TOTTORI, 19 Oct — Two years ago, a female hunter opened a guesthouse in Tottori, western Japan, to serve dishes using fresh wild animal meat as part of efforts to help the city revitalize itself and reduce crop damage.

Satoko Umeno, 30, from Fukuoka, southwestern Japan, converted a 40-year-old vacant house in a Tottori City suburb to open Ba-Bar, which also serves as her home.

At the guesthouse, she makes dishes using game meat such as deer and boar together with guests and lo-

cal children.

The meat is grilled, fried or put in a "nabe" hot pot.

Umeno said it made her so happy when one resident said to her, "We are having a lot more fun ever since Ume-chan came to this town," calling Umeno by her nickname.

Umeno, long interested in conservation of wild animals, studied livestock science at Kagoshima University and the ecology of Japanese deer while enrolled in Kyushu University's graduate programme.

Having learnt that

many farmers across Japan are seriously troubled by crop damage brought on by wild animals, she started thinking about how human beings should relate to animals.

"Human beings and animals should coexist by differentiating their living sphere," Umeno said.

As a place to work, she chose Tottori City and moved there four years ago after she got interested in a Tottori-based nonprofit organization founded by Tottori University students to connect local residents with students and revitalize

the area.

With the hope of helping farmers in Tottori, Umeno also obtained a hunting license, becoming the first female hunter in the city on the coast of the Sea of Japan.

Umeno said that every day she checks traps she sets. When she finds an animal trapped, she promptly drains its blood and brings it to a processing factory.

"As they are valuable lives, we process them into edible meat whenever possible," she said.

As for ways to survive in a rural area, she said she

tries to appear at as many local meetings and events as possible so she can mingle with residents.

As a result of such efforts, her neighbours started talking to her often and giving her vegetables they harvested.

"It makes me feel that I am being cared about," she said.

"What I like about farming and mountainous villages is that residents are very close to each other," she said. "I hope more and more people take an interest in living in Tottori."

Kyodo News



Satoko Umeno poses at her guesthouse where she hunts for and serves game to visitors in the suburbs of Tottori in western Japan in this file photo taken on 17 Aug, 2014. KYODO NEWS

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Phone:067-413531, 09-250345349, 09-450539248

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Japan mulls dispatch of liaison officer to US command over Ebola

TOKYO, 19 Oct —The Defence Ministry is considering sending a member of its Self-Defence Forces to the US military command in Germany as a liaison officer to research countermeasures over the outbreak of Ebola in West Africa, Japanese government sources said on Sunday. By gathering information at the US Africa Command in Stuttgart, the ministry hopes to identify areas in which the SDF could make contributions in combating the spread of the deadly infectious disease.

President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia, one of the hardest-hit nations in the current outbreak, has called for the dispatch of an emergency medical team composed of SDF personnel and others to treat an ever-growing number of Ebola patients.

But a senior ministry official suggested that so far there is little prospect of sending an SDF unit to Africa, saying there is a “limit to what the SDF could do given its capacity.” Following a request from US President Barack Obama during a telephone conversation last week, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said during the just concluded summit of the Asia-Europe meeting in Milan that Tokyo would consider additional aid in countering the Ebola outbreak.—*Kyodo News*

Three Cabinet ministers visit war-linked Yasukuni for fall festival



Internal affairs minister Sanae Takaichi

TOKYO, 19 Oct — Internal affairs minister Sanae Takaichi on Saturday became the first Cabinet minister to visit the war-linked Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo during its four-day autumn festival through Monday, followed by the visit by fellow Cabinet ministers later in the day.

The move by Takaichi, Haruko Arimura, minister in charge of female empowerment, and Eriko Yamatani, chairwoman of the National Public Safe-

ty Commission, a Cabinet post, is expected to draw a rebuke from China and South Korea, which view the Shinto shrine as a symbol of Japan's past militarism.

The shrine honours not just the war dead but Japan's wartime leaders who were convicted as war criminals in an Allied tribunal after Japan's surrender in World War II in the summer of 1945. Because Takaichi made known her intention to visit the shrine,

lawmakers of the Komeito party, the junior coalition partner of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, had urged the LDP lawmaker to exercise self-restraint out of concern for Japan's relations with other countries.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe sent a ritual offering to the shrine for the festival and is expected to refrain from visiting in person during this period to leave room for mending ties with China and South Korea.

Kyodo News

Disaster drill held to prepare for Mt Fuji eruption

SHIZUOKA, (Japan) 19 Oct — Shizuoka and two other prefectures home to or close to Mt. Fuji conducted a disaster drill on Sunday under the scenario that the nation's highest active volcano erupted and lava flowed down the slope.

The aim of the drill, the first of its kind involving the prefectures of Shizuoka, Yamanashi and Kanagawa, was to confirm how they would cooperate with each other and the central government and search for those who failed to evacuate in time in the wake of an eruption.

About 2,500 people, including residents of 26

municipalities in the three prefectures, were expected to participate in the drill, according to the Shizuoka prefectural government.

The drill assumed that the Japan Meteorological Agency had predicted an eruption one to two months ahead of time, and that the eruption occurred at an area in Gotemba, Shizuoka, about 2,000 metres high on the 3,776-metre peak before noon on 19 October, with ash and smoke reaching 20 kilometres above sea level.

During the exercise, a teleconference linking the Cabinet Office and the three prefectural governments was held, while

residents simulated evacuations in several municipalities in Yamanashi and Kanagawa. More than 20 concrete blocks weighing about 2 tons each were to be placed to serve as a dike and prevent the lava from flowing into a city area.

The drill came three weeks after another active volcano, Mt Ontake, erupted, killing 56 people in the nation's worst postwar volcanic disaster. The 3,067-meter mountain straddles Nagano and Gifu prefectures in central Japan. Mt Fuji had its last major eruption in 1707. The eruption, which occurred 49 days after a large earthquake, is said

to have continued for two weeks, blanketing areas as far away as what is now Tokyo with several centimeters of ash. An estimated 470,000 people in Shizuoka, Yamanashi and Kanagawa would be forced to evacuate due to volcanic ash in the event that Mt Fuji underwent a similar eruption, according to an official evacuation plan.

If large amounts of lava flowed out, an estimated 689,000 people would be required to evacuate, and the nation's major arteries, such as the Tokaido Shinkansen Line and the Tomei Expressway, would be cut off, the plan says.

Kyodo News

Bermuda fares better than expected after hurricane's direct hit

HAMILTON, (Bermuda) 19 Oct — Hurricane Gonzalo scored a direct hit on Bermuda on Friday night into Saturday morning, pummeling the tiny island chain with rain and howling winds that downed trees and knocked out power but spared it catastrophic damage or death.

Much of the Atlantic archipelago, a tourist destination and affluent insurance industry hub about 640 miles (1,030 km) off the coast of North Carolina, was still without electricity late on Saturday and debris blocked many roads.

Only minor injuries were reported after the strongest storm to sweep the subtropical British territory in a decade hurtled through with maximum sustained winds of around 110 miles per hour (175 kph). The storm made landfall on Friday night with hurricane-force winds extending up to 60 miles (95 km) from its center, the US National Hurricane Centre in Miami said.

The British Navy vessel HMS Argyll arrived in Bermuda on Saturday afternoon to assist with aerial reconnaissance and other tasks, Bermuda officials said in a statement.

There was extensive property damage across the islands, including roof damage and flooding at the main hospital, but it was “all things that can be replaced and restored,” Premier Michael Dunkley said in a statement.

“I think all of Bermuda would agree that we took a licking. We are a bit



A man takes photos while standing on a cliff on the island's south shore battered by winds from approaching Hurricane Gonzalo, in Astwood Park, on 17 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

bruised,” Dunkley said in a radio broadcast, according to the local Royal Gazette.

But, he added, “all in all we came out of this storm much better than we ex-

pected.”

By Saturday evening, Gonzalo was north of Ber-

muda, and about 470 miles (760 km) southwest of Cape Race in Newfoundland, Canada, with sustained winds of 90 mph (150 kph), the hurricane centre said.

Bermuda Electric Light Co had restored power to thousands of customers, though nearly 15,300 out of 36,000 metered connections remained without electricity on Saturday evening, the company said.

Gonzalo roared ashore just five days after Tropical Storm Fay passed by Bermuda, dishing out a one-two punch.

“The centre of the eye went right over them,” said Chris Landsea, a meteorologist at the National Hurricane Centre. “It was a direct hit.”

Reuters

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Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 20th October, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Sagaing Region, scattered in Mandalay Region, Kachin, Shan and Chin States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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

I want to be in love

RITA ORA

LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct — Singer Rita Ora says though she is independent and career-oriented, like any other young girl she also wants to be loved.

The 23-year-old 'Black Widow' songstress, who is rumoured to be dating the rapper Ricky Hilfiger, said she wants to be in love again post her split from DJ Calvin Harris in June, reported Contactmusic.

Leonardo DiCaprio, Netflix team up for documentary



LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct — Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio has joined hands with Netflix for a documentary on endangered mountain gorillas. The film titled 'Virunga' will be released simultaneously on 7 November in New York and Los Angeles theaters, and on Netflix in all the territories where the pay service is available, reported *Deadline*.

The 39-year-old star will serve as the executive producer for the Orlando von Einsiedel-directed documentary, which follows an embattled team of park rangers and the endangered mountain gorillas they protect in Africa.

The film is part investigative journalism and part nature documentary, and follows the rangers as they are caught in the crossfire of poachers, militia and industry in Africa's oldest national park.

"Films like *Virunga* are powerful stories that are a window into the incredible cultural and natural diversity of our world, the forces that are threatening to destroy it, and the people who are fighting to protect it," DiCaprio said. "Partnering with Netflix on this film is an exciting opportunity to inform and inspire individuals to engage on this topic," he added. —PTI



Actress Evan Rachel Wood

"Without complaining, without being moany, because this is what I have wanted to do all my life, I think it's that people may forget I'm just a 23-year-old girl who wants to be in love. And even though I live and breathe my job, I still want someone to want me. That's how every girl feels," she said. —PTI

Maggie Smith receives royal honour from Queen Elizabeth

LONDON, 19 Oct — Veteran actress Maggie Smith was made a member of the Order of the Companions of Honour by Queen Elizabeth. The 79-year-old 'Downton Abbey' star was made a member of the Order of the Companions of Honour, one of Britain's highest honours, at a special ceremony at Windsor Castle in Berkshire, England in recognition of her services to drama over the past six decades, reported BBC online. The actress joins an elite group of just 65 other Companions of Honour, including Professor Stephen Hawking, Judi Dench and Ian McKellen, but the prestigious accolade carries no title. The 'Harry Potter' star enjoyed a private conversation with the Queen upon being presented with her gold badge, but declined to speak after the ceremony. —PTI



Singer Rita Ora

Neil Patrick Harris doesn't want to be a boring host at Oscars

LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct — 'How I Met Your Mother' star Neil Patrick Harris says he wishes that his upcoming maiden Oscars hosting will honour the gravity of the award ceremony without getting heavy and boring. The actor has been recently announced as the host for the 87th Academy Awards in 2015. Harris, 41, said he hopes he does a smart job like his predecessors, reported *Entertainment Weekly*. "I hope that I can keep it smart. I've always loved the Oscars and have great respect for its history and the gowns and the classiness of it," he said.

Harris has hosted the Emmy Awards twice and the



Neil Patrick Harris

Tony Awards four times. He says he wants to do something different for the Academy Awards and does not want to be 'super derivative of other shows'. When asked who he would want as a dream duet partner for the show, the actor said, "Gaga? Adele. That would be cool. Pink? We could do circus things." —PTI

Katy Perry's old love letters up for auction

LONDON, 19 Oct — Love letters written by singer Katy Perry to a crush when she was 11 are set to go on sale.

The 29-year-old singer wrote the letters to Christopher back in 1995, reported the *Daily Mirror*.

The letters are expected to sell for more than USD 800 when they are sold by Juliens Auctions next month.

One of the notes begins, "Dear Christopher, I got your address from a special person, your mom! I didn't know it, but your mom was sitting right in front of me on the couch and I said I liked you and I didn't know that it was your mum! I was so embarrassed your mom told me to write you and I did."

While another ends, "PS I like you a lot! Write back asap. Love Katy Hudson." —PTI

U2's Bono says glaucoma is reason for trademark sunglasses



Bono, lead singer of the band U2

LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct — U2 frontman Bono has revealed the mystery behind his trademark sunglasses. The Irish rocker has glaucoma. Bono told British TV chat show host Graham Norton he had suffered from the condition for two decades, according to a preview clip released on Friday ahead of the latest episode of BBC's "The Graham Norton Show".

"This is a good place to explain to people that I've had glaucoma for the last 20 years. I have good treatments and I am going to be fine," Bono told Norton alongside his bandmates as well as American actors Robert Duvall, Robert Downey Jr and British comedian Stephen Fry.

"You're not going to get this out of your head now and you will be saying 'Ah, poor old blind Bono'," the singer joked.

The TV show was recorded earlier this week. Glaucoma is a disease that damage the optic nerve of the eye, causing deterioration over time. In some cases, it can result in blindness.

Bono, 54, is known for almost always wearing shaded glasses in public, even indoors. Asked about them in the past, he has said only that his eyes are sensitive to light. "If somebody takes my photograph, I will see the flash for the rest of the day. My right eye swells up. I've a blockage there, so that my eyes go red a lot. So it's part vanity, it's part privacy and part sensitivity," the "With or Without You" singer told *Rolling Stone* magazine in a 2005 interview. —PTI

Evan Rachel Wood felt like meat during magazine shoot

LOS ANGELES, 19 Oct — Actress Evan Rachel Wood opened up about the uncomfortable experience she had during a photo shoot with *Vanity Fair* in 2003. The 27-year-old 'Mildred Pierce' actress revealed she felt like meat while posing along with Amanda Bynes, Mary-Kate Olsen, Ashley Olsen, Mandy Moore, Hilary Duff, Alexis Bledel, Raven-Symone and Lindsay Lohan, reported *Ace Showbiz*.

Wood's tweets came after a fan named Katie posted on Twitter the *Vanity Fair* cover photo along with caption, "Never Forget." The 'Charlie Countryman' actress first-

ly tweeted, "I was almost in tears after this shoot. They tried that dress on me, I wasn't comfortable but they told me there was no time cause everyone else took up too much time with their fittings."

She continued, "Then I was given a choice on whether I wanted to wear flats or heels. I chose flats and was immediately handed heels and told they looked better. Then we were all lined up, stared at and approved. I was 15 and felt for the first time my identity being erased and the pressure to shut up and do what you are told. I felt like meat. Since then, I have found my voice. Never again." —PTI

GENERAL

Two US military Ospreys take part in disaster drill in Wakayama



People walk to a MV-22 Osprey aircraft of the US Marine Corps during a tsunami disaster drill in the town of Kushimoto, Wakayama Prefecture, on 19 Oct, 2014. Two Ospreys from the Marines' Futenma Air Station in Okinawa took part in the disaster drill simulating a massive earthquake and tsunami originating in the Nankai Trough off central and western Japan. — KYODO NEWS

WAKAYAMA, (Japan), 19 Oct — Two MV-22 Osprey aircraft of the US Marine Corps took part in a tsunami disaster drill in Wakayama Prefecture south of Osaka on Sunday, marking the first time the tilt-rotor combat troop carrier has been used in a disaster exercise organized by a local government.

Working under the scenario of a massive earthquake and tsunami originat-

ing in the Nankai Trough off central and western Japan, the aircraft transported an emergency medical team from an airport in the town of Shirahama to Cape Shionomisaki at the southern tip of the Kii Peninsula.

The aircraft then hauled eight people playing the role of the injured to the helicopter-carrying destroyer Ise of the Maritime Self-Defence Force off

the coast.

More than 500 people gathered near the airport, including those opposed to the presence of Ospreys in the local disaster drill.

The aircraft were part of a fleet deployed at the Marines' Futenma Air Station in Okinawa. The deployment has met opposition from local residents amid safety concerns.

Kyodo News

Cilic through to Kremlin final after hardfought Kukushkin win

Moscow, 19 Oct — US Open champion Marin Cilic overcame a spirited challenge from Mikhail Kukushkin of Kazakhstan to win their Kremlin Cup semi-final 4-6, 6-3, 6-2 on Saturday.

Croatian Cilic, the world number eight who has qualified for the ATP World Tour Finals in London, lost the first set but quickly recovered against the world number 74.

The 26 year-old

stepped up a gear in the second set helped by a significant improvement in his serve and took the decider for the loss of just two games to reach the final.

"Mikhail was playing great tennis today," Cilic told reporters. "And I was not serving as good as yesterday."

Cilic will face Roberto Bautista Agut in the final after the 26-year-old Spaniard overcame Latvi-

an Ernests Gulbis 6-4, 6-4.

"The last time I played with Bautista was in 2002, but we are really good friends. It will be a very interesting match, as he improved a lot this season," Cilic said.

It will be Cilic's fifth final of the year. He was victorious in the US Open, won ATP world tour events in Zagreb and Delray Beach and finished runner-up in Rotterdam.

Reuters

Messi nears scoring record with 250th La Liga goal

BARCELONA, 19 Oct — Lionel Messi notched his 250th La Liga goal to move one off the all-time league scoring record as leaders Barcelona won 3-0 against Eibar on Saturday ahead of next weekend's Clasico with Real Madrid.

Cristiano Ronaldo maintained his blistering scoring form with two goals as Real swept Levante aside 5-0. They are in second place four points off the pace ahead of the showdown.

Barca needed Xavi to come to the rescue on the hour to finally break the resistance of a resolute Eibar side who are enjoying their first season in the top flight.

Neymar quickly added to the lead and then combined with Messi for the Argentine, who this week celebrated 10 years since his Barca debut, to reach a quarter-century of La Liga goals. Messi has a chance against Real to beat Telmo Zarra's record of 251 goals for Athletic Bilbao in the 1940s and '50s.

"We found it difficult to get the opener but after that it was a lot easier," Xavi told reporters.

"They were more tired

by then but at the same time we were strong defensively and that should be recognized."

New coach Luis Enrique has strengthened the defence and Barca are still to concede a goal after eight league games.

"Sometimes you score in the first minute but this is football and it just depends. I think we played well," Xavi added.

"It is not just a coincidence that we haven't let in a goal but it is the work from all the team.

The coach has some set rules and everyone does their own work." Ronaldo slotted home a penalty for Real after 13 minutes following a foul by Juanfran on Javier Hernandez and the Mexican striker headed in from close range before halftime.

After the break Ronaldo completed his brace with a run down the left wing and a clinical finish and he now has 15 goals from the first eight league games. James Rodriguez volleyed in the fourth after 65 minutes and Isco completed the rout with an 18-metre drive in the 82nd.

Reuters



Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates a goal against Eibar during their Spanish first division soccer match at Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona on 18 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

Serena leads ailing women to Singapore for WTA Finals

SINGAPORE, 19 Oct — The top eight women in world tennis have limped to the season-ending WTA Finals in Singapore this week, with creaking knees and form fears casting a shadow over the WTA's latest big tournament push in Asia.

World number one Serena Williams headlines the event, but there are concerns about her fitness after the 33-year-old American quit the Beijing tournament earlier this month because of knee pain. Williams



Serena Williams of the US

went to Europe for tests and was one of the last to arrive in Singapore this week but said she was good to go as she bids for a fifth and third consecutive WTA Finals title "I'm ready. I really can't wait for my match. I wish I had a match tomorrow," the 18-times grand slam singles champion said after Saturday's draw.

Fit or not, her appearance at least will lower stress levels at the WTA, still reeling from the retirement of Chinese trailblazer

and their biggest marketing tool Li Na weeks before the Singapore event.

Such is the power of Asia's first grand slam singles champion Li, the WTA have ensured she will be front and center to promote their latest tournament in Asia as the continent continues to stomp up cash and interest in women's tennis.

Singapore is the 22nd Asia-Pacific stop on the WTA's 58-tournament 2014 calendar, with the health of the Tour looking

stronger than ever despite the lack of a title sponsor.

The health of the players, though, is an issue after a lengthy year of demanding tennis and travel saw plenty of retirements and lengthy injuries.

Serbia's Ana Ivanovic quit the Wuhan tournament in China and then the Linz Open with thigh and hip injuries, while Canadian Eugenie Bouchard also pulled out of the Austria event 10 days ago with a leg injury.— Reuters

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

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Chelsea march on, Aguero hits four for Man City

LONDON, 19 Oct — Chelsea maintained their iron grip on top spot in the Premier League with a 2-1 win at Crystal Palace on Saturday and Sergio Aguero fired a four-goal warning that Manchester City will not relinquish their title without a fight.

Goals from Oscar and Cesc Fabregas made it seven wins from eight games for Chelsea, who overcame the sending-off of Cesar Azpilicueta before halftime to stay five points clear.

Aguero lit up the day's early kickoff, scoring all four goals as Manchester City beat Tottenham Hotspur 4-1 in a match of four

penalties and a red card for Spurs defender Federico Fazio.

The Argentine scored twice from the spot and had another penalty saved.

Pride of place, however, went to Southampton who thrashed Sunderland 8-0 to stay in third place.

West Ham United moved into the top four after a 3-1 victory at struggling Burnley.

Arsenal's mediocre start to the season continued as they were held to their fifth draw in eight matches, Danny Welbeck scoring late to salvage a 2-2 home draw with Hull City.

Everton returned to form with a 3-0 win over Aston Villa.

Newcastle United's home game against Leicester City was a delayed kickoff after a pre-match safety issue with a new video screen inside St James' Park.—Reuters

Manchester City's Sergio Aguero (R) shoots past Tottenham Hotspur's Jan Vertonghen to score his fourth goal during their English Premier League soccer match against at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, northern England on 18 Oct, 2014.
REUTERS



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Arsenal must improve defensively, says Wenger

LONDON, 19 Oct — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger called on his side to address their defensive frailties after Danny Welbeck's stoppage-time equaliser helped salvage a 2-2 draw against Hull City at The Emirates on Saturday.

Chile forward Alexis Sanchez gave Arsenal the lead on 13 minutes, only for Hull midfielder Mohamed Diame to equalise four minutes later despite the home side's protests that the powerful midfielder had fouled Mathieu Flamini in the build-up.

Striker Abel Hernandez, starting in place of Nikica Jelavic who was injured in the warm-up, headed the visitors in front 32 seconds into the second

half. Welbeck, however, saved Arsenal's blushes when he pounced on Sanchez's pass after the former Barcelona man had weaved his way through the Hull defence.

"It was a disappointing afternoon because we only got the point," Wenger told reporters.

"We had to absolutely win this game. We were unlucky with the referee on the first goal but on the second we can only blame ourselves.

"We came out of the dressing-room with a lack of focus and gave them the lead straight away. The defensive concentration was missing on the second goal. At that level you cannot give the goals away like that."



Arsenal's manager Arsene Wenger reacts during their English Premier League soccer match against Hull at the Emirates stadium in London on 18 Oct, 2014.
REUTERS

Sixth-placed Arsenal have won just one of their last seven league fixtures and with Jose Mourinho's table-topping Chelsea boasting an 11-point advantage over Wenger's side, the Frenchman knows his side have got a lot of catching up to do.

"This was the kind of game where we cannot afford to concede another goal when we come out at 1-1," he said.

"We know that, we have enough experience to know that. We cannot give a goal away like we did it. Of course, I cannot say it (Chelsea's lead) is not a concern, it's a big concern because the other teams win their games and we don't."

With the painful memories of Aaron Ramsey's

extra-time FA Cup winner still fresh in his mind, Hull manager Steve Bruce was left cursing his luck for a second time when Welbeck struck late on for Arsenal.

"Today I didn't think we were going to concede because we were comfortable," said Bruce, whose side sit ninth with 10 points from eight matches.

"We ran out of juice badly and made a few mistakes, but I can't remember my goalkeeper having to make a save. "To be fair to the boy Sanchez, he has gone past three of us in the 90th minute which is not easy to do. He produced a great pass to Welbeck and he's finished with aplomb. It's very disappointing because I thought we were going to hang on."—Reuters

Asia Para Games start in S Korea



Photo taken on 18 Oct, 2014, shows the sacred fire lit during the opening ceremony of the 2014 Asia Para Games in Incheon, South Korea. Around 4,500 athletes from 41 nations and regions will participate in 23 games.
KYODO NEWS

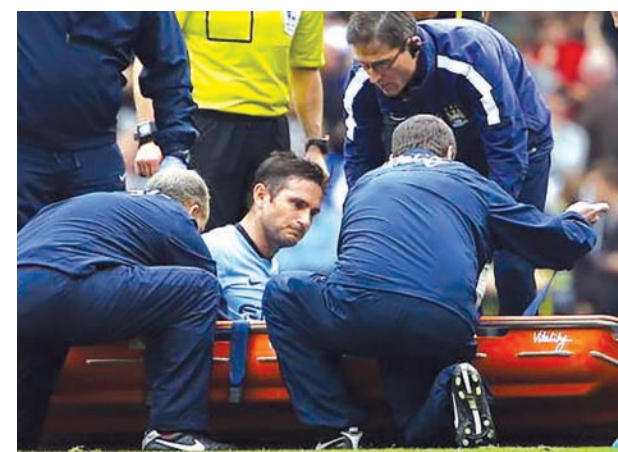
Lampard set to miss Man City trip to Moscow

LONDON, 19 Oct — Frank Lampard is likely to miss Manchester City's Champions League trip to CSKA Moscow on Tuesday after being carried off on a stretcher in his side's 4-1 Premier League victory over Tottenham Hotspur on Saturday.

Veteran midfielder Lampard, who has impressed on a six-month loan spell from New York City FC having left Chelsea, was injured making tackle in the first half.

"Frank has a muscle injury," manager Manuel Pellegrini said. "We will see tomorrow after the scan but for the moment he will not travel to Russia."

Lampard earned the penalty for City's second



Manchester City's Frank Lampard is carried off injured during their English Premier League soccer match against Tottenham Hotspur at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, northern England on 19 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

goal. City have managed only one point from their opening two Champions League Group E games and

need to beat bottom-placed CSKA to keep in touch with Bayern Munich and Roma.—Reuters