

President sends messages of felicitations to Austria

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr Heinz Fischer, Federal President of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2014. The President also sent a similar message to Mr Werner Faymann, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Austria. —MNA

ADB sees possible bond sale in Myanmar

YANGON, 25 Oct—Myanmar would need a debut bond sale in the next five years to help fund US\$ 80 billion of power, transport and technology projects through 2030, according to the Asian Development Bank.

The Manila-based financial institution estimated that the possible bond sale of Southeast Asian country will help to support annual expansion that it saw reaching 9.5 percent by 2030, said Park Cyn-young, the assistant chief economist of ADB.

The International Monetary Fund has also predicted the growth of Myanmar will average 8.25 percent in the next few years.

Myanmar granted li-

cences to nine foreign banks this month, including Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp, Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd and Malayan Banking Bhd.

Experts commented that Myanmar could follow the example of Laos, which sold its debut sovereign notes last year in Thailand.

Park said in the statement of ADB on 22 October that Myanmar is trying to establish a legal frame for capital markets but initially what's important is to strengthen the banking sector.

ADB has also commented that improving access to credit will help raise Myanmar's gross domestic product (GDP) per capita from US\$876 to a forecast

US\$ 5,000 by 2030.

The World Bank data shows that Laos has now a GDP per capita of US\$1,646, Indonesia's is US\$3,475 and the ratio is US\$5,779 in Thailand.

The ADB, founded in 1966, has 67 members and its capital base was \$175 billion as of Dec. 31, 2013, while the AIIB is expected to start with a capital of around \$50 billion.

According to the report of Xinhua news agency on Saturday, twenty-one Asian countries that are willing to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) as founding members on Friday signed the Memorandum of Understanding on establishing the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

(AIIB) by 2015.

The countries are Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

The inter-governmental regional development institution in Asia aims to fund rail, road, power and other projects across the region.

According to the official statement, the Bank's authorized capital is \$100 billion while the initial subscribed capital is expected to be around \$50 billion, with the possible paid-in ratio of 20 percent.

GNLM

Cheats in beans sales hurt both traders and growers

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—U Win Myint, Union Minister for Commerce, attended a ceremony to launch the Myanmar Citizens Bank (Bayintnaung branch) in the township of Mayangon, Yangon Region, on Saturday, sources said.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Union Minister U Win Myint said that the Myanmar Citizens Bank is a public monetary institution, adding that most of its shares come from the public with some possessed by the Ministry of Commerce.

Frequent outbreaks of cheats in sales of beans and pulses involve large amounts of money, hurting

both traders and growers.

In a bid to somewhat prevent unscrupulous manners, the bank will ask both buyers and sellers to give a 10% of deposit on any sales of beans and pulses, he stated.

He also talked of what the ministry is doing in connection with the easing of trade barriers and the laying down of trade policies to ensure a smooth flow of commodities.

He stressed the need to accelerate the volume of exports to earn more foreign incomes. According to him, annual exports of beans and pulses earn around US\$1 billion.

MNA

Myanmar business model contest winners to enter Mekong Business Challenges 2014

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 25 Oct—Two Myanmar teams have been selected to enter the Mekong Business Challenges 2014, which will be held in Hanoi of Vietnam on 15 March 2015, sources said.

The two business teams emerged victorious at the professional level of the 4th Myanmar Business Model Contest 2014 on Saturday, with organizers saying that they will have to compete with smart teams from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Yunnan Province of China.

Wah Wah Aye Khine and Yu Mon Kham, the first winners of the contest, said that they hope to hold the championship in the Mekong Business Challenges with their business model entitled "Effective and Inexpensive Water Filter".

They said their device is intended for people especially in developing

countries and it needs no electricity and can be easily used for getting safe drinking water.

Table Top Grocers, the second winning team, won the contest with their business plan entitled "Starting up a Door-to-Door Grocery Delivery Business", said it took them three months to work on the plan, expressing their gratitude to their training providers for their suggestions.

The Myanmar business model contest was jointly organized by the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the Cross-Border International Education Support Foundation (CIESF) of Japan with the aim of inspiring and establishing the new generation of Myanmar entrepreneurs.

At the award ceremony on Saturday, Dr Myo Thet, a vice-president of the UMFCCI and Mr Ken Matsumura, a country rep-

resentative of the CIESF, presented prizes to the six winning teams at both amateur and professional lev-

els. The first-prize winning team at the professional level received US\$3,000 and the second-prize win-

ning team, US\$1,000.

The Japanese foundation has pledged business links between Japanese en-

trepreneurs and participants with the best business models at the challenge.

GNLM



Organizers, training providers and participants of Myanmar business model contest in group photo.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Cultural course conducted at Youth Development Park on Sama Hill



NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—With the sponsorship of the chairman of Myanmar Theravada Buddhist Federation and Border Areas and Hill Region Sasa-

na Nuggaha Association, a ceremony to open the culture course was held in conjunction with the health care services free of charge at Maha Parahita Youth

Development Park on Sama Hill in Thawutti of Lewe Township on Friday.

Leader of the religious advisor group to the President Thura U Myint

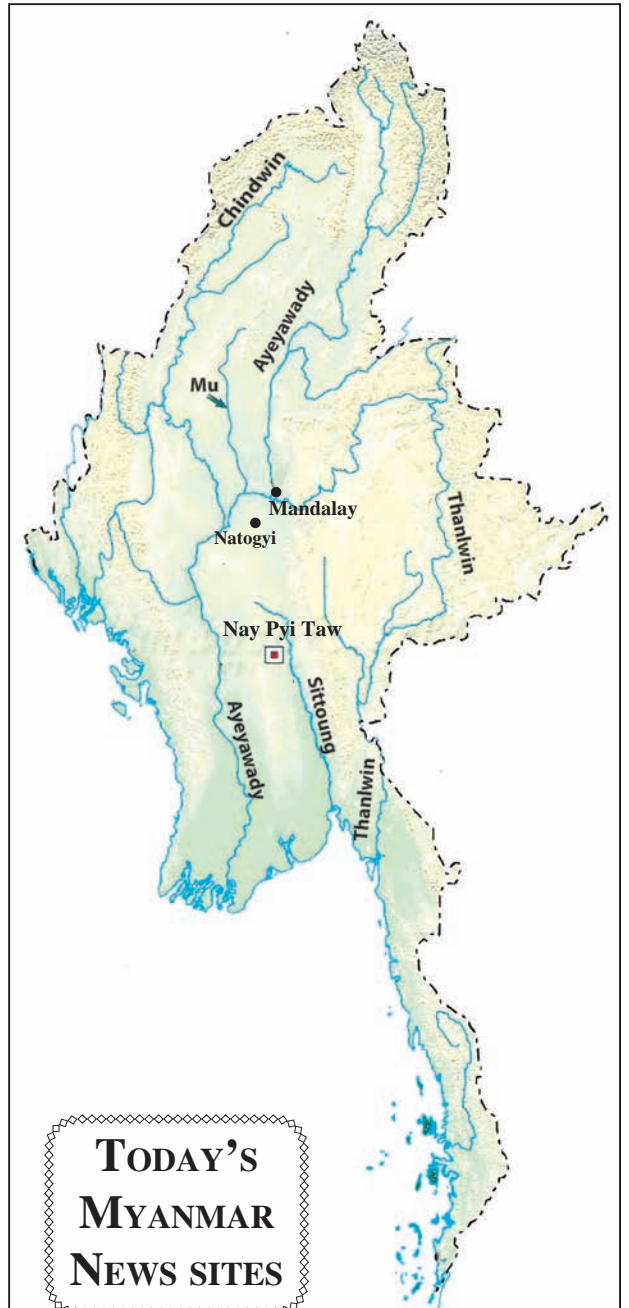
Maung and Chairman of the association Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma Manijotadhara Wunna Kyawhtin Dr Khin Shwe made speeches.

They donated teaching aid and uniforms to the students.

Dr Khin Shwe presented K100,000 each to eight students at University of Technology, three cadets at military academy and one at University of Economics and K50,000 each to four students of University of Nursing. Those students were turned out from Sama Hill Youth Development Park.

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Vimala and Bhaddanta Naninda of Sama Hill established the park in 1990 to be able to nurture the children. So far, the park has turned out 20 graduates. Now, it nurtures 446 children.

Yan Soe



Repaved streets commissioned into service

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Oct—A ceremony to inaugurate Gandama street, 1st and 2nd Myitmakha streets and 2nd Swedaw street were held in Shwenatha Ward of Ottarathiri Township on Friday morning.

Member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Phone Zaw Han explained development undertakings in Ottarathiri Township.

The Nay Pyi Taw Council member and officials formally opened the repaved streets.

The ceremony was also attended by Vice Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw U Than Kyaw Htoo.—MNA



EU Country Roadmap for Engagement with civil society Myanmar held in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 25 Oct—A seminar on EU country roadmap for engagement with civil society Myanmar: Consultation with civil society took place at Mandalay Hill Resort Hotel in Aungmyethazan Township of Mandalay on Friday morning, with an address by Mr George

Dura, on behalf of the EU Ambassador.

The civil societies discussed drawing of policy, sustainable development of environment for civil society. The seminar focused on the most important challenges and vision.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Land plot inspected for construction of fire station

NATOGYI, 25 Oct—Hsan Zaw Oo and Head of Mandalay Region Fire Services Department U

Natogyi Township Fire Station U Maung Maung Htwe

made a field trip to choose the plot for the fire station in Pyinsi Village of the township on 23 October.

They inspected a three-acre plot for the fire station in the southern part of the village. Head of Township Fire Station U Maung Maung Htwe reported on coordination being made for plot of the fire station near the Myingyan-Mandalay road or the centre of the village.

Fire Services Department (Head Office) has sent two fire trucks to Natogyi to deliver them to Pyinsi Fire Station so as to take fire preventive measures in



over 1,000 households of the village.

Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)



Union Health Minister inspects upgrading and renovation of Yangon General Hospital

YANGON, 25 Oct — Union Minister for Health Dr Than Aung on Saturday made an inspection of tour of Yangon General Hospital where renovation and upgrading works are taking place.

Accompanied by Director-General Dr Min Than Nyunt and officials, the Union minister held a meeting with the medical superintendent, professors/heads of departments and those who are responsible for the upgrading and renovation of the hospital.



Union Minister for Health Dr Than Aung inspects Yangon General Hospital.—MNA

In his speech, the Union minister said that a great deal of attention is being put into the hospital to turn the hospital into the reliable one for the people seeking medical care, with the working groups carrying out upgrading and renovation works.

He called for timely completion of construction

works, meeting set standards and underlined the importance of serving patients efficiently.

Dr Hla Myint, medical superintendent of the hospital, reported that efforts are being made to ensuring construction work is completed on time. Main building is undergoing renovation, without

damaging its structure, he added.

Next, the Union minister inspected construction of extended five-storey building, Cyclotron and PET/CT building which is about 85 percent complete and the upgrading and renovation of the main building.

MNA

Union FM sends message of felicitations to Austria

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Oct — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr Sebastian Kruz, Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria, on the occasion of the National Day of the Republic of Austria, which falls on 26 October 2014. —MNA

Rakhine State Chief Minister receives guests, attends ECC meeting

SITTWE, 25 Oct — Rakhine State Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn received Mr. Oliver Mouquet, head of UNHCR Sittwe Office, and party at his office on Friday.

During the meeting, they held talks on construction of houses for 70 Maramargyi households at Setyonsu (1) relief camp and renovation of hostels at other relief camps.

Likewise, the Chief Minister met with U Shwe Maung, chairman of REIC Public Co., Ltd, and party

at the same venue to hold discussions on agriculture sector development in the region.

Matters related to selling combined harvesters to farmers by installment and developing a new town near Mingan ward and construction of affordable housing were discussed at the meeting. Next, the Chief Minister attended a work coordination meeting of Rakhine State Emergency Coordination Centre and delivered a speech.

Rakhine State IPRD

Veteran writer U Aung Thin dies at 88



YANGON 25 Oct — Myanmar veteran writer U Aung Thin died at the age of 88 at his home here on Saturday.

The winner of National Literature Award had wrote more than 50 books in the genres of ethical conducts, cultural knowledge and motivation of youth inspiration since he had entered writing career in 1957. He entered academic profession in 1962 as a tutor, and worked at Myanmar language department of academic institutions, including University of Yangon.

U Aung Thin was born in Tawndwingyi Township of Magway region, central Myanmar, on 17 April 1927. He received a master degree for his paper on the study of short stories in 1974. The former lecturer was also a member of Free Funeral Service Society (Yangon), while he was going around the country for literary talks.

He won the Lifetime National Literary Award in 2012 for its tireless efforts for the development of Myanmar literature.

GNLM

7th Meeting of High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs held in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 25 Oct — The Seventh and Final Meeting of the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs was held at Mandalay Hill Resort Hotel, Mandalay from 21st to 24th October 2014.

The meeting was chaired by Director-General (Rtd.) U Aung Bwa, Chair of HLTF and Myanmar Representative to the HLTF and attended by HLTF representatives and delegates from ASEAN Member States and U Nyan Lyann, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN and officials from the ASEAN Secretariat.

As it is the final meeting of the HLTF, recommendations made by members of HLTF were finalized and adopted. The Report of the HLTF and their recommendations will be submitted to the ASEAN leaders at the 25th ASEAN Summit to be held in November 2014 in Nay Pyi Taw through 15th ASEAN Coordinating Council in accordance with the Terms



of Reference of the HLTF. The HLTF focused its recommendations on strengthening ASEAN through streamlining and improving its work processes and coordination among ASEAN Organs, enhancing the conduct of ASEAN's external relations as well as

strengthening of the ASEAN Secretariat. The recommendations are made for "Immediate Term" (within 2 years), "Medium Term" (within 2 to 5 years) and "Long Term" (more than 5 years) for implementation.

ASEAN Leaders, in 2013, decided to establish

the High Level Task Force (HLTF) on Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat and Reviewing the ASEAN Organs. During Myanmar Chairmanship in 2014, seven meetings were held to deliberate on their mandates. It is expected that the recommendations of the

HLTF will be instrumental in strengthening ASEAN Institutions including ASEAN Secretariat as well as to assist in realization of the Post-2015 ASEAN Community's Vision to be adopted at the 27th ASEAN Summit in 2015.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Thai man confesses to killing another Japanese man

BANGKOK, 25 Oct — A Thai police official said on Friday a 47-year-old Thai man who admitted to killing Yoshinori Shimato, a 79-year-old Japanese man who had been missing since late September, has said he killed another Japanese man.

The revelation was made by Somchai Kaewbangyang, who is thought to be a former husband of Phornchanok Chaiyapa, 47. The couple was arrested on Thursday for allegedly killing Shimato and abandoning his body.

According to Thai police and other sources, the other Japanese man is Katsutoshi Tanaka, who

died after falling down the stairs in a Bangkok suburb about 10 years ago, and the police at that time ruled out foul play.

Phornchanok reportedly received a huge sum of insurance money after Tanaka's death.

A woman claiming to be the daughter of Tanaka and another Thai woman called on the police to reinvestigate her father's death after learning that Shimato was allegedly killed.

The police found severed body parts from Shimato's corpse in a canal near Bangkok after a search based on the Thai man's statement.

Kyodo News



A Chinese medical expert works in a hospital in Monrovia, capital of Liberia on 23 Oct, 2014. Chinese experts in Liberia keep on providing medical assistance in the frontline of a battle against the deadly Ebola virus.

XINHUA

India's Modi unusually approaches media after assuming office

NEW DELHI, 25 Oct — Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday formally reached out to the media, his first such interaction since assuming office after general elections in May this year.

Modi lauded the media for its role in furthering his ambitious "Clean India Campaign", which he launched early this month.

"You have turned your pen into a broom," he told some 400 journalists at the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's headquarters in capital New Delhi.

The Prime Minister said, "I am reading so many articles on clean India. Electronic and social media is also doing a comprehensive debate on it.

This is a service to the

nation.

This is a good example of how the media can play a constructive role."

Modi also recalled his days as a young party worker when he used to wait for the media to arrive and put out chairs for them.

"I am trying to find ways to improve my connection with the media," he said.—Xinhua

Thailand appoints chief negotiator in talks with southern insurgents

BANGKOK, 25 Oct — Thai authorities have appointed the chairman of the army's advisory panel to lead the renewed peace talks with insurgents in the country's restive Deep South, a deputy prime minister confirmed on Friday.

The appointment of Gen Aksara Kerdpol is awaiting an official order from Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha, Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwon was quoted by the *Bangkok Post* as saying.

The government is working on solutions to problems in the vio-

lence-ridden far South and is determined to make headway, Prawit, who is also the defense minister, said. Thailand's Deep South, including three Muslim, ethnic-Malay dominated southern border provinces — Yala, Patani, Narathiwat and four districts of Songkhla, has been plagued with separatist violence since January 2004.

The Prayut government has set out to resume peace talks with southern separatists, with Malaysia continuing to act as the facilitator.

Previous talks between the already-deposed

Yingluck government and insurgent groups led by the Barisan Revolusi Nasional started early last year, but stalled in October after five rounds.

A 10-member team has been formed to continue the negotiation which will include all groups involved in the long-standing insurgency, army chief Udomdej Sitabutr said earlier.

According to Udomdej, the National Security Council is currently working with Malaysian authorities on the framework of the negotiation, but the date has yet to be set.

Xinhua

Two killed in flash floods in southern India

NEW DELHI, 25 Oct — At least two people were killed and another one trapped in flash floods in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu on Saturday, a senior police official said.

"The mishap happened when three people were crossing a bridge on a bike in the morning. One person is feared to be trapped in the floods," he said on condition of anonymity.

The river in the Erode District was rising due to heavy rains in Sathyamangalam forest.

Rescuers had been rushing to the spot, the official added.—Xinhua



Photos taken on 24 October show evening gowns made of saucers at China Import and Export Fair (Canton Fair) in Guangzhou, North China's Guangzhou Province.—XINHUA

Vietnam urges int'l support to help end AIDS pandemic by 2030

HANOI, 25 Oct — Vietnam urged international support to help end AIDS pandemic by 2030, Vice President Nguyen Thi Doan said on Friday.

Doan made the remarks at a meeting Michel Sidibe, executive director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) and under-secretary-general of the UN in Hanoi.

Doan urged Sidibe to continue coordination and dialogue with the international community to support Vietnam to implement a strategy to end AIDS

pandemic by 2030, focusing on prevention.

Sidibe said his current visit to Vietnam aims to further boost the programme of prevention and fight against HIV/AIDS in the country, as well as mobilize domestic and international resources to help Vietnam achieve the UN goal.

The UNAIDS official also called Vietnam to continue investment in preventing and combating HIV in a bid to reach the goal of ending AIDS by 2030.

Xinhua

WORLD

Prayer ceremony for peace held in Philippines

MABALACAT CITY, (Philippines), 25 Oct — A group of Japanese and Filipinos gathered in Mabalacat city north of the capital Manila on Saturday to take part in a prayer ceremony for world peace.

The “Pilgrimage Prayer for World Peace” was held to mark the 17th anniversary of the declaration of Mabalacat as a “City of World Peace” and the 70th anniversary of the first suicide air attack deployed by Japanese forces against US warships during World War II.

The ceremony, attended by local officials, tribal children, and some delegates from Japan, was organized by the Mabalacat city government.

It was held at the Goddess of Peace Shrine inside Clark Freeport Zone, close to the former airfield where, on 25 Oct, 1944, Lt Yukio Seki led the first kamikaze attack fleet against US warships in Leyte Gulf.

“We hope that the day will come when people from all over the world can live without fear of being maimed or killed because one group or nation claims to be more superior, or because they claim to have the blessings of the gods,” Mabalacat Mayor Marino Morales said in a speech at the ceremony.

“Until that day comes, we shall not rest, and we shall always work for peace,” he added.

Kyodo News

Kurds reject Erdogan report of deal with Syrian rebels to aid besieged Kobani

ISTANBUL / BEIRUT, 25 Oct — A senior Syrian Kurdish official on Friday rejected a report from Turkey’s president that Syrian Kurds had agreed to let Free Syrian Army fighters enter the border town of Kobani to help them push back besieging Islamic State insurgents.

The Free Syrian Army is a term used to describe dozens of armed groups fighting to overthrow President Bashar al-Assad but with little or no central command. They have been widely outgunned by Islamist insurgents such as Islamic State.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan is a leading opponent of Assad and has allowed his more secular, Western-backed opponents such as FSA fighters to use Turkey as a base and sanctuary.

Erdogan said on Friday said 1,300 FSA fighters would enter Kobani after the Syrian Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) agreed on their passage, but his comments were swiftly denied by Saleh Moslem, co-chair of the PYD.

“We have already established a connection with FSA but no such agreement has been reached yet as Mr Erdogan has mentioned,” Moslem told *Reuters* by telephone from Brussels.

Turkey’s unwillingness to send its powerful army across the Syrian



Turkish Kurds watch as smoke rises over the Syrian town of Kobani, from a hill near the Mursitpinar border crossing, on the Turkish-Syrian border in the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

border to break the siege of Kobani has angered Kurds, and seems rooted in a concern not to strengthen Kurds who seek autonomy in adjoining regions of Turkey, Iraq and Syria.

Ankara’s stance has also upset Western allies, as Islamic State’s capture of wide swathes of Syria and Iraq has caused international shock and US-led air strikes began in August to try to halt and eventually reverse the jihadist advance.

Erdogan told a news conference on a visit to Estonia that Ankara was working on details of the route of passage for the FSA fighters, indicating

they would access Kobani via Turkey.

But Moslem said talks between FSA commander Abdul Jabbar al-Oqaidi and the armed wing of the Kurdish PYD were continuing about the possible role of FSA rebels. “There are already groups with links to the FSA in Kobani helping us,” he said.

The FSA, however, is little more than an acronym used to describe dozens of tenuously affiliated rebel groups who complain of a lack of arms and resources leaving them unable to effectively confront Assad and better-armed Islamist rebels.

Moslem said the FSA

would be more helpful if it opened a second front against Islamic State elsewhere in Syria. “Politically we have no objections to FSA....But in my opinion, if they really would like to help, then their forces should open another front, such as from Tel Abyad or Jarablus,” he said.

He was referring to two nearby Syrian border towns captured by Islamic State as part of its lightning military campaign in which it has beheaded or crucified prisoners, massacred non-Sunni Muslim civilians in its path and declared a mediaeval-style caliphate spanning eastern Syria and northwestern

Iraq.

FSA commander Al-Oqaidi, speaking to *Reuters* in Suruc, a Turkish border town across from Kobani, said there had been an agreement to begin establishing a united defence force and initially 1,350 FSA fighters were to go to Kobani for help.

“These fighters will come in two or three days,” he said.

“The fighters will come from the northern Syrian countryside. These fighters are not coming from the fighting fronts against the Assad regime. These are reserve fighters.”

US officials said on Thursday that Kobani, nestled in a valley overlooked by Turkish territory, seemed in less danger of falling to Islamic State after coalition air strikes and limited arms drops, but the threat remained.

Turkey has been loath to join the US-led coalition against Islamic State but, after mounting pressure from its Western allies, Erdogan said on Wednesday that some Kurdish peshmerga fighters from Iraq would be allowed to transit Turkey to Kobani.

Although Turkish and US officials acknowledge Kobani itself is not especially strategically important, the fate of the town has become a credibility test of the international coalition’s response to Islamic State.—*Reuters*



European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso (l) and European Council President Herman Van Rompuy give a Press conference at the end of EU Summit at EU council headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, on 24 Oct, 2014.—XINHUA

US envoy for six-party talks to visit Asia

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — The US special envoy for six-party talks will travel to the Republic of Korea (ROK), China and Japan next week to discuss policy toward Pyongyang, the State Department announced on Friday.

The trip by Sydney Seiler, Washington’s new special envoy for six-party talks over denuclearization on the Korean Peninsula, was made known after the US and ROK urged the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) to return to “credible and meaningful negotiations.”

Washington and

Seoul, following a meeting between their foreign and defense ministers in Washington DC on Friday morning, agreed that the denuclearization is critical to “lasting peace and security” on the peninsula.

Seiler last visited the three Asian countries last month with Glyn Davies, US special envoy for DPRK policy.

The six-party talks, that also involve Russia, were initiated in Beijing in August 2003 but have been stalled since December 2008. The DPRK dropped out of the talks in April 2009.

Xinhua

Two killed, four wounded in Washington state school shooting

MARYSVILLE, (Washington), 25 Oct — A student fatally shot one classmate and wounded four others when he opened fire in the cafeteria of his Washington state high school on Friday, following a fight with fellow students, authorities said.

The shooter took his own life as Marysville-Pilchuck High School students scrambled to safety in the latest outburst of deadly violence at an American school.

A school district official, who declined to be named because the shooter was not officially identified yet, said he was Jaylen Fryberg, a Native American student at the school. The official said the shooting followed a fight at the school. There was little on Fryberg's social media accounts to offer any insight into the shooting, although

in February he posted a message on Facebook saying: "If you ask me, hunting is the BEST sport there is." Witnesses described the assailant as a well-liked freshman and member of the school's wrestling and football teams.

All of the victims of the shooting were young people, and three of the wounded were in critical condition with gunshot wounds to the head, said Joanne Roberts, chief of medicine at Providence Regional Medical Centre in Everett.

The fourth wounded victim suffered less serious injuries in the gunfire and had been transferred to Harborview Medical Centre in Seattle. A spokeswoman for that hospital said he was in serious condition.

Two of the wounded were boys and two girls, hospital officials said.



Two girls hug at Shoultes Gospel Hall church where families are reuniting after an active shooter situation at Marysville-Pilchuck High School in Marysville, Washington on 24 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

"At this point, we are confirming that there are two deceased," Marysville Police Commander Robb Lamoureux told reporters

in the town, about 30 miles (50 km) north of Seattle.

The violence at Marysville-Pilchuck High School marked the latest in a se-

ries of deadly rampages at American schools that have played a central role in a national debate over gun laws. In 2012, a 20-year-

old gunman entered Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, and killed 20 children and six adults before taking his own life in one of the deadliest mass shootings in US history.

Police would not say what kind of weapon Fryberg, who died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, had used, and they declined to discuss his motive.

"He came up from behind and had a gun in his hand and he fired about eight bullets into backs of them. They were his friends so it wasn't just random," student Jordan Luton told CNN, adding that the gunman fired several more shots. "Then he turned and looked at me and my girlfriend ... and kind of gave us a smirk and turned around and then shot more bullets outside," Luton said.—Reuters

Brazil presidential campaign ends in slugfest over corruption



Presidential candidates Aécio Neves of Brazilian Social Democratic Party (PSDB) and Dilma Rousseff of Workers Party (PT) pose before a television debate in Rio de Janeiro on 24 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

BRASILIA, 25 Oct — Presidential candidates traded accusations over political corruption on Friday night in a last ditch attempt to sway undecided voters before Sunday's election runoff in Brazil's closest race in decades.

In the final television debate of a bitter campaign, leftist President Dilma Rousseff and pro-business opposition candidate Aécio Neves sparred over who was best suited to restore growth to a stagnant economy, fight inflation, bring down rents and deal with open sewers in Brazilian cities.

But it was a deepening bribery scandal at the country's largest enterprise, state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA, that brought the fiercest exchanges. "There is one

easy way to put an end to corruption: throw the Workers' Party out of office," Neves said in reply to a question from a voter on how to improve Brazil's lenient anti-corruption laws. Polls show that the festering corruption scandal involving the ruling Workers' Party has not had a significant impact on the race in which Rousseff gained a clear lead this week.

In his last chance to win over voters, Neves came out swinging in the debate and asked Rousseff straight out whether she knew about a scam that allegedly received kickbacks from Petrobras contractors and funnelled funds to Rousseff's party and its allies in Congress.

The allegations were made in plea bargain

statements made by former Petrobras executive Paulo Roberto Costa and a black-market money dealer called Alberto Youssef who were arrested in March in a money laundering investigation.

The weekly magazine *Veja* reported on Friday that Youssef has told police and prosecutors that Rousseff and her predecessor, Workers' Party founder Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, knew about the corruption scheme. The jailed money dealer provided no evidence.

Rousseff dismissed the allegation as unfounded and called *Veja* magazine an opposition mouthpiece that had systematically antagonized her government and was trying to derail her re-election.

Neves, the market favourite who had stirred investor enthusiasm by promising business-friendly policies to pull Brazil out of recession, assailed Rousseff for poor management of Latin America's largest economy and losing control of inflation.

A mild economic rebound and a bruising campaign have boosted the incumbent's chances in recent weeks. Surveys of voters by Brazil's top polling firms published on Thursday showed Rousseff with a lead of 6 to 8 percentage points.—Reuters

IMF seeks to unlock economic growth of Caribbean states

MONTEGO BAY, (Jamaica), 25 Oct — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) kicked off a high-level forum here on Thursday in hopes of unlocking economic growth for the Caribbean region.

The two-day forum, which has brought together finance ministers and central bank governors from across the Caribbean, is supposed to play the role as a platform for strengthening cooperation and advancing solutions to key challenges facing the region.

This get-together has been the third of its kind in the Caribbean over recent

years. The last two were held in Trinidad and Tobago, and the Bahamas.

"While the 2013 conference programme took a comprehensive approach to the growth challenge, this year we have streamlined the agenda to cover three specific topics," IMF Deputy Managing Director Min Zhu said.

Energy costs, tax competition and financial sector vulnerability, according to Zhu, are among issues that have the biggest impact on the growth, and thus became the topics being focused on.

In recent years, many of the Caribbean coun-

tries have suffered from slow economic growth and heavy burden of debts at the same time. Four countries — Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, Jamaica, and Grenada — have embarked on economic programs supported by the IMF.

The multilateral financial agency estimates that growth in the Caribbean will remain weak at 1.5 percent in 2014, compared with the world overall level of 3.3 percent.

Within this context, Zhu said: "Reinvigorating growth remains the top priority" for the region.

Xinhua



Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Zhu Min (L) shakes hands with Jamaica's Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller before the inauguration of the Caribbean High Level Forum of IMF in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 23 Oct, 2014. IMF kicked off a high-level forum here on Thursday in hopes of unlocking economic growth for the Caribbean region. — XINHUA

Chad says Nigeria deal with Boko Haram to free girls still on

N'DJAMENA, 25 Oct — Chad said it believed Nigeria's secret deal with Boko Haram Islamists to free over 200 kidnapped Nigerian schoolgirls would go ahead despite the breakdown of a truce, and revealed the key to the agreement was a prisoner swap.

The accord mediated by Chad for the release of the girls seized from Chibok in northeast Nigeria in April has been called into question since it was announced by the Nigerian military last week. A ceasefire supposed to be part of the agreement has been broken, and a further 25 girls were abducted this week.

Moussa Mahamat Dago, the No 2 official at Chad's foreign ministry, said it appeared some Boko Haram factions were refusing to abide by the deal, brokered by the Chadian foreign minister with two representatives of the Islamist group and two Nigerian negotiators at meetings in Chad on 14 and 30 September.

"Quite possibly those who are fighting are dissi-

dents that even they (Boko Haram) aren't able to control. So far, there is no reason for others to doubt this agreement," Dago told *Reuters* late on Thursday in the Chadian capital N'Djamena.

"What I can say is that those that negotiated with the Nigerian government did so in good faith ... We are waiting for the next phase which is the release of the girls."

Dago said the two sides agreed verbally to a series of points summarised in a document he had seen, including the release of the schoolgirls and of jailed Boko Haram fighters.

The Nigerian insurgent group, which has fought a bloody five-year revolt mostly in the northeast, has said it wants to carve out an Islamist enclave in the religiously-mixed nation, Africa's top oil producer and biggest economy.

"The starting condition of Boko Haram was the liberation of some of their members ... That is the compensation," Dago said, adding that the specifics on the names and num-



Newspapers with various front page headlines on the Chibok girls and their possible release are displayed at a news stand in Abuja on 18 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

ber of Boko Haram fighters still to be released had not yet been agreed.

Dago said he still expected the girls to be freed, without giving a time frame. The Boko Haram negotiators were no longer in Chad although they had agreed to return in October after freeing the girls to hold more talks, he added.

The first stage of the agreement made was the release of a group of 27

Chinese and Cameroonian hostages by Boko Haram two weeks ago in northern Cameroon, Dago said.

"We remain optimistic. The two sides agreed to find a negotiated solution and to show their good faith they already freed some hostages and announced a ceasefire," he said.

Dago admitted it would be embarrassing for Chadian President Idriss Deby's government, which

has taken a leading role in security and diplomacy in Africa's turbulent Sahel region in recent years, if the girls were not freed.

"It would be very disappointing. We are engaged in this now. If this

negotiation doesn't succeed that would be damaging for Chad's facilitating role," he said.

A senior Nigerian official close to the talks told *Reuters* that meetings between the parties were scheduled to continue through the weekend and next week. He attributed the recent attacks to criminals using Boko Haram's name.

"We want to believe that they are not Boko Haram because their representatives assured us that they are committed to see that this ongoing peace negotiation succeeds," he said.

"Our meeting with them on Monday will basically centre on the release of the adopted girls, so we may be having the girls and other abductees released to us from Chad by next week," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.—*Reuters*

Islamic State keeps up Syrian oil flow despite US-led strikes

AMMAN, 25 Oct — Islamic State is still extracting and selling oil in Syria and has adapted its trading techniques despite a month of strikes by US-led forces aimed at cutting off this major source of income for the group, residents, oil executives and traders say.

While the raids by US and Arab forces have targeted some small makeshift oil refineries run by locals in eastern areas controlled by Islamic State, they have avoided the wells the group controls. This has limited the effectiveness of the campaign and means the militants are able to profit from crude sales of up to \$2 million a day, according to oil workers in Syria, former oil executives and energy experts.

"They are in fact still selling the oil and even stepping up exploitation of new wells by tribal allies and taking advantage of the inability of the enemy to hit the oil fields," said Abdullah al-Jadaan, a tribal elder in Shuhail, a town in Syria's oil-producing Deir al-Zor Province.

US-led forces want to avoid hitting the oil installations hard because it could hurt civilians more than the militants and could radicalise the local population,

analysts say.

On Thursday the United States threatened to impose sanctions on anyone buying oil from Islamic State militants in an effort to disrupt what it said was a \$1-million-a-day funding source. Most of the oil is bought by local traders and covers the domestic needs of rebel-held areas in northern Syria. But some low-quality crude has been smuggled to Turkey where prices of over \$350 a barrel, three times the local rate, have nurtured a lucrative cross-border trade.

"Our options are limited unless you hit the wells — but it does not just hit Islamic State, it hits the entire population and that is not something that the US can do very easily," said Andrew Tabler, a senior fellow at the US-based Washington Institute, who focuses on Syria.

"It's a good example of the constraints of trying to bomb your way out of it." Any bombing of Syria's major oil wells could evoke memories of the 1990-1991 Gulf War when the forces of Iraq's Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait and burnt oil wells as they were repelled by US-led forces, causing severe damage to the infrastructure.—*Reuters*

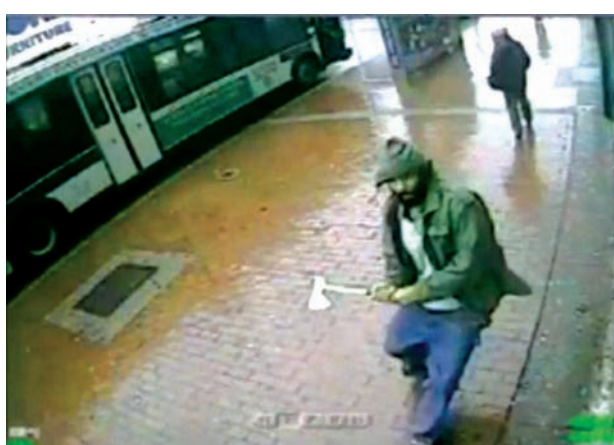
NYC police say hatchet attack by Islam convert was terrorism

NEW YORK, 25 Oct — The hatchet-wielding man who wounded two New York City police officers, one of them critically, was a self-radicalized convert to Islam who is believed to have acted alone in what law enforcement officials on Friday called a terrorist attack.

The suspect, Zale Thompson, who was shot dead by two other officers on Thursday afternoon on a street in the borough of Queens, had made anti-Western postings on social media and visited websites associated with several radical Islamic groups, police said at a news conference.

A search of computers seized from the home of Thompson's father in Queens, where the 32-year-old man lived, showed he also spent time reading online about beheadings, a recent intrusion at the White House and attacks in Canada. "This was a terrorist attack," Commissioner William Bratton said.

Investigators were trying to determine whether Thompson, a black man



A man holding a hatchet is seen in a still image from surveillance video provided by the New York Police Department on 23 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

who converted to Islam two years ago, had any connection to an area mosque. Police said the social media postings of the man described as an unemployed recluse were "anti-government, anti-Western, anti-white." Still under investigation was the extent of planning involved in the attack, which appeared to be unprovoked and somewhat spontaneous, Bratton said.

"The fact that he was walking around with a hatchet in the backpack makes it clear this individual had some sense of

preparation," Bratton said.

The attack on Thursday, which took place in a shopping district, unfolded in a matter of seconds, police said. A group of four police officers were posing for a freelance photographer when Thompson charged them, swinging the hatchet. One officer was struck in the arm and another in the head before the other two officers opened fire, killing Thompson.

A 29-year-old female bystander was struck in the lower back by a stray bullet and critically wounded.

Kenneth Healey, the 25-year-old officer hit in the head, remains in critical condition at Jamaica Hospital, Bratton said.

The officer struck in the arm, Joseph Meeker, 24, was treated at the hospital and released, he added. Thompson, who was involuntarily discharged from the Navy in 2003 for undisclosed reasons, lived with his father at a home in Queens, but had stayed at his mother's residence the night before the incident, Bratton said.

Police detectives are still conducting interviews to piece together the details Thompson's past and what may have led him to become violent, the commissioner said.

Police already have some information about him, however. Thompson was arrested in southern California six times between 2002 and 2003, likely for domestic disputes, New York Chief of Detectives Robert Boyce said.

At age 16, in 1998, Thompson was the victim of an assault, he said.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 26 October, 2014

Like Bees, not as Flies

By Aung Khin

Bees are the symbols of industry and cooperation. The familiar saying 'as busy as a bee' is of course derived from the industrious nature of bees. Honey bees have thus become symbols of work, cooperation, busyness and organization. Moreover, social bees, honey and bumble bees, can live in colonies and are cooperative, organized, industrious and intelligent, working with tireless diligence to store and produce food.

Bees live harmoniously to safeguard their community without damaging the environment. The treatise of Dhammapada carries the teaching of Buddha taking examples of the bees;

'In the village, a sage should go about
Like a bee, which, not harming
Flower, colour or scent,
Flies off with the nectar'.

As the global communities are interrelating each other, any action of one community can affect another. The degree of effect may depend closeness or relations. However, every action should not harm others personally or communally.

Lebanese artist, poet and writer Kahlil Gibran wrote a poem titled 'Give and Take...'

For to the bee a flower is a fountain of life
And to the flower a bee is a messenger of love

And to both, bee and flower,
The giving and the receiving is a need and an ecstasy.

Every community should not pose risk to each other as the flies spread diseases. Therefore, civilized world should establish a caring and humane society for a fair and efficient global welfare.

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.

Clean Water Scarcity Problem

By : Tommy Pauk

Luckily, in Myanmar, ground water, river water, lake water, creek water, stream water and rain water are naturally abundant. These are the natural fresh water resources in Myanmar. The vast majority of people do not need to worry about fresh water or portable water which is for daily consumption and household usage. Exceptionally, those who live in arid zone have some problem to get access to the source of potable water. Myanmar has plenty of fresh water resources and salt water resources in their country. However, very few people encounter water scarcity problem in Myanmar. Normally, those who live nearby the river banks can easily take fresh water from the rivers. In the big cities there exist huge reservoirs, which are maintained by modern water-treatment system. They supply sufficient potable water to city dwellers every day. The water from those reservoirs is purified and so it is clean. The ground water and surface water exist in these big cities in Myanmar.

Nowadays, purified bottled water is available at affordable price at the markets. The purified bottled water is especially manufactured for the urbanites. This drinking-water is said to be safe and clean. The urbanites use the potable water supplied by metropolitan water supply station for washing, bathing and flushing toilet in their

homes. Some people boil that water and then cool it and drink it. So Myanmar people are blessed with clean and purified fresh water in the entire country. Since water is important sustaining - element for all living things, we humans must consume and use it properly. We ought not to waste potable water. We ought to use it frugally. Besides, it is the most essential element for everyday- human life.

In some countries, they are lack of fresh water resources and receive little rainfall. In this circumstance, the people cannot get safe and clean drinking water so they have to import potable water from foreign countries. For example, Singapore gets rain water, but unfortunately, fresh water resource is not sufficient for the total population in it. So they have to use hi-tech in water- treatment system to purify used and flushed water, and then they reuse it. Besides this, Singapore imports purified drinking water from a neighboring country in order to fulfill the requirement of the public demand.

Nowadays, clean water scarcity becomes one of the global hot issues. Currently, the total human population on earth is about seven billion (7 billion). They need to drink clean water every day for their survival. Unless they get it, they cannot continue to live. It is vitally important for human beings to get access to portable water so that they can sustain

their life. As drinking water is the most essential element for everyday life of the humans, we must try to find ground water as well as surface water as much as we can. A man can live without having food a day, whereas he cannot live without drinking water a day. That is why people around the world seriously think about finding ways and means to exploit fresh water resources on land in the world. Otherwise, if a country exists near the sea or an island country, the solar powered desalination plant should be set up to generate fresh water from sea water. Actually this installation does not cost a lot. Either rich countries or small countries can afford to do this way. We all know how important water is and it is a life of living things. Most of the highly-civilized nations had settled near the big rivers e.g Babylon (near the rivers Yuphrates and Tigrate), Egypt (near the river Nile) ,Bagan (near the Ayeyarwaddy). This record vividly shows that human settlement depends on nearby the availability of water resources. They chose the locations near the river banks because they could take drinking water from the rivers for sustainable human life. They also could grow crops by irrigating water from river and catch fish for their daily food. Even the space scientists are striving to find water on the moon and on other planets. However, they still have not found any

water and biological activities on the moon and Mars. This is Man's exploration in solar system to conquer the planets but exploring water is categorized as the most important task for humans.

United nations and some INGO have sought to exploit clean water resources as much as they can for supplying safe water to those who do not get drinkable water in their daily life. World Food Program, a UN organization, is supplying purified bottled drinking water to peoples in some African countries and in India. They live in the poverty stricken areas and their health conditions are worsening. The root cause of being unhealthy is that they do not get access to clean water for their daily consumption. They are still alive but suffering from some diseases because they drink dirty or contaminated water every day. The scarcer the clean water, the worse they face health problems. Due to negligent activities of humans, fresh water of some areas in the world is getting dirty and contaminated badly.e.g. Mining, Disposing wastages, Herding animals and animal husbandry near the lakes, rivers and streams. The people who live around these areas cannot enjoy drinking clean- water indeed. Acid rain caused by mass factories is also a problem which makes natural rain water unclean and toxic. In this case, storage of rain water is totally not possible.

ble.

The following is the UN-Water's findings and predictions through " International Decade for Action: 'Water For Life' ; 2005-2015".

**** Water use has been growing at more than twice the rate of population in the last century. Increase in water withdrawals by 2025, the developing countries will reach 50 % and the developed countries will reach 18 %. By 2025, 1800 million people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity, and two-thirds of the world population could be under stress condition.' Water scarcity already affects every continent. Around 1.2 billion people, or almost one-fifth of the world's population,

live in areas of physical scarcity, and 500 million people are approaching this situation. Another 1.6 billion people, or almost one quarter of the world's population face economic water shortage (where countries lack the necessary infrastructure to take water from rivers and aquifers)'. *****

We should be aware of the global water-shortage caused by ground water over-pumping and aquifer depletion. The adequate treatment of waste- water is required and it is a solution to this problem. It is one of the easy and possible ways to take drinkable- water. Therefore, please don't waste and contaminate water on earth !.Water is your life!!!

Tommy Pauk is the pseudonym of U Thein Swe, who is B.A (English) and (Registered Law) R.L.I. degrees holder. He has English Teaching experience at Yangon University English Department and Workers' college in Yangon, and now is working as freelance writer and English Teacher cum Translator/ Interpreter for foreign firms.

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (25-10-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K656,500 per tical: Selling K657,500

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K656,200 per tical: Selling K657,200

FE RATE

USD Buying K995: Selling K1000

SGD Buying K779: Selling K787

Euro Buying K1,250: Selling K1,270

ARTICLE

A Brief Account of Dhammaceti (A King of Effort, Wisdom and Lot)

A Prominent Mon King

Dhammaceti (1472-92AD) was a prominent king in Mon Chronicles. His brilliant contributions to Buddhism have constituted valuable historical evidences in Myanmar. He was among the most successful Mon Kings in the Hansavati Dynasty. What is the most interesting and envious thing of his is that he was not a royal-blood, although he succeeded to the royal throne of Hansavati. In fact, in a hamlet in Mon Kingdom, he was brought up as a poor cowherdsboy who dared not dream of becoming a king during the time when feudalism reached its apex in Myanmar. According to Dr. Hla Pe, he was a king of effort, wisdom and lot. He was the one from hell to heaven. His life was, more or less, similar to that of King Variru, the founder of the Hansavati Dynasty. He was well recognized as a wise king of Mon Kingdom.

His Childhood

He was born of poor parents U Bhodi Gamon and Daw Tet in a small Mon village of Hansavati in Lower Myanmar in (1406?). He was named Min Tan. He seemed to be a piece of red charcoal promising fire (an ember about to blaze glows brightly). He was also called "Nyankyelay (Sharp-witted Boy)" because of his cleverness among his playmates. He was clever at every game owing to his rational thinking. He was able to manage his group of cowherds. It was said he always won every bet among

the children. He seemed to be king of playing games. In some games, he played a role of a king and his companions were his attendants. In those days under the reign of feudal lord, the one who imitated the king in the manner of a nitwit could be in trouble, even death up to seventh generations. So at the advice of the elders, he was sent to a monastery for entering the Buddhist Order by his parents in order to have good manners and start his religious education. At first, his novice name was Shin Dhammadhara.

The First Days at the Monastery

He was a rare student who was able to know the essence of learning as he requested his first teacher to explain the meaning of the very first word "Namo" of his very first lesson. He did not want to learn anything in vain. He insisted on his parents' permission to send him to a better school so as to study under a better teacher. He became a fast learner among his peers on account of his endeavor and rationality. He studied all the texts taught by his teacher omitting none and learnt all by heart. He was like a cat eating a shrimp with special enjoyment.

Meeting with a Good Friend

In his school life, he seemed to be lucky. He could have never improved his learning if he had been proud as a one-eye person among the blind. One's skills can be improved only when he has a close match. Fortunately, he met with an intelligent novice

Shin Dhammanana alias Shin Dhammapala at the monastery and made his best friend. They loved each other. Both of them were eager to learn all of their subjects with heart and soul. Both were never content with their learning and stepped towards their higher academic pursuits. They made up their mind to leave their native for Innwa, the capital city of up-country, where there were so many scholars in their fields of study in order to carry on their further studies.

Constant Companions in Arms

As they dwelt in a monastery at the foot of the Sagaing Hill over the bank of Innwa, studying hard in peace and tranquility, they met with the lady Shin Saw Pu, a Mon consort of Innwa King, Mohnyinthado (1427-40AD). The consort and the two young monks established symbolic mutual relationship between the Mon nationalities in the foreign land. She was their female donor of the four requisites (monastery, robe, alms-food and medicine) and they became her tutors of religious learning. Then, they also became the confidants of her personal secrets. One day, they all pull heads together confidentially on the present political grounds and made a plan to flee down the Irrawaddy River to Hansavati, Pegu from Innwa. Shin Saw Pu also made a promise to Shin Dhammadhara who was loved her own son...

"My son Dhammadhara, I know very well

that I grow old and I've been neglected by my Innwa King, so I requested you to help me manage to get to Hansavati, my native, and to be able to pay homage to the Dagon Sandawshin Pagoda. If I arrive home safe and sound and if I'm elected Queen of Hamsavati, I can also help you succeed to the throne when I pass away, I promise you."

The consort and the two monks went into a huddle to steal away from Innwa and tried to fulfill her strong desire with zest and zeal without molestation. Her adventurous homeward journey to Hansavati was enough to be composed in a mysterious story.

Carrying the Day in Hamsavati

On her arrival in the flight from Innwa, the lady Shin Saw Pu donated a grand monastery to each of the two monks- the Leik Pyin Monastery to Dhammadhara and the Atulavasa Monastery to Dhammanana. As parrots that were golden on a golden tree, both monks had their days within a short time with the great help of the lady Shin Saw Pu. However, it was Dhammadhara towards whom an excess of her endearment seemed to flow. She was able to seize the royal throne of Hansavati and made a decision to help one of her constant benefactors return to his lay life so as to install the Crown Prince.

Lot and Loss

There has been a pacifying poem "The nature of Things" composed by Anantasuriya, a chief min-

Tun Myint Aung

ister in the kingdom of Bagan under King Naratheinka (C.E.1170-73)....

"Often a man suffers destruction

In order that another man

Might enjoy well-being
Such is the nature of things!"

So prosperity went to Dhammadhara and at the same time, adversity to Dhammanana.

Great Ruler and Patron of Buddhism

Dhammaceti was not only the apple of Queen Shin Saw Pu but also the oasis of the people in Mon Kingdom. He was able to rule over his land in accordance with good administration and judicature by discussing all with his ministers. He also put special efforts into purification and perpetuation of the Theravada Buddhism. However, he was not an extremist of religion. He had to release many plots of land from the compound of the Shwedagone Pagoda having been donated by Queen Shin Saw Pu, his royal mother-in-law, in order to share the land for gardening plants, growing rice and making shelter for the people because he thought that it was wider than enough. However, in return, the gold weighing the total weight of the queen and his was re-gilded to the pagoda.

Moreover, at the

Shwedagon Pagoda stands King Dhammaceti's stone inscription mentioning his religious contributions. It is a solid evidence for history enthusiasts. One of his remarkable contributions was that for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Theravada Buddhism, he together with the Buddhist monks of the three provinces in the kingdom and his ministers assembled at the palace and then deputed two Buddhist missions to Ceylon and there they received afresh their Upasampada (ordination) at the hands of the orthodox monks on the Kalayani River. On the return of the mission, they handed down the process of ordination. Some monks were also sent to India to make some measurements of the original Holy Land of Buddhism in particular the Sattasatta-hathana (seven stations in seven weeks) where the Buddha spent the first seven weeks just after his enlightenment. On their return, he built a model of it near his capital.

It is true that no one is perfect. Dhammaceti was no exception. He had to kill his best friend Dhammanana and his throne-rival Banya Ein, the lord of Pathein. Anyhow, to put it in a nutshell, he was able to contribute to the country to some extent.

The author of this article is a freelance translator, private teacher and independent researcher on History.

Book Section

A bilingual book about Australia just released for English learners.

The title of the book is "Moment of Joy with Grandparents in Campbelltown" authored by Yoon May Myat (Australia) and edited by Sayar Mya.

According to the foreword of Sayar Mya, the book is targeted to students and junior staff members as well as grandparents, moms and dads in addition to grand

kids. Moreover, the book is sure to be instrumental as a basic stepping stone for enthusiastic persons who are desirous and eager to contribute as far as possible in the future at their own manageable scale and pace to the community, the society and the country by using the motley assortment of English books and Internet on nation building affairs. The travelogue is easily readable to all as it is written in Myanmar and English.

As the travel involved Singapore and Australia,

the book is constituted and constructed on actual facts of both the countries.

Since Myanmar citizens are more or less familiar with Singapore, the book just thinly laced in short summary only with (10) tourist attractions and (7) venues worth to be visited.

In featuring Australia, it highlighted the basic infrastructure of New South Wales, reflecting the lifestyle and day to day activities of common public.

The book is currently available at cell phone of Sayar Mya 0950-14721.



Two US states to quarantine health workers returning from Ebola zones

NEW YORK / WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — New York and New Jersey will automatically quarantine medical workers returning from Ebola-hit West African countries and the US government is considering the same step after a doctor who treated patients in Guinea came back infected, officials said on Friday.

The steps announced by the two states, which go beyond the current restrictions being imposed by President Barack Obama's administration on travellers from Liberia, Sierra Leone or Guinea, came as medical detectives tried to retrace the steps in New York City of Dr Craig Spencer, who tested positive for Ebola on Thursday.

The new policy applies to medical workers returning from the region through John F Kennedy International Airport in New York and Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey. In the first instance of the new move, a female healthcare worker who had treated patients in West Africa and arrived at the Newark, New Jersey, airport was ordered into quarantine. She had no symptoms upon arrival at the airport but developed a fever on Friday evening, the New Jersey Health

Department said in a statement. She is now in isolation and being evaluated at University Hospital in Newark. The agency gave no further details.

"Voluntary quarantine is almost an oxymoron," New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said. "We've seen what happens. ... You ride a subway. You ride a bus. You could infect hundreds and hundreds of people."

Cuomo had earlier in the day sought to reassure New Yorkers that the risk of Ebola's spread in the city was limited. He appeared at a news conference to announce the new quarantine policy with the governor of neighbouring New Jersey, Chris Christie, marking a bipartisan teaming of two prominent political figures to act at the state level, independently of the federal government. Cuomo is seen as a rising star in the Democratic Party led by Obama, and Christie, a Republican, is widely discussed as a potential 2016 contender for the White House.

In Washington, Obama also sought to reassure a worried public with an Oval Office hug of Dallas nurse Nina Pham, who was declared Ebola-free on Friday after catching the virus from a Liberian patient who died.—Reuters



A man pushes a rack near the building where Dr Craig Spencer lives while a cleaning crew from "Bio Recovery Corporation" works inside the apartment in New York on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Chinese market extremely important for Croatian tourism

ZAGREB, 25 Oct — The Chinese market is extremely important for Croatia's tourism given the huge numbers of China's annual outbound travellers, Croatian Tourism Minister Darko Lorencin has said. In China, "there is huge number of tourists and they travel not only in top season," he said in a written interview with Xinhua, noting "a constant growth" in Chinese market for Croatia's tourism sector.

To promote Croatia as an all-year-round destination among Chinese travellers, Croatian tourism authorities recently organized a week-long study tour across the

southeastern European country for China's tourist operators.

Shao Yiheng, general manager of China Classical Holiday, a tourist agency, was optimistic that Croatia will become a new destination for Chinese tourists.

In Split, the second largest city of Croatia, Deputy mayor Aida Aatarelo said a sister-city memorandum had been signed between Split and southeastern Chinese city of Hangzhou this month and it would be a new platform to further cooperation, not only between the two cities but between the two countries.

She said split, a historical city

with a number of cultural heritages, saw a 6 percent growth in term of Chinese travellers last year. She expressed hope that Chinese companies would invest in the city's education and tourist sectors.

Zeljko Anicic, manager of Ati tourist agency of Croatia, said he had received an increasing number of Chinese tourists annually since 2010, "but not enough, compared with the number of the Chinese outbound tourists of nearly 100 million in 2013."

Chinese tourists spent 120 billion US dollars abroad last year, and "these are figures we cannot ignore," he said.—Xinhua



A huge euro logo is pictured next to the headquarters of the European Central Bank (ECB) before the bank's monthly news conference in Frankfurt on 7 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

ECB tests find 800-850 million euro shortfall at PTSB

DUBLIN, 25 Oct — European bank stress tests have found that Ireland's permanent tsb (PTSB) had a capital shortfall of 800 million euros (630.14 million pounds) to 850 million euros (669.53 million pounds) at the end of 2013, a source familiar with the process said on Friday.

The shortfall will drop to around 200 million euros (157.54 million pounds) after taking into account the bank's financial actions so far this year plus the potential conversion of 400 million euros of contingent capital notes, known as CoCo bonds, the source added.

Finance Minister Michael Noonan said last week that the 99.2 percent state-owned bank would be able to raise any additional funds it might need from private investors. All other Irish lenders passed the tests, the result of which are to be released on Sunday, the source said.

The smallest and weakest of Ireland's three remaining domestically owned banks, PTSB remains the only loss-making lender.

In the first half of this year, however, it cut its underlying loss by 62 percent to 171 million euros.

Two thirds of PTSB's loan book is made up of expensively funded and loss-making tracker mortgages, which are linked to the European Central Bank's low interest rates.

PTSB, one of European 25 banks that have failed the tests, according to two people familiar with the matter, said it would release a response to the test results on Sunday.

The state-controlled mortgage lender recently sold two portfolios of mortgage loans, which it said improved its regulatory capital position. It has appointed Deutsche Bank to advise on its capital market plans.

In a trading update released after the stock market closed on Friday, PTSB said that it had reduced the amount of money set aside to cover losses on bad loans in the third quarter as it made further progress towards profitability.

PTSB, which forecasts a return to profit across its businesses by 2017, said it expected impairment charges on loans to fall significantly in the second half of the year, allowing it to release some provisions.

"Notwithstanding that the group has maintained a conservative peak-to-trough fall assumption of 55 percent for Irish residential property prices, the group saw a net provision release in the third quarter," the bank said, without specifying the level of provisions it was writing back.

"In future periods this positive trend is anticipated to continue, driven also by improving macroeconomic indicators, particularly the improvement in the residential property prices and reducing levels of unemployment."

The bank said its net interest margin, a key metric that shows how profitable its lending is, was rising steadily, while its mortgages arrears continued to decline and its deposits and its market share of new mortgages were going up.—Reuters



Nina Pham (C), the nurse who was infected with Ebola while caring for a patient from Liberia, attends a news conference in Maryland, the United States, on 24 Oct, 2014. Nina Pham, who contracted Ebola while caring for a patient from Liberia was released from the hospital on Friday, officials at the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) treating her said in Maryland.—XINHUA

Old, cold and bold: Ice Age people dwelled high in Peru's Andes

WASHINGTON, 25 Oct — In a bleak, treeless landscape high in the southern Peruvian Andes, bands of intrepid Ice Age people hunkered down in rudimentary dwellings and withstood frigid weather, thin air and other hardships.

Scientists on Thursday described the world's highest known Ice Age settlements, two archaeological sites about 2.8 miles (4.5 km) above sea level and about 12,000 years old packed with artifacts including a rock shelter, stone tools, animal bones, food remnants and primitive artwork.

"What this tells us is that hunter-gatherers were capable of colonizing a very extreme environment, the high Andes, despite the challenges at the end of the Ice Age," said archaeologist Kurt Rademaker of Germany's University of Tübingen, who led the study published in the journal *Science*.

"And they did so quite successfully. It pushes back the date of initial entry of humans to this kind of elevation."

The sites in an Andean locale called the Pucuncho Basin were occupied by small numbers of people, probably only in the dozens.

"Bands of hunter-gatherers are small and not many could fit into the rock shelter, perhaps just a few families," said University of Maine archaeologist Dan Sandweiss, another of the researchers.

The researchers said the sites show high-altitude human habitation was occurring nearly a millennium earlier than previously known.

"We look at the challenges and we say, 'Why would you do that when you could just live somewhere else?'" Rademaker said. "Whatever reason they initially went up there, there were reasons to stay despite the chal-

lenges."

At that altitude, temperatures averaged 37 degrees Fahrenheit (3 degrees Celsius), solar radiation was high and oxygen was low. But there also were animals like vicuña and guanaco — llama relatives — and taruca deer to hunt, the rock shelter, water in streams, bogs and wetlands, and stone like obsidian to make tools.

The tools included spear points, scrapers for working animal hides and implements for cutting and butchering. "A lot of the stone tools seem to be all about hunting and processing of animals," Rademaker said.

The ceilings of the natural rock shelters were blackened with soot from fires. The researchers found an abundance of animal bones as well as potato-like starchy tubers that apparently were gathered from lower elevations.

There also was art on the walls of the rock shelters including red ochre pictographs of animals, with some entire wall sections painted red.

"We don't know whether they date back to the earliest occupation of the site," Rademaker said.

An open-air site called Pucuncho 14,300 feet (4,355 meters) above sea level yielded hundreds of tools. The Cunchaicha rock shelter featured two alcoves and likely served as a base camp at 14,700 feet (4,480 metres).

Some experts think people need to acquire genetic adaptations over many thousands of years to withstand such altitudes. But the fact that people colonized these sites only about 2,000 years after humans first entered South America may suggest otherwise.

"We have to re-examine that idea," Rademaker said.—Reuters

Int'l Freshwater Dolphin Day: Saving finless porpoise



Photo taken on 22 Oct, 2014 shows the samples of finless porpoise in a museum in the Tongling National Nature Reserve for Freshwater Dolphins in Tongling City, east China's Anhui Province. Friday coincided with the International Freshwater Dolphin Day. The day set in 2010 for the preservation of the freshwater mammal was also claimed by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) as a sad reminder of the recently lost Yangtze white-finned dolphin, known in Chinese as Baiji Dolphin, which is bigger than the finless porpoise. As the Yangtze, the longest river in China, has been turned into a busy shipping waterway and a hydrological power source for hundreds of reservoirs, animal activists warned the finless porpoises may die out within 10 to 15 years, if tough measures are not taken. There are only about 1,040 finless porpoises in the Yangtze and two lakes linked to the waterway, according to a survey in 2012 by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and WWF. However, they are considered "functionally extinct", because water dams and shipping have blocked their travel and the population is too small for the species to reproduce. On 14 October, the Ministry of Agriculture issued a Yangtze finless porpoise protection notice urging local authorities to implement the most restrictive protection measures possible for the finless dolphin. Sources with the agriculture authorities said rescuers are expected to displace dolphins to safe havens whenever the mammal is found and rescued in the wild.—XINHUA



Cunchaicha rock shelter in Peruvian Andes is shown in this handout image released on 22 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Google's Pichai to oversee major products and services

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Oct — Google Inc Chief Executive Officer Larry Page has put Sundar Pichai, one of his key lieutenants, in charge of the Internet company's products.

The India-born executive will have oversight over products such as search, maps, Google+, commerce, advertising and infrastructure, according to a Google spokesman. Six executives who previously reported to Page, including the heads of research, social media and search, will now report to Pichai, according to Re/code, which first reported the change on Friday, citing an internal memo.

The change will free Page

from having as many direct reports and product units to oversee so that he can better focus on "the bigger picture," according to the Re/code report, which also cited anonymous sources.

YouTube, Google's popular video website, will be unaffected by the new structure and will continue to report directly to Page.

The move puts Pichai, 42, in charge of many of Google's main services, including its core search and advertising units, which generate the bulk of the company's revenue.

Google, the world's No1 Internet search engine, has experienced several high-level management changes this year.



Sundar Pichai, senior vice president at Google, speaks during a Google event at Dogpatch Studio in San Francisco, California, on 24 July, 2013.—REUTERS

Chief Business Officer Nikesh Arora departed unexpectedly in July to become Vice Chairman of Japan's SoftBank Corp and was replaced by longtime Google executive Omid Kordestani. Vic Gundotra, the head of Google's social networking services, left in April.

Pichai, who has risen rapidly through the ranks since joining Google in 2004, is viewed by many industry insiders as potential CEO material. In addition to his duties overseeing the various products, Pichai will continue to lead Google's Android and Chrome software operating systems as well as Google's Apps business.—Reuters

Suspicious powder sent to western consulates in Istanbul

ISTANBUL, 25 Oct — Packets of an unidentified yellow powder were sent to five western consulates in Istanbul on Friday, officials said, prompting security alerts following two militant attacks in Canada this week.

Consulates of the United States, Canada, France, Germany and Belgium received suspicious packages, the officials said. It was not immediately clear what the powder was and Turkish officials said results of tests on them were due on Monday.

Sixteen people were hospitalised as a precaution from three different embassies, including 10 from

the Canadian consulate, the Turkish Ministry of Health said in a statement. A hospital treating the Canadians said the Consul General was among them.

One Canadian consulate employee came into direct contact with the package and six others had indirect exposure, Turkey's disaster management agency AFAD said in a statement.

German and Belgian consular staff were also being monitored in hospital, the Ministry of Health added.

A US Embassy spokesman confirmed the Consul General had received a "suspicious" envelope con-



A member of the Turkey's disaster management agency (AFAD) waits in front of the German Consulate in Istanbul on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

taining a powder, but said it was dealt with according to security protocols and the consulate remained open.

Istanbul's governor

later confirmed the French consulate had also received a similar package.

Teams decontaminated the Canadian and Bel-

gium consulates and were working on cleaning the German mission, AFAD spokesman Dogan Eskinat said. Other consulates and embassies were reviewing their security arrangements.

"There was a package with some yellow powder, suspicious, that was sent to the Canadian mission in Istanbul, it was sent to a number of other foreign missions," Canada's foreign affairs minister John Baird said in Ottawa.

"Out of an abundance of caution we've closed the mission until we can ensure the safety of all our employees."

Canadian consulates

and embassies overseas have been on heightened alert this week after two attacks in Canada.

Michael Zehaf-Bibeau, 32, a Canadian citizen and convert to Islam, shot and killed a soldier stationed at the National War Memorial in Ottawa on Wednesday before running into the nearby parliament buildings. He was killed by guards in a flurry of gunfire.

Two days earlier, Martin Rouleau, a 25-year-old convert to Islam, drove over two Canadian soldiers in Quebec, killing one, police said. He also was shot dead by security officers.

Reuters

Canada vows tougher laws as citizens worry in face of attacks

OTTAWA/HAMILTON, 25 Oct — Canada vowed on Friday to toughen laws against terrorism in ways that critics say may curtail civil liberties as a country that prides itself on its openness mourned the second soldier this week killed by homegrown radicals.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper joined a crowd at the National War Memorial in Ottawa to mark the death of Corporal Nathan Cirillo, who was shot by a troubled and drug-addicted convert to Islam on Wednesday while on ceremonial guard at the memorial in the centre of the country's capital.

Behind the sombre scenes, Harper and his Conservative colleagues scrambled to beef up anti-terrorism legislation that was already in the works before the attacks. An opinion poll

showed a majority of Canadians lacked confidence in their security services' ability to deter homegrown threats.

Investigators said there was no apparent link between the two attackers — one killed a soldier in Quebec and the other killed Cirillo in Ottawa, before they themselves were shot dead — but Canadians worried about the parallels between them.

Police said both were Canadian citizens who had been radicalized, a term the government uses to refer to Canadians who become supporters of militant groups such as Islamic State.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said the government would act swiftly to toughen security laws and would go beyond the terms of a bill to strengthen the

powers of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service spy agency that was already being drafted before this week's incidents.

"We're looking ... to see if there is a way in fact to improve or build on those elements of the Criminal Code that allow for pre-emptive action, specifically in the area of terrorism," MacKay told reporters in Brampton, Ontario. A government source said legislation to be introduced next week on the spy agency would be largely unchanged from the bill that was being prepared before Wednesday's Ottawa attack. The government will put forward more measures later, the source said, and they will include wider powers to address security threats in the wake of the attacks.—Reuters

Pakistani women hold placards during a rally to mark World Polio Day in eastern Pakistan's Lahore on 24 Oct, 2014. World Health Organization said on Friday that three more polio cases have surfaced in Pakistan, bringing the number of new cases to 220, a record figure that authorities blame on attacks by insurgents targeting vaccination teams.—XINHUA



Terror attack in Egypt kills 33, strongly condemned by UN

CAIRO, 25 Oct — Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has declared a three-month state of emergency in parts of northern Sinai Peninsula after at least 33 people were killed in an attack against a military checkpoint.

The measure would take effect at 5 am (0300 GMT) Saturday, the presidency said on Friday night in a statement following an emergency meeting of the National Security Council.

The president also announced a three-day national mourning starting Saturday, and ordered a curfew between 5 pm (1500 GMT) Friday and 7 am (0500 GMT) Saturday in areas near Egypt's borders with Israel and the Gaza Strip.

"The army and the police will take all necessary measures to tackle the dangers of terrorism, to preserve the security of the region and protect the lives of civilians," according to a statement issued after the meeting.

The Rafah crossing, the Gaza Strip's only non-Israeli access to the

outside world, has been closed, the state-run Nile TV reported.

No group has claimed responsibility for the suicide car bombing attack, one of the deadliest single attacks against the armed forces in Egypt. The attack also left 28 people wounded. Security officials told Xinhua that the death toll was expected to increase because some of the injured soldiers were in severe condition.

State TV channels have marked the top left corner of its screen with a black line as a sign of mourning.

The UN Security Council on Friday condemned "in the strongest terms" the deadly terrorist attack, saying "any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable."

"Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security, and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivation, wherever and whenever and by whom-

soever committed," the Security Council said in a statement.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon also on Friday strongly condemned the terrorist attack.

"The secretary-general extends his deep condolences to the families of the victims and the government of Egypt, and hopes for the quick and full recovery of the wounded," said a statement issued by Ban's spokesman.

This week saw several terrorist attacks. A bomb went off outside Cairo University on Wednesday, leaving at least 10 people injured. On Sunday, seven soldiers were killed and four others injured in an explosion that hit their vehicle in Arish city in northern Sinai. Assaults on security personnel and premises have been growing since the ouster of former President Mohamed Morsi by the military in July 2013 and the following massive crackdown on his supporters, which left about 1,000 of them killed and thousands more arrested.

Xinhua



Bolivia's President Evo Morales (2nd, R) attends the presentation of the first batch of silver ingot production at the Karachipampa silver and lead foundry in Potosi, Bolivia, on 24 Oct, 2014.—XINHUA

Female researcher writes picture book about eel's life



Mari Kuroki, an assistant professor at the University of Tokyo, holds her picture book titled "Japanese Eel called U-chan" in Tokyo in this undated photo. The book depicts the life of an eel, whose mode of life is little known despite the fear of its extinction, in a way even elementary school children can understand.
KYODO NEWS

TOKYO, 25 Oct — A 35-year-old female researcher who frets about the threat of extinction facing the Japanese eel has produced a picture book to boost children's interest in the creature not just as an item on the dinner table but also as a living species.

Mari Kuroki, assistant professor at the University of Tokyo, published the book titled "Unagi no U-chan — Daiboken" (The Adventure of a Japanese Eel called U-chan) to provide a glimpse into the still mysterious life of the Japanese eel.

"Presenting scientifically accurate information with a limited number of letters so elementary school children can understand was even more chal-

lenging than writing a doctoral thesis," said Kuroki, who earned a PhD in eel research.

It took about four years to complete the book.

"The ecology of Japanese eels is amazingly interesting, but many people in Japan apparently see them only on the dining table," she said. "I would be happy if my book can help more people develop an interest in eels as a wild creature, even if only slightly."

Kuroki's book features a female eel that was born in waters far to the south of Japan and swam up a Japanese river, living there until returning south a decade later to lay eggs.

Kuroki was born in Kanoya, Kagoshima Prefecture, in southwestern

Japan.

After graduating from Hokkaido University, Kuroki studied tropical eels at the University of Tokyo under Katsumi Tsukamoto, an eminent eel researcher who was then professor at the university and is now at Nihon University.

She has also made field trips in the Pacific Ocean in search of eel eggs and larvae.

On one trip to Fiji, Kuroki caught an eel that was nearly 1 metre in length and came close to being bitten by it.

"Since there were only a few female researchers back then, I found it quite inconvenient and uncomfortable to be traveling for an extended period of time on a boat (mostly with

men)," she said. "But once I get off the boat, I soon felt the urge to go back."

"I am hoping to do more research on tropical eels, too," Kuroki said.

In June, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, or IUCN, included the Japanese eel on a red list of species at risk of extinction, citing overfishing, destruction of habitats and other reasons.

"The Japanese eel should be a strong species and it isn't so difficult to grow juvenile ones," Kuroki said. "I believe that if restrictions (on eel catching) are a bit tightened, the eels would show resilience."

Kyodo News

UN gives Benin 6.4 mln USD to fight gender based violence

COTONOU, 25 Oct — The UN has given Benin's government 6.4 million US dollars to fund a programme aimed at eliminating gender based violence and promote human rights, an official source has said.

The agreement was signed on Friday in Cotonou by Benin's Development Minister Marcel de Souza and the coordinator of the UN System in Benin Madam Sorgho Mounier.

"We at the UN System believe that girls and women should not continue to suffer just because of their gender," Mounier said.

A study carried out recently by Benin's Family ministry in partnership with technical and financial partners has revealed the extent of gender based violence in the country.

"At least 69 percent of women have suffered from gender based violence once in their life. The violence included injuries, beating, excision, illegal confinement and sexual harassment," the study revealed.

The same study revealed that 88.1 percent of young girls in Benin are subjected to beating, 87.1 percent have been subjected to injurious situations, 7.2 percent to illegal confinement, 2.8 percent to excision and 1.4 percent of those aged between 2 to 14 years have been subjected to sexual harassment and rape.

Xinhua

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Napoleon's two-cornered hat up for grabs at French auction

PARIS, 25 Oct — Rarely have a man and his hat been so linked in the collective imagination as Napoleon and his black, two-cornered hat.

Next month, a "bicorne" felt hat thought to have belonged to the French emperor will be up for auction in Fontainebleau in what the auctioneer calls the "sale of a century" for fans of the legendary leader.

Nearly 1,000 objects will be put on sale by auction house Osenat on 15 and 16 November, with the highlight being one of the iconic black hats said to have been worn by Napoleon during the Battle of Marengo in Italy in 1800.

"Napoleon and his hat is one and the same," auctioneer Jean-Pierre Osenat told Reuters TV. "There is no other object in France's history that is more symbolic of the person it represents." His trademark look was not accidental, Osenat added.

In the early 19th century, such bicorne hats were worn with the corners

pointing front and back, but Napoleon, "to make himself noticed", changed the angle, Osenat said, wearing his with the points facing the sides.

During the 15 years of the empire, Napoleon went through about 120 hats, usually supplied by the Poupart & Cie company, located in what is now known as the Palais-Royal in Paris, and costing about 60 francs.

"Napoleon always had 12 hats in use, each would last three years and were replaced at the rate of four per year," reads the catalog. "As he didn't like new hats, he had them broken in by Constant (his valet)."

About 20 to 30 of the hats are still in existence, most in the collection of museums.

Estimated at 300,000-400,000 euros (\$379,900-\$506,500), the hat to be auctioned is in excellent condition, still retaining its lining of gray-green silk.

The hat fell into possession of the head veterinary surgeon at the Imperial stables at the beginning



The black felt two-cornered hat belonging to French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte (L) is displayed near clothes belonging to his son Napoleon II, known as the Roi de Rome, at the Osenat auction house in Paris on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

of the 19th century. It was then sold at Paris' famous Drouot auction house in 1926 and acquired by the royal family of Monaco.

The great grandfather of Prince Albert of Monaco, head of the centuries-old House of Grimaldi, was a devoted Napoleonic collector. In the 1960s, the family created a museum, whose objects are

now being auctioned to make room for one focusing on the family's history, Osenat said.

The auction also includes portraits of Napoleon, tricolour military sashes and medals, marble and bronze busts and statues of the emperor and other objects including Napoleon's gloves, razor and pocket watch.

The collection even includes a white shirt worn by Napoleon at Sainte-Helene, estimated at 30,000-40,000 euros, and a pair of his white silk stockings, estimated at 4-5,000 euros. Despite the size and breadth of the collection, Osenat said for Napoleon admirers — and for auctioneers — "the absolute top is to have a hat".—Reuters

Three die after being administered hepatitis C drug

TOKYO, 25 Oct — The health ministry said on Friday three people have died after taking the hepatitis C drug Sovriad, and it has ordered the distributor to revise the drug packaging to say usage should stop when indicated by a patient blood test.

The ministry also

ordered the maker and distributor, Janssen Pharmaceutical K K, to notify doctors and hospitals in writing of the change.

The package insert already warns of possible deterioration of liver function from use of the drug, known generically as Simeprevir Sodium.

The ministry directed the packaging also say usage should be discontinued if a blood test indicates certain abnormalities. According to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, taking the drug will increase "bilirubin" by decomposing hemoglobin in the blood and may aggravate dysfunction

of the liver and kidney.

Three patients in their 40s to 60s who were taking the drug died in connection with such symptoms, it said. Since the drug was put on sale last December, about 19,000 people in Japan had used it by the end of September.

Kyodo News

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE: Weather is generally fair in the North Bay and partly cloudy in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 26th October, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, isolated in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Southern Shan, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

MPs slam police over Cliff Richard house search



Singer Cliff Richard

LONDON, 25 Oct — The search of Cliff Richard's house by police investigating allegations of child sex crimes, which was broadcast live on television, was "inept" and caused "irreparable damage" to the British singer's reputation, lawmakers said on Friday.

Officers raided the home of Richard, 74, one of Britain's best-known entertainers, in August, with the search carried out in the glare of BBC cameras after the broadcaster was given advance warning.

Richard has denied any wrongdoing over the allegations, which date back to the 1980s and involve an underage boy. He has been interviewed under caution by police, but neither arrested nor charged.

The singer was on holiday when the raid was carried out and in a report, parliament's Home Affairs Committee criticised what it said was the unnecessary public nature of the police action.

"South Yorkshire Police's handling of this situation was utterly inept," said the committee's chairman Keith Vaz.

"Sir Cliff Richard has suffered enormous and irreparable damage to his reputation and he is owed an apology over the way matters were handled. We are not surprised that he wishes to sell his home."—Reuters

Beyonce, Jay Z renew wedding vows after six years of marriage

LONDON, 25 Oct — Hollywood star couple Beyonce Knowles and Jay Z have reportedly renewed their wedding vows, six years after their marriage.

The ceremony, which took place during their tour of Europe where they were playing their On The Run tour, was said to be tiny and low key, reported the *Daily Mirror*.

"Things have been difficult for them but they have worked through it. Now things are better than ever for them," a source said about the Beyonce, 33, and Jay Z, who have a two-



Hollywood star couple Beyonce Knowles and Jay Z

year-old daughter, Blue Ivy.

"Their friends and families are now delighted that there has been a very happy ending to this whole

sorry scenario. Both Beyonce and Jay-Z have put a lot of work into their marriage and it has paid off. They are both over the moon," the source

added.

The pair's marriage found itself in trouble when a video of Beyonce's sister Solange attacking rap king Jay Z, 44, in a New York lift back in May went viral.

Footage of them arguing was leaked, but things became so nasty, Solange also tried to kick and hit her brother-in-law.

Fans were shocked and R'n'B's golden couple found their marriage under staunch pressure. Rumours became rife that they would split following the end of their tour last month, however in public the pair always maintained their relationship was strong.—PTI



Keira Knightley to appear on Broadway in 2015 in 'Therese Raquin'

NEW YORK, 25 Oct — British actress Keira Knightley will make her Broadway debut next year in a new adaptation of "Therese Raquin," based on the novel by Emile Zola.

Knightley, who was nominated for a best actress Oscar in 2006 for her performance in "Pride & Prejudice," will begin previews of the play commissioned by Roundabout Theatre Company next year on 1 October, with the official opening set for 29 October.

The 29-year-old star made her theatrical debut in London's West End in 2009 in "The Misanthrope" and more recently appeared in Lillian Hellman's "The Children's Hour."

The full cast for "Therese Raquin," which is about a woman trapped in a loveless marriage who begins a passionate affair with her husband's friend, will be announced shortly.

The play will be the first production in the 50th anniversary season of the Roundabout Theatre Company.—Reuters

TLC cancels reality TV programme 'Here Comes Honey Boo Boo'

LOS ANGELES, 25 Oct — Cable television network TLC on Friday said it has cancelled "Here Comes Honey Boo Boo," the popular cable reality series, about a rural Georgia family and their precocious beauty pageant daughter.

TLC, owned by Discovery Communications Inc, did not explain why it was cancelling the show but said in a statement that "supporting the health and welfare of these remarkable children is our only priority. TLC is faithfully committed to the children's ongoing comfort and well-being."

June Shannon, the mother of Alana "Honey Boo Boo" Thompson, 9, on Friday denied a report the previous day on celebrity website TMZ.com that she was in a relationship with a convicted child molester. Efforts to contact a lawyer for the man were unsuccessful.

In a video posted on Facebook, Shannon said she hadn't seen the man cited by TMZ in a decade. "I would not ever, ever put my kids in danger," Shannon said. "That is my past," she added.

Reuters could not independently verify the TMZ report.

"Here Comes Honey Boo Boo," which began airing in 2012, follows Alana as well as her father and Shannon's three other daughters in rural McIntyre, Georgia.—Reuters

BRUSSELS, 25 Oct — Belgian composer Nicholas Lens and Australian rocker Nick Cave have joined forces to create an opera marking the centenary of World War One, depicting the horrors of the conflict through the eyes of soldiers, deserters, a nurse and an orphan.

"Shell Shock" debuted at La Monnaie opera house in Brussels on Friday, with eight further performances in the coming days, all but one of them sold out.

It depicts neither great battles nor heroism — instead it focuses on the traumatic effects war has on individuals.

Cave's libretto is organized into 12 songs, or cantos, each focusing on one participant in the war. It is also littered with expletives.

Best known for his time as lead singer of alternative rock band Bad Seeds, Cave said he struggled with the subject matter and the problem of



Opera singers and dancers perform on stage during a rehearsal of "Shell Shock", an opera marking the centenary of World War One, at La Monnaie Theatre in Brussels on 17 Oct, 2014, in this handout courtesy of La Monnaie.—REUTERS

expressing the feelings of soldiers at war.

"What do I know about killing a man or seeing a friend die," Cave wrote in the programme notes. "At the end it was a battle between me, the keyboard and my imagination."

At the opera's start, the auditorium is plunged into darkness only to be awak-

ened by the wailing of the choir as the curtain pulls up and a war cemetery appears under faint light.

The individual scenes are interspersed by modern dance routines by Belgian company Eastman, the dancers at times joining to form a heroic statue and at other times convulsing on the floor of an infirmary.

'Shell Shock' opera brings trauma of World War One to stage

Lens's music is not always melodic but uses the orchestra to paint the scenes, such as light wind instruments accompanying the lamentation of an abandoned orphan in the final scene.

It takes a surreal turn in the dramatic canto of the Angels of Death with high-pitched voices shrieking "I am the angel of death, I catch breath", followed by repeated expletives.

The deserter's canto begins: "My mother's in the laundry crying from the shame. My father would have preferred I took a bullet in the brain."

Perhaps most striking words are those of a survivor, who, back with his family, cannot shake the horrifying memories of battle.

"Sometimes I think my wife wished I'd died," he sings.

Reuters

World War One bombs a part of life in Belgium even 100 years on



A World War One cemetery is seen near the city of Ypres on 13 March, 2014. — REUTERS

YPRES, (Belgium), 25 Oct — Pondfarm in western Belgium is used to digging up an unusual crop.

"It's a fairly poor harvest," said Stijn Butaye, 26, as he looked at a haul of 28 World War One shells unearthed with potatoes and beet in the last two weeks and awaiting collection by Belgium's bomb disposal

squad. The 40-hectare (100 acre) Butaye family farm sits where — 100 years ago — advancing German forces pounded British lines, eventually setting up a base with a hospital and an aid station in two large fortified bunkers. Belgian farmers who returned to the muddied battlefields after the war mostly just filled in the trenches and

got back to work.

Butaye's grandfather sought in the 1960s to blow up the German bunkers he despised, but Butaye himself has developed such a love for war memorabilia he has unearthed over the past decade that he has set up his own museum.

It is quite a haul: dozens of bottles, shells, two

British rifles, a helmet and, at the entrance, the end section of an early British tank with metal tread and a book signed by visitors from as far away as Canada, South Africa and Australia.

"It is a hobby that has got a bit out of hand," confesses Butaye. Centenary commemorations this year have spiked international interest particularly in the Ypres area, which saw some of the heaviest fighting and is now dotted with war cemeteries.

Some 65 million soldiers mobilized for the Great War, around 9 million were killed, 20 million injured and nearly 7 million taken prisoner. Belgium will hold ceremonies on 28 October to mark the 100th anniversary of the First Battle of Ypres and the flooding of the Yser plain at Nieuwpoort — events that blocked the German advance and set up almost four years of trench warfare. —Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(26-10-2014, Sunday)

- 6:00 am**
- * Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 7:00 am**
- * News / Weather Report
- 7:20 am**
- * MRTV's Youth Programme,
- 8:00 am**
- * News / International News
- 8:30 am**
- * Amazing World
- 9:00 am**
- * News / International News
- 10:00 am**
- * News
- 12:00 noon**
- * News/ International News/ Weather Report
- 12:30 pm**
- * Round up of the Week's International News
- 12:45 pm**
- * Myanmar Movie
- 3:15 pm**
- * Mono Classical Songs
- 4:30 pm**
- * University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) - First Years (Myanmar)
- 5:15 pm**
- * Sing & Enjoy
- 6:00 pm**
- * News/ Weather Report
- 7:00 pm**
- * News
- 8:00 pm**
- * News / International News / Weather Report
- 8:35 pm**
- * Documentary (Woman in Myanmar Society)
- 9:00 pm**
- * News
- * Tamyethnar Takwetsar

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- * Local News
- * Making of Nawarat Rings
- * World News
- * Today Myanmar "Fast-food Franchise: Lotteria"
- * Local News
- * U Kyaw Thu: From Artist to Philanthropist (Part- II)
- * World News
- * Young Talent "Animator Swan Thura Htun"
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- * Local News
- * Myanmar Charitable Labour Association
- * World News
- * Distinguished Myanmar Lady "Kyin Po"
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Toys... for your eye-catching
- * World News
- * "Myanmar's Beauty and Nature" Beach

'Babyface' Gallardo rejuvenates Argentine game

BUENOS AIRES, 25 Oct — Marcelo 'Babyface' Gallardo made his River Plate and Argentina debuts at 17 and is now making waves as a young coach in the tough Argentine first division.

When Gallardo's River team visit Atletico Rafaela on Sunday they will be defending a 19-match unbeaten run in all competitions achieved during his first 100 days at the helm since he took charge at the

beginning of the season.

They are unbeaten in a total of 27 matches since April.

River are four points clear at the top of the championship with 28 points from 12 matches, and have reached the quarter-finals of the regional Copa Sudamericana after completing a 5-1 aggregate victory over Paraguay's Libertad on Wednesday.

Gallardo inherited the team as champions

from Ramon Diaz but they have improved under the 38-year-old, who is among several young coaches breathing new life into the Argentine game.

Reuters

Argentina's River Plate coach Marcelo Gallardo is pictured during their Copa Sudamericana soccer match against Paraguay's Libertad in Asuncion on 16 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS



Vienna inaugurates monument to World War Two deserters

VIENNA, 25 Oct — Austria inaugurated a monument on Friday to thousands of its nationals who deserted Hitler's army during World War Two, marking a new step in efforts to acknowledge the nation's wartime past.

Germany annexed Austria in 1938, making it part of Hitler's Third Reich that wrought destruction across the continent and slaughtered millions of Jews in the Holocaust.

The Nazi military justice system executed thousands of deserters and opponents of the war effort.

Austria's parliament voted in 2009 — over the objections of far-right parties — to clear the reputations of those who met disdain and abuse for refusing

to follow the Nazi line.

"If they were the good ones in Hitler's army, then we deserters were of course the evil ones, the bad ones that you could take action against," said activist Richard Wadani, 92, one of those who deserted.

Austrian President Heinz Fischer said it was outrageous for people to have been treated this way in a democratic post-war Austria. "This is something for which one has to apologise and be ashamed," he said.

Austria — which has been struggling to escape a reputation for glossing over its wartime history — for decades maintained that it was Hitler's first victim, overlooking the enthusiastic welcome he got from many

Austrians.

The monument, designed by German artist Olaf Nicolai, depicts a three-level form in the shape of an X, meant to symbolize the plight of the individual pitted against society's power.

It stands in the Ballhausplatz in central Vienna, near the presidency and chancellery.

Seen from above, an inscription carved into the monument spells out "all alone".

Despite criticism from some veterans that not all deserters deserve to be honoured, other monuments to soldiers who laid down their arms and fled have already been erected in Austria and Germany.

Reuters



People surround the memorial for 'Victims of Nazi Military Justice' during the inauguration ceremony in front of Hofburg Palace in Vienna on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Mourinho is a very Special One, says Van Gaal

MANCHESTER, 25 Oct — Louis van Gaal says the visit of Jose Mourinho and his Chelsea side to Old Trafford on Sunday will be extra special for the Manchester United manager as he greets his “modest” former apprentice.

The pair have maintained a close relationship since former Barcelona boss Van Gaal gave the self-styled ‘Special One’ some early coaching opportunities as the Portuguese worked under him for three years at the Nou Camp.

The Dutchman says he is not surprised at Mourinho’s emergence as one of the world’s best managers and feels privileged to have played a part in his development.

“I knew already he had talent because I let him do Catalunya Cup matches for me instead of my other assistants,” Van Gaal told a news conference on Fri-



Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho

day ahead of the visit of the Premier League leaders.

“But to see that he’s such a wonderful coach and won in different countries, all championships, I think it’s fantastic.

“He has said (he learned from me) and it’s remarkable because in the football world not many people are talking about that. He says it is not only about Louis van Gaal but also (former Barca manager) Bobby Robson. I appre-

ciate that but you always do it by yourself.

“He is very special for me because I’ve worked with him and we’ve continued our relationship which in the football world is not always normal,” added the Dutchman. “He is a very modest and emotional human being and I like that.”

The pair have only clashed once before in a competitive game when Mourinho’s Inter Milan beat Van Gaal’s Bayern

Munich 2-0 in the 2010 Champions League final.

Hosting his former assistant on Sunday will be another difficult task for the United boss with Chelsea in devastating form, dropping only two points from their opening eight games to open up a five-point gap on nearest rivals Manchester City.

In contrast Van Gaal has endured a stuttering league start since taking over in the close season, with his side in sixth place in the table and 10 points adrift of Mourinho’s men.

“Jose has worked more than one year already with his team and last year they didn’t win any prizes so you have to build up and he has built up Chelsea,” said the Dutchman.

“They are playing like a team and I want my team to do that as well but to play for 90 minutes.”

United have been handed a boost with British transfer record signing Angel Di Maria deemed fit to face Chelsea.

The Argentina winger limped off when his team snatched a 2-2 draw at West Bromwich Albion on Monday but Van Gaal said he had trained ahead of Sunday’s match.

Reuters

Williams beats Wozniacki in three-set thriller to reach WTA final



Serena Williams of the US celebrates her win over Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark during their WTA Finals singles semi-finals tennis match at the Singapore Indoor Stadium on 25 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

SINGAPORE, 25 Oct — Serena Williams regained her composure after smashing her racquet and being on the brink of defeat to beat Caroline Wozniacki 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (6) on Saturday and reach the title match at the WTA Finals. The best of friends off the court, the pair slugged it out like two prizefighters for more than two hours until Williams delivered the killer blow to end a contest filled with drama and escalating tension.

The world number one looked to be on the ropes after losing the first set and smashing her racquet in frustration, then falling 5-4 behind in the third set.

But Wozniacki, who lost to Williams in last month’s US Open final, failed to serve out the match and the American made her pay, winning the tie-breaker.

Williams remains on course to win the elite season-ending championship for the third year in a row.

She will play either Simona Halep or Agnieszka Radwanska in Sunday’s final at Singapore’s National Indoor Stadium.—Reuters

Serbia get walkover v Albania, three points docked

BERNE, 25 Oct — Serbia have been awarded a 3-0 walkover against Albania for last week’s abandoned Euro 2016 qualifier but they have also been docked three points, UEFA said on Friday.

Serbia have been ordered to play their next two home games in Group I behind closed doors, while both teams have been fined 100,000 euros (78,726 British pounds) European soccer’s governing body added. Both sides said they had been treated unfairly and would appeal the decision.

The match, played on 14 October with no away fans permitted, was interrupted when a flag depicting so-called Greater Albania, an area covering all parts of the Balkans where ethnic Albanians live, was flown over the pitch by a remote-controlled drone.

Serbian player Stefan Mitrovic grabbed the flag at the Partizan stadium, prompting an angry reaction from the Albania team.

A brawl broke out after several Albanian players snatched the flag from Mitrovic and then had to run for cover into the tunnel as the invading home fans attacked them.

Riot police moved in when about a dozen fans



Albanian soccer fans protest near the Serbian Embassy in Tirana on 16 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

invaded the pitch and attacked the Albanian players, forcing them to retreat into the tunnel as flares were thrown from the terraces. The match was abandoned with the score at 0-0. The Albanian federation (FHSF), rejecting the official charge of “refusing to play”, said UEFA’s ruling had overlooked the situation inside the stadium.

“There FHSF has no responsibility for the entrance of the drone and banner into the Partizan Stadium. Security is a liability of the organizer.

“The FHSF cannot be responsible for lack of security in the Serbian territory inside and outside the stadium.

“There is clear medical evidence that Albania players were, physically and mentally, unable to play due to injuries stemming

from the violence of the home supporters entering the pitch... The pitch remained unsafe.”

“The Albanian players were never notified that the official had decided to resume the match.”

The Serbian FA (FSS), officially charged by UEFA over the “the setting off/throwing of fireworks and missiles, crowd disturbance, field invasion by supporters, insufficient organisation and use of a laser pointer”, also protested.

“We have the impression that the FSS is a constant target of newly-discovered punitive measures, for as far as we know it is an unprecedented measure to deduct points from a team who have at the same time been awarded a walkover win,” said the FSS in a statement.

Reuters

Coric stuns Nadal in Basel, Federer through

BASEL, (Switzerland), 25 Oct — Croatian wunderkind Borna Coric offered emphatic proof of his potential when he crushed Rafa Nadal in the Swiss Indoor tournament on Friday before local hero Roger Federer cruised into the last four.

The 17-year-old Coric, already being called ‘Baby Djokovic’ because of similarities with world number one Novak Djokovic, gave an off-colour Nadal a torrid time, winning 6-2, 7-6 (4).

The Spaniard, who has appendicitis and later announced he would not play at the Paris Masters next week or season-ending ATP World Tour Finals in London next month, was unrecognizable in the first set as he offered little resistance, losing the opening five games.

Nadal’s timing improved marginally in the second but twice Coric served to stay in the set and he then held his nerve when



Roger Federer of Switzerland

a loose forehand from his opponent gave him two match points. Coric needed only one of them, forcing a weary Nadal to send a defensive forehand wide.

Top seed Federer, looking for a sixth Basel title, beat Bulgaria’s Grigor Dimitrov 7-6 (4), 6-2 in a much more even contest.

The world number two edged a first set lasting nearly an hour and then turned up the heat as he marched to victory.

Federer faces big-serv-

ing Ivo Karlovic in the semi-finals after the Croat beat Germany’s Benjamin Becker 6-4, 6-4 with the help of 19 aces.

Should Federer, 33, win the title on Sunday he would move to within 500 points of Djokovic and keep alive his hopes of returning to the top of the rankings.

Coric will play in-form Belgian David Goffin who caused a surprise by beating Canada’s Milos Raonic in three sets.—Reuters