

President has telephone conversation with Obama

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, had a telephone conversation with Mr Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, in the evening of 30th October 2014.

During the tele-

phone conversation, the two Presidents discussed about President Obama's visit to Myanmar to attend the 2nd ASEAN-US Summit and 9th East Asia Summit. They also held discussions on the ongoing political and economic reforms in Myanmar, Myanmar Government's

efforts in nationwide ceasefire and peace making process, development works in Rakhine State, cooperation between Myanmar and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and 2015 General Elections to be held in Myanmar.

President U Thein Sein welcomed and expressed appreciations to President Obama for reaffirming the United States' firm commitment to continue supporting in democratization and, political and economic reforms of Myanmar.—MNA

Presidential Scholarship Programme attracts candidates close to 5,000

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov—The programme called Presidential Scholarship Awards has received nearly 5,000 application forms from local students applying for three levels of education, officials say.

The programme saw 658 students at the undergraduate level, 1,848 students at the postgraduate level and 2,376 students at the doctoral level.

All the candidates are required to take assessment tests from 6 to 12 December in six places. The Yangon examination centre is for candidates from Yangon Region, Taninthary Region, Bago Region, Ayeyawady Region and Rakhine State.

The Mandalay examination centre is for candidates from Nay Pyi Taw, Mandalay Region and Kachin State. The Magway

examination centre is for candidates from Magway Division. The Monywa examination centre is for candidates from Sagaing Region and Chin State. The Taunggyi examination centre is for candidates from Shan State and Kayah State. The Mawlamyine examination centre is for candidates from Mon State and Kayin State.

Supported by the British Council, a computerized test system called Aptis Test will be employed in the assessment tests.

The time allowance for the computer-based tests will be 25 minutes for grammar and vocabulary, 30 minutes for reading, 50 minutes for listening, 50 minutes plus 30 minutes for writing, and 12 minutes for speaking.

MNA

Yangon plans to establish traffic control centre with installation of computerized traffic signals

By Ye Myint

YANGON, 1 Nov—Yangon City Development

Committee is planning to establish a traffic control centre with the installation of 50 computerized traffic

signals in Yangon, Mayor U Hla Myint said at a workshop on public transport facilitation on Saturday.

The information was released at the workshop that included roundtable (See page 3)



Photo shows five-road Tamwe Junction where computerized traffic signals will be installed soon, YCDC said. —PHOTO: YE MYINT

Locals believe share prices of Thilawa SEZ projected to rise

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 1 Nov—“Share prices of the first Myanmar's Thilawa Spe-

cial Economic Zone are projected to rise,” shareholder Bo Hla Win, who

owns 10 shares of Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Ltd., (MTSH), said Saturday, adding that the project is believed to

produce successful outcomes.

MTSH, the largest public company in Myanmar, with about 18,000

public shareholders, was registered in May, 2013. The firm sold shares worth K21.45 billion (41 per cent of total shares) to the public, U Win Aung, chairman of the company, said at the first annual general meeting of MTSH in Yangon, adding share registration services are now available in the head office of the company.

A 60-year-old retired investor who holds K500,000 worth of shares said, “It is estimated there are a few numbers of share players at the service cen-

tre as the majority of people bought shares for the long run”.

Zin Mar, who has 20 shares, urged people to buy more shares even at higher prices, expressing her view that share prices are unlikely to fall.

“MTSH BOD decided to develop the Residential and Commercial Zone in Thilawa SEZ through purchasing of 35 hectares as JV company, Myanmar Japan Thilawa Development Co., Ltd. It is situated between the main access corridor to Thilawa SEZ and Thilawa Reservoir making it a prime location for urban development,” said U Thein Han, a director of MTSH.

Concept master planning has been completed and further detailed (See page 3)



Thilawa SEZ-A being developed on 189 hectares of land is 44 % complete and expected to finish next June.
PHOTO: MTSH

New asphalt streets put into service in Thabyegon of Zabuthiri Township



NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov—A ceremony to commission 1st and 2nd Nguwah Streets, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Gan-

dama streets and 6th and 7th Gangaw streets into service was held in Thabyegon Ward of Zabuthiri Town-

ship on 29 October.

Nay Pyi Taw Council member U Myo Nyunt explained development tasks

in Zabuthiri Township.

Director (Engineer) U Aung Moe of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee explained the opening ceremony of the streets.

The member of Nay Pyi Taw Council, Vice Mayor of Nay Pyi Taw Development Committee U Than Kyaw Htoo and Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Htay opened the streets.

Officials strolled along the streets.

Thanks to opening asphalt streets, the local people enjoy the smooth transport in undertaking education, health, social and economic sectors.

District IPRD



TODAY'S
MYANMAR
NEWS SITES

Mandalay Region Government offers Kathina robes and donations to members of the Sangha

MANDALAY, 1 Nov—Mandalay Region government held the communal Kathina robe offering ceremony at Maha Dhammikayama Monastery in Chanmyathazi Township on 30 October.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, region level officials and responsible persons of political parties offered Kathina robes and

offertories to State Obadacariya Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Abhidhaja Agga Maha Saddhammajotika Myataung Shwewahwin Monastery Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sasanabhivamsa and members of the Sangha.

Next, the chief minister and party donated meals to members of the Sangha.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Gems and Jewellery Shop opens in Mahaaungmye Tsp

MANDALAY, 1 Nov—A ceremony to open Yadanar Star Gems and Jewellery Shop was held at No 262 on 82nd street between 44th and 45th streets in Mahaaungmye Township of Mandalay on 28 October.

Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs Mandalay Mayor U Aung Moun and members attended the ceremony.

The mayor and owners of the shop formally opened the sale centre.

The shop showcases various kinds of gems and jewellery and ornaments.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)



Football tournaments for residents of Sagaing District

SAGAING, 1 Nov—In honour of Thiha Htet Aung, (17) of Myanmar U-19 team who emerged from Sagaing Township, the Sagaing District Management Committee Chairman's Cup Inter-Township U-20 Men's Football Tournament will be held in Sagaing in the third week of November at Sagaing District Sports

Ground. The football teams are to contact officials of Sagaing Township Sports and Physical Education Department and District Sports Ground, according to Assistant Director U Than Htay of Sports and Physical Education Department.

The Shwe Zeyar Cup Women's Football Tournament, organized by Sagaing

District Football Committee, will take place at the district football ground in the first week of December with the sponsorship of retired Minister for Construction Thiri Pyanchi U Khin Maung Myint.

The women's football teams must be formed with the residents. The applications are to be sent to the

Assistant Director of Sports and Physical Education Department, Tel: 072-22285, U Aung Than of District Sports Ground, Tel: 0933676907, U Chit Phu, former selected player, Shwe Hnin Zi Literary House, Tel: 09-2021000, U Myint Than-U Kan Htay (Nyein Thiri Hotel), Tel: 09-797840124.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Capacity of police enhanced in on-job training

MANDALAY, 1 Nov—Mandalay Region Police Force conducted the on-job training at its hall in Mandalay on 30 October afternoon, with an address by General Staff Officer (Grade-I) Police Lt-Col Myint Oo.

IP Zaw Myint gave lectures on carrying out the tasks in line with the

human rights norms, Police Captain Khin Maung Tun human rights charger approved by the UN and Police Captain Thida San ethics of police officers.

A total of 54 officers and 44 other ranks of Mandalay Region Police Force attended the course.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)



NATIONAL

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits Belarus

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov —Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, has paid a friendly visit to Belarus at the invi-

tation of Mr Mikhail Myasnikov, Prime Minister of the Republic of Belarus, sources said.

A Myanmar delegation led by Senior General

Min Aung Hlaing left here for Belarus on Saturday morning, being seen off at the Yangon International Airport by high-ranking military officers of the Yangon Command and departmental officials.

During the visit, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing is expected to meet Belarusian government and army officials to discuss bilateral cooperation between the two armies, in addition to cultural relations.

Belarus has maintained good relations with the members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and started its diplomatic relations with Myanmar since September 1999.

Belarusian Prime Minister Mr Mikhail Myasnikov visited Myanmar in December three years ago and signed agreements to cooperate in trade, economy, agriculture and education.

Myawady



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing seen at Yangon International Airport before his departure for Belarus.—MYAWADY

Industrial Bank of Korea to build four-storey building for monastic education school

YANGON, 1 Nov —Industrial Bank of Korea-IBK plans to provide better education environment to rural area of the nation with a contribution to promoting friendly relations between Myanmar and Republic of Korea.

A plan is underway to spend US\$ 120,000 for

construction of a four-storey school building with 12 classrooms, four toilets, stationery, desks and chairs at Kantetkon monastic education school in Mandalay.

Volunteers of the bank will give essential services to the monastic education school on their trip from

3 to 7 November, according to Chief Representative Mr Lee Jeung Hwan of the IBK Yangon Office at Building No 151, Tower-B, Room No. 804, 8th floor, Myawady Complex, corner of Bogyoke Road and Wadan Road in Lanmadaw Township, Yangon.—GNLM

Yangon plans to establish...

(from page 1)

discussions on suggestions for improving public transport efficiency in the Yangon region.

"It is planned to install the computerized traffic signals at three spots in the area of five-road Tamwe Junction while installation of them at 10 spots in Mayangon Township is underway in cooperation with the Japan International Cooperation Agency", the mayor told participants in the workshop.

He went on to say that vehicles in Yangon account for 66.5 per cent of total vehicles numbering more than 600,000 in the whole country and 10 per cent of the remaining 33.5 per cent is believed to be

present in Yangon as ones registered outside Yangon. So, Yangon makes up about 80 per cent of the total car population of Myanmar, numbering more than 400,000 vehicles.

Traffic congestion is a major challenge to Yangon where its car population is competing against the resident population. With an influx of imported cars in Yangon and insufficient parking areas in its downtown, traffic jams are getting worse and worse.

Depending on the number of apartments, adequate car parking is to be included in building high-rises, shopping malls and office towers, he added.

During the workshop

organized by Yangon Region government at the RUMFCCI Building, participants presented their suggestions on how to improve public transport efficiency in the commercial hub to avoid gridlock. Some called for participation of all in obedience to law and effectiveness of traffic law enforcement, putting a blame for breach of traffic disciplines on all road users and arguing that traffic rules need to be inculcated in all road users as well as enforcement of officers.

Some suggested establishing bus rapid transit and mass rapid transit systems, a single authority for traffic management, a water taxi service, inner and outer ring roads and improving existing rail transport with

Yamethin Township celebrates 80th anniversary of collective communal Kathina festival



Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and party offer alm to monks.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Nov —The 80th anniversary of Yamethin Township's collective communal kathina festival took place at Yanaungmyin Sasana Beikman in Yamethin Township, Mandalay Re-

gion on Saturday.

Together with officials, social organization members and wellwishers, Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) U Khin Aung Myint attended the ceremony.

Wellwishers from urban wards and villages donated offertories worth K 7.2 million to 60 monasteries in the township where the festival is annually held.

MNA

Thai Royal Family donates Kathina robes

YANGON, 1 Nov —A ceremony to offer Kathina robes to monks by Thai Royal Family which is held annually took place at Myanmar-Thai Friendship monastery in Dagon Myothit (North) on Saturday. On the occasion Vice-Chairman of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. On behalf of the Royal Family, Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs General Tanasak



Kathina-robe offering ceremony of Thai Royal Family in progress at Myanmar-Thai Friendship monastery in Dagon Myothit (North).—MNA

Patimapragorn and Myanmar Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Soe Win offered Kathina robes to the venerable monks.

In this year Kathina robe offering ceremony, Thai Royal Family donated 2.4 million baht, sources said.

MNA

Locals believe share prices of...

(from page 1)

designs are now being prepared and construction tenders will be launched in November, he added.

Myanmar Thilawa SEZ Holdings Public Ltd announced the appointment of the two independent directors—presidential advisors Dr Aung Tun Thet and U Tin Htut Oo. The company is planning to participate in the country's first stock market next year as a listed entity.

U Win Aung said, "In the coming year, we plan to have corporate social re-

sponsibility (CSR) activities which will not only add value to Thilawa area but also to the greater national and social development".

Thilawa Special Economic Zone, in the biggest commercial city of the country, is at 14 miles (23 km) southeast of Yangon where MTSH is carrying out the development tasks in zone-A 189 hectares (467.03 acres). The project has reached 44 per cent completion and the remaining work is estimated to finish in June, 2015.

GNLM

Journal, newspaper donated to self-reliant library

NATMAUK, 1 Nov—The donation of the Union Daily newspaper was held at the self-reliant library in Kalashin Village in Natmauk Township of Magway Region on 29 October.

Local people donated Thakithway journal and the Union Daily newspaper

to village administrator U Nyan Hla and librarian U Ye Myint.

“Our donations of journal and newspaper are aimed at raising reading habit of local people,” said wellwisher U Nyunt Khin.

*Hla Win
(Township IPRD)*



New school building handed over in Taungtha Township

TAUNGTHA, 1 Nov—A ceremony to hand over new school building to Education Department was held at the school in Kandaw Village of Taungtha Township in Mandalay Region on 28 October.

Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint, Speaker of Mandalay Region Hluttaw U Win Maung, region minister and wellwisher U Set Cho-Daw Than Ei (Tawwin Cheroot Industry) of Myingyan and education officials.

The Speaker of the region Hluttaw and well-wishers formally opened the new school building and the region chief minister unveiled the signboard of the school.

Tipitakadhara Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gandamala of Mingun Monastery unveiled the stone inscription. Wellwisher handed over documents related to the school building and exercise books to officials.

The region chief minister and party looked into development tasks in Myingyan and Nyaung-U Districts. During their trips, they met local people in villages of Taungtha Township and explained undertaking of rural development and attended to the needs of local people.

In Ngathayauk, they also met with local people and viewed progress of Bo Cho Market in Ngathayauk, school building of Ngathayauk Basic Education High School, Mya Nanda Lake and health care services of the Township People's Hospital.

In Kyaukpadaung, the chief minister and party called on local people at the basic education primary school in Thithsatbin Village and the Dhammayon in Kyetpyit Village. The chief minister made clarifications on implementation of emerald rural projects.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation harvested on model plot

DAWEI, 1 Nov—Local people in Dawei District of Taninthayi Region cultivate Palethwe hybrid paddy strains that can produce over 200 baskets of paddy per acre so as to ensure food sufficiency of the region. They grew 25 acres of Palethwe hybrid paddy,

three acres of GW1 paddy strain and five acres of Belgium hybrid paddy strain, totalling 33 acres.

At the harvesting of model plot in Zahar Village, Palethwe hybrid paddy plantation produced 113.25 baskets of paddy per acre on 28 October.

Three-storey building completed in Mohnyin



MOHNYIN, 1 Nov—A ceremony to share merits for completion of Dhamma Myinzuyi three-storey building was held at Bud-

dha Piya Monastery in Natgyikan ward of Mohnyin in Kachin State on 29 October.

Wellwisher U Chit Htway-Daw Than Htay

family of West Ward in Mohnyin donated the expenditure for construction of the building worth K580 million. To mark comple-

tion of the building, the members of the Sangha administered Desana to the people from 27 to 29 October.—GNLM-001

Staff quarters to be rented to service personnel at fair rate



MANDALAY, 1 Nov—Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development under the

Ministry of Construction is building the staff quarters in Myayi Nanda new satellite town in Chanmyathazi

Township and Seiktaramahi Ward in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay District.

A plan is being implemented to construct over 700 apartments for the staff in Mandalay Region in 2014-15 fiscal year to rent the apartments to the government service personnel at fair rate.

The department plans to building 48 apartments each of staff quarters in district level towns and 24 apartments each in townships as of December 2014.

Township management committees, township development supportive committees and DHSHD will build the low-cost housings with the arrangements for the staff to buy them in installment through Construction and Development Bank.

*Maung Pyi Thu
(Mandalay)*

local authorities and farmers.

Head of District Agriculture Department U Kyaw Hla explained cultivation of the hybrid paddy plantation through good agriculture patterns and fertile soil for cultivation.

Po Shwe Thun-Dawei



MH370 passenger's sons file suit against Malaysia Airlines



Ground crew work among Malaysia Airlines planes on the runway at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang on 25 July, 2014. — REUTERS

KUALA LUMPUR, 1 Nov — Two sons of a passenger on missing Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 filed a suit on Friday against the airline and four other entities for breach of duty in causing the disappearance of the Boeing 777.

In what is believed to be the first lawsuit filed in

Malaysia by next of kin of an MH370 passenger, the boys, Jee Kingson, 13 and Jee Kinnland, 11, are seeking damages for “injured feelings and emotions, mental distress and pain” as well as the loss of support after the plane with their father Jee Jing Hang and 238 others disappeared from radar

8 March and has yet to be found. The boys accuse Malaysia Airlines for breach of contract because their father expected a safe flight when he bought the ticket to Beijing.

They also named the Department of Civil Aviation as one of the five defendants for failure to carry

out its duty.

As the group responsible for air traffic control, DCA is alleged to have failed and neglected to take appropriate measures to re-establish contact and track down the flight once it was known to have disappeared from the radar.

They also allege negligence on the part of the Immigration Department for allowing two individuals with stolen passports to board the flight.

The Royal Malaysia Air Force is accused of negligence for its failure to deploy its assets immediately after they detected an unidentified plane on their radar. The air force said previously they did not know the plane was MH370 as their radar was not linked to the transponder on board the Boeing 777 and they did not scramble a plane to check it out because they knew it was a commercial airliner and was not deemed a

threat. The fifth defendant is the Malaysian government.

The plaintiffs did not specify the amount of damages sought. Jee Jing Hang was 41 years old when he boarded the flight. According to papers filed at the Kuala Lumpur High Court, he ran an internet-based business, earning a monthly income of 16,685 ringgit (\$5,086.9).

The boys' lawyer Arunan Selvaraj told reporters someone must be accountable for what happened. “What we want to know is what happened at that time? Who should be responsible for the incident? No one has come forward taking responsibility for the missing plane,” he said.

A massive international search continues in the southern Indian Ocean as experts believed that is where the plane ended based on mathematical analysis of satellite and radar data.

Kyodo News

Cambodia sees 55 pct rise in landmine casualties in 8 months

PHNOM PENH, 1 Nov — Cambodia on Saturday reported 129 landmine casualties in the first eight months of 2014, representing a 55 percent increase from 83 casualties over the same period last year.

However, the number of the dead declined to 17 during the January-August period this year, down from 19 deaths over the same period last year, said the report of the Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority.

The number of the injured people rose to 112 during the period this year, up from 64 over the same period last year, it said.

“About 69 percent of the victims were men, 17 percent were boys, 9 percent were women and 5 percent were girls,” the report said.

Xinhua

India votes against UN draft resolution on nuke pact

NEW DELHI, 1 Nov — India has voted against the provisions of draft resolutions calling for signing of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT), ruling out the possibility of joining the treaty as a non-nuclear weapon state, local media reported on Saturday. A UN Assembly committee on Friday adopted a resolution in New York calling

on all countries which have not signed NPT to sign it as non-nuclear weapon states.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India and Israel voted against it while 164 others voted in favour.

In its explanation of the vote, India said it cannot accept the call to accede to NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state, said *Press*

Trust of India. “India's position on the NPT is well-known. There is no question of India joining the NPT as a non-nuclear weapon state. Nuclear weapons are an integral part of India's national security and will remain so, pending non-discriminatory and global nuclear disarmament,” said Indian delegation at UN in a statement. —Xinhua

New Zealand, Australia pledge to build military capacity in Pacific

WELLINGTON, 1 Nov — The defence ministers of New Zealand and Australia on Friday affirmed the strength of the bilateral defence partnership by pledging to continue working together in the Pacific.

Australian Defence Minister David Johnston and his New Zealand counterpart Gerry Brownlee met in Perth for the annu-

al Australia- New Zealand Defence Ministers Meeting and issued a joint statement saying centenary commemorations of the two nations' involvement in World War I next month demonstrated the continuing strength of the relationship.

Both countries remained committed to the relationship and looked forward to further opportu-

nities to deepen the already close cooperation between the two military forces.

The two ministers shared perspectives on important global and regional security issues, including recent developments in Iraq, and agreed to continue to share assessments of the situation and the international response.

Xinhua

China to send elite army unit to help fight Ebola in Liberia

BEIJING, 1 Nov — China will dispatch an elite unit of the People's Liberation Army to help Ebola-hit Liberia, the Foreign Ministry said on Friday, responding to UN calls for a greater global effort to fight the deadly virus in West Africa.

Washington has led the international drive to stop the spread of the disease that has killed nearly 5,000 people, sending thousands of troops and committing about \$1 billion, but Beijing has faced criticism for not doing enough.

The PLA squad, which has experience from a 2002 outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), will build a 100-bed treatment centre in Liberia, the first such facility

in the three countries most impacted by Ebola to be constructed and run by a foreign country, said Lin Songtian, director general of the ministry's Department of African Affairs.

The centre will be open for operation in a month's time, he told a briefing in Beijing. China will also dispatch 480 PLA medical staff to treat Ebola patients, he said.

It's the first time China has deployed a whole unit of epidemic prevention forces and military medical staff abroad, Lin said.

China is Africa's biggest trade partner, tapping the continent's rich vein of resources to fuel its own economic growth over the past couple of decades.

Some critics have

rounded on Beijing for not helping more in Africa's hour of need.

China has so far donat-

ed 750 million yuan (\$123 million) to 13 African countries and international organizations to combat

Ebola, according to the government.

“China's assistance will not stop until the Ebo-

la epidemic is eradicated in West Africa,” Lin said.

The White House this week responded to criticism that as the global superpower it was not doing enough by taking a veiled swipe at the contributions of Russia and China.

“When we have a situation like this on the global scene, people aren't wondering what the Chinese are doing to respond to it. People aren't picking up the phone and wondering if Vladimir Putin is going to commit Russian resources to this effort,” White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest told a media briefing.

“People want to know what the United States of America is doing about it.”

Reuters



Medical staff members take part in a Ebola virus preventive drill at Ditan Hospital in Beijing, on 30 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

Vucic: We are not balancing EU ambitions and ties with Russia

MOSCOW, 1 Nov — Serbia is not attempting to balance between its EU ambitions and its close ties with Russia, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic said in an interview to *Business New Europe (bne)*, Moscow-based English language magazine.

According to *bne*, Vucic implied that Serbia will not press forward with the construction of the controversial South Stream gas pipeline, until the issue is resolved between the EU and Russia.

“(South Stream) is between the EU and Russia — if they agree on this, we’ll have it, we’ll provide the project. If they don’t have

that agreement, we are not going to harm anyone, particularly not our European friends. We made a good contract with Russia, but we did not start any construction,” Vucic told *bne*. “We are not balancing,” he stressed. In his interview to *bne*, Vucic expressed hope that Serbia will be able to join the EU in 2020, or perhaps in 2022, “if we do our homework”.

“It’s not up to us, but we have to do everything (we can), not to get mercy from the EU, but to be proud people from a proud country that will enter the EU, and that’s why we are doing these reforms,” said Vucic.

Tanjung



US's Kerry, Iran minister to meet ahead of deadline for atom deal

WASHINGTON / NEW YORK, 1 Nov — US Secretary of State John Kerry will meet Iran’s foreign minister and the European Union foreign policy chief in Oman on 9-10 November to discuss the Iranian nuclear issue ahead of a looming deadline for a final agreement, the US State Department said on Friday.

Kerry’s talks in Muscat, Oman with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and the EU’s Catherine Ashton are due to take place two weeks before a 24 November deadline for Tehran and six major powers to reach a long-term agreement on Iran’s nuclear programme.

The high-level gathering is one of series of meetings in the final weeks before the deadline. Before heading to Oman Ashton will meet senior foreign ministry officials from the six powers — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States in Vienna on 7 November, Ashton’s spokesman Michael Mann said.

The six will then begin meeting again with the full Iranian delegation in Vienna on 18 November, he added.

EU coordinates the negotiations on behalf of the six powers. “The aim of the talks is to reach a comprehensive agreement with Iran by 24 November, under which it would reassure the international community about the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme,” Mann said in a statement.

Last week the top US negotiator in the Iran talks, Under-Secretary of State Wendy Sherman, said Iran will be widely seen as responsible if a comprehensive deal to curb its nuclear programme is not reached.

Both sides say they still aim to meet the 24 November deadline for a deal, despite doubts among many experts that they can reach an accord that would end a decade-old dispute over Tehran’s nuclear programme with just a few weeks remaining.

Relations with the West have thawed since Hassan Rouhani was elected president last year seeking to end Iran’s international isolation, and the talks are aimed at easing concerns about Tehran’s atomic activities in exchange for lifting economic sanctions.



US Secretary of State John Kerry attends the Washington Ideas Forum presented by the Aspen Institute and the Atlantic in Washington on 30 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

But Western officials say there are still differences in the positions of the two sides, especially over the future scope of Iran’s uranium enrichment programme, which can have civilian and military uses.

The United States, France, Britain and Germany would like the number of enrichment centrifuges Iran maintains to be in the low thousands, while Tehran wants to keep tens of thousands in operation. It now has about 19,000 installed, of which about 10,000 are spinning to refine uranium.

Reuters

US chides Russia over military flights in Europe

WASHINGTON, 1 Nov — Stepped-up flights by Russian fighters, long-range bombers and tanker aircraft are aggravating security concerns in Europe and the United States is watching them very closely, the Pentagon said on Friday.

Rear Admiral John Kirby, the Pentagon press secretary, said Russian military planes carried out more flights on Friday over the Baltics, North Sea and Atlantic Ocean, part of what NATO has said is an unusual burst of air activity by Moscow.

“We certainly don’t see these increased flights and activity as helpful to the security situation in Europe,” Kirby said. “What we’d ask authorities in Russia to do is to take steps, concrete tangible steps, to reduce tension, not increase it.”

The “sheer number and size and scope” of the flights also could pose a potential risk to civil aviation, he told a Pentagon press briefing.

The escalation of flights follows months of tension over Ukraine and Kirby also urged Moscow to “do the right thing and meet its international obligations to respect the territorial integrity of its neighbours.”

NATO said in a statement its jets had intercepted four groups of Russian aircraft on maneuvers on Tuesday and Wednesday. “These sizeable Russian flights represent an unusual level of air activity over European airspace,” it said.

A spokesman stressed there had been no violation of NATO airspace — as there was last week when a Russian spy plane briefly crossed Estonia’s border. But such high numbers of sorties in one day were, he said, rare in recent years.

NATO said it had conducted more than 100 such intercepts of Russian aircraft this year, about three times as many as in 2013.

President Vladimir Putin has committed to reinvigorating Russia’s armed forces, which were undermined by the economic troubles that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union.—Reuters

South Sudan famine temporarily averted, but risks remain — UN

NAIROBI, 1 Nov — Aid and some small harvests have helped stave off a feared famine in South Sudan, but any more fighting there could still leave millions facing severe hunger next year, a senior World Food Programme (WFP) official said on Friday.

The United Nations had warned in May that up to 4 million people would be on the brink of starvation by the end of 2014, after months of clashes threatened harvests and shut down aid programmes.

Development agencies launched a huge appeal and the response, together with rainfall, meant that “what was speculated about famine ... (has been) temporarily averted,” WFP’s South Sudan deputy country director, Eddie Rowe, told *Reuters*.

About 10,000 people have died and more than a million have been displaced since fighting broke out between President Salva Kiir’s government forces and rebels allied to his former deputy Riek Machar in De-

cember last year. Earlier this week rebels attacked Unity State capital Bentiu, shattering months of relative calm during the rainy season when sodden roads make fighting and movement of equipment almost impossible.

Diplomats have said the arrival of the dry season next month could trigger more fighting despite both sides committing to a ceasefire in May. A previous ceasefire was repeatedly violated in the impoverished country which gained independence from Sudan in 2011 after decades of conflict.

Rowe said recent harvests in the three states worst-hit by the violence — Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile — had been limited, meaning home-grown food could soon start running low.

“The amount of food that will be available at household level would be exhausted by December or January and that means you will have a substantial number of people who would go without food as of January up to March based on the

projections and indicators that we are collecting,” he from South Sudan’s capital by phone.

Any more violence would hamper efforts to get help to those areas, he added.

“If fighting escalates, particularly in the three conflict affected states, then we would not be able to deploy staff and our partners into these locations, which would

mean we would not be able to provide food assistance to large numbers of individuals,” he said. Rowe said in the last few months of this year between 2.5-2.7 million people are expected to be in crisis and emergency phases three and four on a five-point Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) scale where five is famine.

But the number of peo-

ple in those two phases was projected to rise to 3.7 million in the first three months of 2015, he added. Rowe also called for the return of a WFP employee who was abducted two weeks ago in South Sudan’s Upper Nile region. He said harassment of aid workers was on the rise, a trend which could also worsen the humanitarian crisis.—Reuters



A boy from South Sudan carries a container of water at a railway station refugee camp, where refugees have spent the last four years, in Khartoum on 11 May, 2014. —REUTERS

WORLD

Somali pirates free Indian sailors after four years in captivity

MOGADISHU, 1 Nov — Somali pirates have freed seven Indian sailors detained for close to four years in exchange for an undisclosed ransom, Somali officials and a maritime monitoring group said on Friday.

At one time the pirates made millions of dollars in ransoms from seizing ships sailing the Horn of Afri-

ca nation's waters, but increased patrols by international navies on the Indian Ocean have reduced incidences of piracy.

The sailors, held since the pirates hijacked the Panama-flagged ship *MV Asphalt Venture* in September 2010, were freed on Thursday. Eight of their colleagues were freed by the pirates along with the ship

in April 2011 for a ransom.

Their captors said at the time that they would only release the seven sailors when their fellow Somali pirates held by Indian authorities were freed.

It was not clear if their demand had been met.

Kenyan-based Ecoterra International, which monitors maritime activity on the Indian Ocean, confirmed

the sailors' release.

"The remaining seven hostages... were finally freed by their captors against a ransom and arrived in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia, from where they will be flown directly to India," Ecoterra said in a statement.

Regional government officials were involved in the release of the sailors from their captivity in the town of Harardheere in central Somalia, officials said.

The last successful hijacking was in May 2012, when Somali pirates seized a Greek-owned oil tanker carrying close to a million barrels of crude oil while in the Arabian Sea.

In January, a merchant ship was boarded by Eritrean forces in the Red Sea, an incident which was initially reported as a pirate attack.

At the height of Somali pirate attacks in 2011, up to a dozen or more merchant ships were being held captive at any one time, often for multi million-dollar ransoms.—Reuters

Federal charges appear unlikely in Ferguson police shooting



A memorial set up for Michael Brown is seen in Ferguson, Missouri, on 10 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 1 Nov — US Justice Department officials probably will not bring civil rights charges against a white Ferguson, Missouri, police officer whose fatal shooting of an unarmed black teenager set off rioting in August, the *Washington Post* reported on Friday.

The newspaper, citing law enforcement officials, said investigators had all but concluded there was not a sufficiently strong case to prove officer Darren Wilson violated the rights of 18-year-old Michael Brown when he killed him in the St Louis suburb on 9 August.

At issue is whether Wilson had reason to believe he was in danger in his confrontation with Brown after he had asked Brown to get out of the middle of a street.

The *Post* cited a source who had been briefed on the investigation as saying: "The evidence at this point does not support civil rights charges against Officer Wilson."

Justice Department spokesman Brian Fallon was quoted by the *Post* as saying its report was based on "idle speculation." An

attorney for Brown's family declined to comment to the newspaper on "something that is not official," while Wilson's lawyer did not respond to requests for comment.

Earlier this month the St Louis *Post-Dispatch* published a leaked county autopsy report that indicated Brown had residue on his hand that could mean he struggled for Wilson's gun while the officer was in his car. Some witnesses have said Wilson shot Brown again after he got out of the car even though Brown's hands were raised.

Brown's death drew attention to race relations in the United States and police tactics in Ferguson, where much of the population is black and the police force is mostly white.

US Attorney General Eric Holder said last week he expects the Justice Department's investigation into the shooting to be complete by the time he leaves office. Holder said in September he would not step down until his replacement was chosen and confirmed by the Senate. The Obama administration is expected to nominate a replacement by the end of the year.—Reuters



Panama-flagged cargo ship *MV Asphalt Venture* arrives at the Kenyan Port of Mombasa on 28 April, 2011.—REUTERS

THE HAGUE, 1 Nov — A Dutch team took advantage of a pause in fighting between government forces and separatists in eastern Ukraine on Friday to recover human remains from the Malaysia Airlines MH17 crash site, the Dutch prime minister said. Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said "the team recovered human remains from the so-called burn site" where the plane hit the ground, but provided no additional details. It was the first time in weeks that Dutch authorities had been able to reach the site.

All 298 passengers and crew, two-thirds of them Dutch, died on 17 July when the aircraft was

downed. Kiev blames separatists for the airliner's destruction. Russia says a Ukrainian military aircraft shot it down. So far, 289 victims have been identified.

Security conditions were good enough on Friday for a small Dutch team, accompanied by members of the Ukrainian fire brigade and officials with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) officials to search part of the crash site, Rutte said. Human remains found would be sent back to the Netherlands for identification, he told a weekly press briefing.

Reuters

Dutch team recovers human remains from MH17 crash site



Members of the recovery team work at the site where the downed Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 crashed, near the village of Hrabove (Grabovo) in Donetsk region, eastern Ukraine, on 13 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

US envoy Power defends Ebola guidelines, warns on Guinea

NEW YORK, 1 Nov — The US ambassador to the United Nations on Friday defended federal guidelines for monitoring health workers returning from three Ebola-stricken West African countries while urging greater coordination to contain the outbreak in Guinea.

There is a growing controversy in the United States over some states ordering 21-day quarantines for nurses and doctors returning after treating Ebola patients, an idea that medical experts have criticized.

The ambassador, Samantha

Power, said current federal rules balanced "the need to respond to the fears that this has generated" with the known science on the disease. She also praised the airlines that continue to fly to countries battling Ebola outbreaks.

"Let me commend Air Brussels, Air France and Moroccan Airways for keeping their flights going. Those flights are a lifeline," Power said at a *Reuters* Newsmaker event in New York hours after returning from a four-day trip to Ebola-hit Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Ebola, which has killed about 5,000 people in the three countries, is transmitted through the bodily fluids of an infected person and is not airborne.

Some states, including New York and New Jersey have gone beyond the US guidelines with isolation periods for health workers equivalent to the maximum time it can take for Ebola to develop.

Power said she was considered at low risk for contracting the virus because she did not have direct contact with Ebola patients. She said she had her temperature

taken three times before boarding a plane home from Liberia and was checked again upon arrival at New York's John F Kennedy International Airport. Several US politicians have called for an outright ban on travellers from Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, which government and aid organizations said would hurt efforts to control the outbreak at its source by deterring medical volunteers.

Power said health officials are capable of self-monitoring with regular checks for symptoms, such as fever, diarrhea and vomiting.

She herself will be reporting her temperature twice daily to New York state's health department for the next 20 days.

The envoy had high praise for countries that have people on the ground battling the epidemic, including Cuba, with which the United States has had strained relations for decades, and China.

Havana has sent more than 260 medical professionals and plans on assigning 200 more, the biggest foreign contingent of medical workers deploying to West Africa.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 2 November, 2014

Loans to those to whom loans are due

By Kyaw Thura

As any other industry, farming in our country has marked a turning point in boosting agricultural productivity. With new technologies being more sophisticated, farmers have sensed the need to take advantage of the newest advance to ensure sustainable profits in the long run.

It is a welcoming sign that the government is

disbursing agricultural loans at a low interest rate to farmers. This project is viewed as an initiative to help struggling farms compete financially in the industry that feeds the whole country.

It is clear that agricultural loans can help farmers purchase agricultural equipment needed to boost their farm output. It is therefore important for the government to set up an affordable payback plan that matches their budgets.

Economic changes, natural disasters and environmental factors are what make farmers suffer. Once their farm productivity is hit by any one of these causes, farmers find it difficult to stand again on their own feet. That is why agricultural financing is the most beneficial way of encouraging farmers to get back on their own feet. In other words, it is loans that provide farmers with a fighting chance and enable them to restore their income level and if lucky enough, increase it considerably.

Time changes, so does the entire farming industry. Now is not the time to work with outdated technologies and methods to save up enough capital to buy newer technologies and apply modern farming methods. It is pointless to live in the past. With this end in view, the government's financial assistance is the only way to provide farmers with needed capital to revolutionize the way they farm. In addition, agricultural financing options can help farmers leap ahead and attain a new level of successful life.

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.

Reckless Spitting

I couldn't agree more with the article by (U) Khaing Min Thant, which dealt with the reckless and random littering habits of our people. The city of Yangon could easily win a championship trophy for the title of "The most Littered City", if there were such a competition. In connection with this issue, I hope the original author wouldn't mind if I add some of my views.

Littering is a nuisance to the public and a disgrace to the nation. To eradicate littering, both the authorities and the public have to work in cohesion towards that goal. The populace must abstain from the habit of discarding any unwanted items and garbage, even minute ones like cigarette or cheroot butts, randomly and recklessly. The authorities, too, are responsible to provide the necessary facilities for garbage disposals, such as trash cans, ash trays, litter boxes, garbage bins or pits readily accessible to the public. Also the garbage should be collected on regular basis.

Here, I would like to cite the importance of providing garbage disposal facilities. About a decade ago the Yangon municipal authorities introduced a campaign to eradicate littering and reckless garbage dispos-

al. I first noticed their endeavor while on my daily workouts along the road circling the Kandawgyi Lake. Many signs were posted along the road with instructions and warnings not to litter and not to relieve oneself by the roadsides, also mentioning the amount of monetary fine that would be levied if found. I thought that was the most constructive step taken and praised their actions openly among our group of health-enthusiasts, who met at that place every morning for exercising.

However, my praise was a bit premature. Only a few days later, I was thrust into an undesirable situation in which I encountered the call of nature while strolling around the Lake with friends. I needed to relieve my bladder urgently. There was no toilet in sight. When I asked my friends if they know where the nearest public toilet is, there was no one who seemed to know exactly where I could find one in the vicinity. Someone suggested that I should go behind the large trees lining the roadside.

I had never done that as an adult, but must admit I had done that as a juvenile. However, as I couldn't contain myself any longer, I hurried down the slight slope by

the roadside and chose a tree with the largest trunk so that it would hide me from the view of the passersby. As I went around the tree to the side that was out of view from the road, I was so repelled by the unbearable stench of urine and numerous heaps of human feces all over the place that I retreated as hurriedly as I had approached.

Not only the toilets were not there, but there were no litter boxes or garbage bins to be found anywhere along the road circling the Lake. How could they enforce the public to obey the orders without providing necessary facilities?

So much for the issue of littering and I'll go on to discuss the reckless spitting habits.

If one loiters around one is bound to witness this bad habit of spitting recklessly and randomly. It is done by many, irrespective of age or gender. It is not rare to see a young and good looking lass dressed fashionably, spitting while on-the-go, without any concern for those around her, or someone spitting out of a moving car or bus without considerations for the pedestrians on the sidewalks,

who sometimes had to take the splash of spittle in the face.

Worst of all is the beetle palm juice spittle. Even if you are driving your own car you have to be careful when caught at a red traffic light. If you do not raise the windows on the side close to a bus, while waiting for the green light, you are bound to receive a large dose of beetle palm juice spittle. Even if take the precaution of raising the car windows, you won't escape from getting your nicely shined car dirtied. These sort of things could also happen if you had parked your car close to buildings. You can't miss the beetle palm juice spittle anywhere you go in Myanmar.

It is a very shameful and despicable habit, especially in the eyes of the foreigners, which need to be kicked for good. However, it won't be easy without banning beetle palm altogether. Even if the beetle palm juice splashing could be stopped with restrictions and drastic actions, the reckless spitting in public will take at least a generation to disappear if we start educating our children now, both at home and at schools.

The author is Retired Deputy General Manager, Admin: Dept., Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

I am just a regular reader of your paper, and writing is not my line. But, letter to Editor in your paper of 27-10-2014 disheartened me and spurred me up to drive my pen in a kind of retaliation for it. When I tried to derive from what Sayar Myint (author) was driving at, I could glean some facts i.e. capacities of staff working for paper need be upgraded; prestige of paper needs be at par international standard not to disappoint the foreigners; most articles, essay of writers lacks substances and style; style and usage of words in composing the article or essay are not grammatical etc.

Of course, capacity building for all, not only for staff of paper, is common issue and important to every enterprise. As to second fact, I do appreciate good will of the author, imposed on paper, whereas it is unfair to pinpoint only this gap in grandeur between our paper and those from neighboring countries, while the same happenings can be observed in many other areas of works. That is why we are driving ourselves to catch up with others. And, Sayar Myint should not be over worried about foreigners 'impression on the paper. They know this is not New York Times. I am sure they accept this paper including varieties of local news which are like eyes for them to be accustomed to Myanmar land and tradition, culture. For one thing, I notice foreigners here grappling with daily jobs rarely touch the daily paper even if it is in arm's length. So, Sayar Myint can remove worry about this. We had better be pleased with the one available at affordable price while trying to develop gradually.

As regards last point, I would like to give flat denial. Criticism sounds a bit strong to me. Actually, there is a vast area of subject matters in composing an essay or article. The purpose of writing may be for message and information sharing, awareness enhancement, recording events and also for light reading, based on writer's aim. It also involves interest, opportunity, and time spent. We have to value the works done at the expense of these. At such a time as now when we have no more laureates like Sayar K, Sayar-maGyi Daw Khin Myo Chit, Sayar Aung Moe, Sayar U Tet Toe, Sayar U Htin Gyi, etc. who pursued English literature under Indian lecturers from India and professors from England, we are only to rely on present-day's writers contributing something to the best of their knowledge. It will not be good to let foreigners with non-background information on country's situation, write articles just for the purpose of studying language. What saddened me more is Sayar Sein (Arakan-Sein), one of the persons I always pay regards, never read local news. This undermines my expectation from future world of Myanmar writers of articles in English.

Let us contribute something instead of criticizing others.

Ko Dway
S.A.T, Bago.

Journalists attend book promotion about Australia at City Star Hotel

By Sayar Mya

YANGON, 1 Nov — A book promotion event was held at City Star Hotel attended by Chief Editors, Media persons and reporters in Yangon. A bilingual travelogue on Australia was written by (13) years old Myanmar girl Yoon May Myat residing in Australia and it was edited by her grandfather Sayar Mya in Yangon. The occasion was graced by retired Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Khin

Maung Win, retired Chief Editor U Maung Maung Aye of the New Light of Myanmar, and Chief Editor Sayar-ma July Moe of Oasis Journal. U Khin Maung Win expounded about the finer points of education system in the developed country like Australia, while U Maung Maung Aye talked about the importance in learning English language during the reform process. Chief Editor Sayar-ma July Moe suggested that Yoon May Myat should write beautiful places of My-



anmar in her stylish English as a teenager in the same way that she has written about Australia. Chief Editor U Thein Aye of Reality Journal

supplemented the positive attitude of Myanmar writers in the country contributing in English language for the students and general readers.

NATIONAL

Winners in National Literary Award announced

YANGON, 1 Nov—The National Literary Award Scrutiny Committee of the Ministry of Information announced winners of National Literary Award on Friday.

Naing Zaw won the national literary award in novel genre, Wai (University of Economics) in the short stories genre, Maung Lwan Naing (Sabeingon) in the collected poem genre, Maung Yint Mar (Kyaunggon) in belle-let-ter genre, Myat Wai Toe (University of Education) in Myanmar culture and arts literature genre, Than

Aung (Anyamyay) in the child literature genre, Maung Khin Min (Dan-ubyu) in the youth literature genre, Tun Tint Aung (Myanmar translator) in the translation (knowledge) genre, U San Win (History Research) in the general knowledge (arts) genre, Dr Kyaw Than Tun (Guang-dong Medical University) in the general knowledge (ordinary science) genre, Dr Ye Win Tun in the general knowledge (applied science) genre, Tein Oo in the political literature genre and Ye Dway in the English language (knowledge)

genre.

In 2013, winners will be awarded K1.5 million as cash award. They are to contact 01-376569 of Literary Award management committee of Sarpay Beikman at 529/531 on Merchant Street in Yangon and 01-381449 of Admin Department with two 5 inches by 7 inches colour photos and two passport photos attached to the CV form within one week.

The prize presentation will be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street on 22 November.

MNA

Implementation of South Korea-funded Myanmar Development Institute project to begin before year's end



By Ye Myint

YANGON, 1 Nov — Work to implement the Myanmar Development Institute project funded by South Korea will begin before the end of this year under the signing of an agreement on Thursday.

The signing of the record of discussion between

KOICA Myanmar Chief NAM, Kwon Hyoung and Professor Dr Aung Tun Thet, chairman of PTF-MDI, conclude with a handshake, the signing a record of discussion on establishment of the Myanmar Development Institute in Nay Pyi Taw.—PHOTO SUPPLIED

general knowledge (Arts) genre, Dr Maung Phyay first and science writer Ko Ko Aung third in the general knowledge (science and applied science) genre, Min Shin Aung (Twantay) first, Maung Yin Hlaing (Pyinmamyang) second in the belle-let-ter genre, Dr Tint Lwin first and Myat Wai Toe (University of Education) second in the Myanmar culture and fine arts genre, Kanbalu Khin Maung Swe first, Yutyikhin (Bago) second and Zaw Myo Han (Ngathaingyong) third in the child literature genre, Myint Soe (NaTa La) second in the youth literature genre, Tin Maung Than (Ywama) first

in the translation genre and U Ye Dway first in the English genre.

This year, winners can bag K700,000 for the first prize, K500,000 for the second and K300,000 for the third prize. They are to contact 01-376569 of Literary Award management committee of Sarpay Beikman at 529/531 on Merchant Street in Yangon and 01-381449 of Admin Department with two 5 inches by 7 inches colour photos and two passport photos attached to the CV form within one week.

The prize presentation will be held at the National Theatre on Myoma Kyaung Street on 22 November.

MNA

the Korea International Cooperation Agency and Preparatory Taskforce on Establishing the Myanmar Development Institute took place at the KOICA Myanmar Office in Yangon with KOICA's representative to Myanmar Mr. NAM Kwon Hyoung and Professor Dr. Aung Tun Thet, chairman of the PTF-MDI inking the pact.

With the signing of the record, a \$20-million MDI project scheduled to be completed in 2019 will start before the end of this year following a MDI project-launch forum in November, KOICA Myanmar said in a press release.

All stakeholders from both sides and other development partners will be present at the forum in which KOICA and a pre-

paratory taskforce will introduce the project and seek ideas and feedback from the participants, the release added.

The MDI Project is to establish a "Whole of Government" National Institute that will improve the country's policy-making and capacity-building processes and facilitate economic development, the agency said.

The Myanmar Development Institute will be established in Nay Pyi Taw.

South Korea pledged the \$20 million through an MoU signing between the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development of Myanmar and South Korea's Foreign Affairs Ministry in Nay Pyi Taw last month.

GNLM

Free audio guide services available in National Museum (Yangon) as of 30 Oct

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

Yangon, 1 Nov—Miyashita Ltd, a Japanese company, on Thursday donated 42 audio guides and accessories worth more than US\$3,000 to the Myanmar's National Museum (Yangon) with the aim of attracting more foreign visitors as well as promoting people-to-people relations between the two countries.

The mobile audio interpretation guide is available in four languages—Myanmar, English, Japanese and Chinese—translated by the company with the assistance of language experts.

The guide is extremely easy to use for the museum's visitors who may

receive free audio guide services as from 30 October for 30 main objects that have been displayed in the museum, according to Daw Nu Mra Zan, an advisor from the Museum.

Art Historian Natsuo Miyashita, president of Miyashita Ltd, explaining how to use the guides and the purpose of the donation, said she believes the audio guides offer high-quality interpretation services for both visitors and historians.

"The main objective of the donation is to extensively introduce the country's history, the civilization of Myanmar people, and traditional arts and culture to

people across the world," she added.

U Ngwe Tun Myint, director of the National Museum, said he welcomes the donation to the museum, which requires keeping up with modern developments.

Renovation work in four major halls, with the use of K200 million from by the government, is estimated to be completed at the end of the 2014-2015 budget year, he added.

The National Museum, the key museum in Myanmar, is on Pyay Road in Dagon Township in Yangon. It has been open to public since 1996 and has more than 2,000 ancient relics beginning from pre-historic times. —GNLM



Natsuo Miyashita, President of Miyashita Ltd with officials from the National Museum (Yangon) explains how to use an Audio Guide to media at the museum.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Kurdish peshmerga forces enter Syria's Kobani after further air strikes

SURUC, (Turkey) / BAGHDAD, 1 Nov — A convoy of Iraqi Kurdish forces in Turkey rolled late on Friday across the border into Syria to help Syrian Kurds defend the besieged town of Kobani that has become the focus of a Western-backed war against Islamic State insurgents.

US-led air strikes hit Islamic State positions around Kobani earlier in the day in an apparent effort to pave the way for the heavily-armed Kurdish contingent to enter.

The Iraqi Kurdish fighters, known as peshmerga or “those who defy death”, had set off cheering and making victory signs in more than a dozen trucks and jeeps, accompanied by armoured vehicles and artillery. They headed from a holding point around 8 km



Kurdish Peshmerga fighters wave Kurdish flags atop an army vehicle as they move towards the Syrian town of Kobani from the border town of Suruc, Sanliurfa Province, on 31 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

(5 miles) from the frontier towards Kobani.

“We have crossed over,” one of the peshmer-

ga fighters in the group subsequently told *Reuters*

by telephone. The force numbers only around 150 but brings weapons and ammunition. Their arrival would mark the first time Turkey has allowed ground troops from outside Syria to reinforce Syrian Kurds, who have been defending Kobani for more than 40 days. As the peshmerga headed towards the border, a loud blast was heard in the Kobani area, the latest in a rapid series of explosions, in an apparent intensification of the fighting.

Despite having limited strategic significance, Kobani has become a powerful international symbol in the battle against the hardline Sunni Muslim insurgents who have captured large expanses of Iraq and Syria and declared an Islamic “caliphate”.

The Kobani battle has

raged in full view of the Turkish frontier, testing whether a US-led coalition can halt Islamic State’s advance. The failure of Turkey to help defend the town sparked riots among Turkish Kurds in which 40 people died.

Islamic State militants have killed or displaced Shi’ite Muslims, Christians and other communities deemed enemies of their ultra-radical brand of Sunni Islam. They executed at least 220 Iraqi Sunnis in retaliation for opposition to their takeover of territory west of Baghdad this week.

Earlier on Friday, machinegun fire could be heard from the Turkish side of the border as Islamic State fighters pounded the area near where the peshmerga were expected to cross. —*Reuters*

Britain warns travelling nationals of heightened security risk from IS

LONDON, 1 Nov — Britain on Friday warned its citizens travelling overseas of a heightened risk of attacks against them from militants linked to Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, updating its official travel advice to reflect an increase in the general threat level.

“There is considered to be a heightened threat of terrorist attack globally against UK interests and British nationals from groups or individuals motivated by the conflict in Iraq and Syria,” a state-



Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron

ment from the Foreign Office said. “You should be vigilant at this time.”

The warning will be included on all govern-

ment travel advice web pages, and comes in response to an increase in the generalized threat level, rather than a specific credible threat, the statement said.

In August Britain raised its national threat level to its second-highest rating, citing the risks posed by Islamic State fighters returning from Iraq and Syria. Prime Minister David Cameron has said those militants pose the country’s greatest-ever security risk. — *Reuters*

Canada security services struggle with extremist threat, resources gap

OTTAWA, 1 Nov — Canada’s spy agency and national police force are so constrained by a lack of resources that they can’t keep close track of all the Islamic extremists who may be a potential threat at home and they have also had to abandon some counter-espionage work and criminal investigations, according to current and former intelligence and police officials.

Ray Boisvert, former assistant director of intelligence at the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), said the spy agency and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police would need extra operatives if they were to be able to monitor more of the people they see as a possible threat.

Police say they have investigations into 90 high-risk suspects who have either returned from helping foreign militant groups or who are planning to go abroad.

Canada was stunned by two deadly attacks last week that police said were the work of homegrown radicals, and the government has promised to increase the powers of the nation’s security services. A gunman killed a soldier at Ottawa’s national war memorial before launching an attack on the Canadian Parliament on 22 October, and two days earlier a man ran down two soldiers in Quebec, killing one.

Boisvert, who left CSIS in 2012 and is now a security consultant to pri-

vate firms, said the agency and the RCMP have already had to switch resources away from a number of key areas to counter the threat. He estimates that by the time he departed, 85 percent of the agency’s work was focused on counter-terrorism. It can take dozens of people to properly track one suspect, he told *Reuters* in an interview.

“So if there are 80 or 90 possible suspects out there ... there is no way we are going to surveil all of them,” Boisvert said. “Even if we doubled the resources at the RCMP and CSIS, we’re never going to surveil them all.”

Neither CSIS or the RCMP responded to requests for comment sent on Thursday. — *Reuters*

Army officer takes charge in Burkina Faso, ousting general

OUAGADOUGOU, 1 Nov — An officer in Burkina Faso’s presidential guard seized power on Saturday promising to lead the West African country to elections after the resignation of longtime President Blaise Compaore, in an apparent putsch against the military chief of staff.

Compaore stepped down on Friday after two days of mass protests against his attempts to change the constitution to extend his 27-year rule. At least three people were killed after protesters stormed the parliament building and set it on fire.

Army chief of staff General Honore Traore, a Compaore loyalist, had quickly announced on Friday he would take over the presidency on a transitional

basis, but this was rejected by the demonstrators and a number of junior officers.

After reports of heavy gunfire near the presidential palace early on Saturday, Lieutenant Colonel Issaak Zida, the operational commander of the elite presidential guard, announced on radio that he was taking power.

“I assume from today the responsibilities of head of this transition and head of state,” Zida said, dressed in military fatigues, in the studio of BF1 television.

“I salute the memory of the martyrs of this uprising and bow to the sacrifices made by our people.”

The unfolding crisis was being closely watched by the United States and former colonial power France, which were close

military allies of Compaore. Under his rule, Burkina Faso became a key ally in Western operations against al-Qaeda-linked groups in West Africa.

The events will also be carefully followed by other governments in West and Central Africa, where long-serving leaders are reaching the end of their constitutional terms in several countries, including Benin, Congo Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Zida said the army had stepped in to avoid anarchy and ensure a swift democratic transition. He said a roadmap to elections would be drafted by a body drawn from different elements of society, including political parties and civil society.

— *Reuters*



Anti-government protesters gather in the Place de la Nation in Ouagadougou, capital of Burkina Faso, on 31 Oct, 2014. — REUTERS

Oi, America Movil, Telefonica to bid for Brazil's TIM, sources say

SAO PAULO / MILAN, 1 Nov — Brazil's Grupo Oi SA, Mexico's America Movil SAB and Spain's Telefonica SA agreed to place a joint bid worth around 32 billion reais (8.12 billion pounds) for TIM Participações SA, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said on Friday.

The companies agreed to present a single offer to minority shareholders and Telecom Italia SpA, which owns about 67 percent of TIM Participações, Brazil's No 2 wireless carrier, said the first source, who requested anonymity as the deal is still in the works.

A bid could be presented within two weeks, both sources noted. The first

source said Oi, America Movil and Telefonica are confident their offer won't meet too much resistance from antitrust and industry watchdogs in Brazil. The bid implies a 5 percent premium for controlling and minority shareholders of TIM, the first source noted.

Telecom Italia, whose board meets on 6 November to examine its quarterly results, had yet to receive any offer for TIM, Chairman Giuseppe Recchi said on Friday. The Rome-based company has repeatedly said Brazil remains a strategic market, but it would consider selling TIM if a highly priced offer is made.

The bid follows a year of speculation that intense

competition, stagnant sales and the rising cost of new technology would hasten consolidation efforts in Brazil's telecommunications market.

Shares of Oi posted their biggest intraday jump in six years on the news, which was first reported by Brazilian newspaper Folha de S Paulo. TIM Participações jumped as much as 18 percent.

If the bid is successful, the three companies would then proceed to split TIM, the first source noted. Breaking up TIM would give the joint bidders more breathing room in Brazil's crowded four-way mobile market as they struggle to add customers, invest in high-speed networks and protect profits in a stagnant economy.

Under the deal, America Movil would keep 40 percent of TIM's business, Oi would take 28 percent and Telefonica about 32 percent, the first source said. America Movil, controlled by Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim, confirmed in September it planned to join talks with Oi to make a joint bid for TIM.—Reuters



A logo of Spain's telecommunications giant Telefonica is seen on a building in Madrid on 3 Dec, 2012.

REUTERS

JP Morgan found hackers through breach of corporate event website

NEW YORK, 1 Nov — JP Morgan Chase & Co learned about hackers who stole the bank's contact information for 76 million households and 7 million small businesses through a corporate event that it sponsors, the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal* reported, citing people familiar with the matter.

According to the reports, the bank discovered that the intruders had used some of the same offshore servers to hack both the bank and the website of the JPMorgan Corporate Challenge.

The *New York Times* said the breach was part of a repository of a billion stolen passwords and usernames from some 420,000 websites that a Milwaukee-based security consulting firm, Hold Security, had traced to a gang of Russian hackers.

Further investigation by Hold and JPMorgan security specialists revealed that in April the hackers had obtained the website certificate for the Corporate Challenge site's vendor, Simmco Data Systems, allowing hackers access to



A sign outside the headquarters of JP Morgan Chase & Co in New York, on 19 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

any communications between visitors and the website, including passwords and email addresses, the *Times* reported.

It said Hold Security began informing its clients of the breach around August, and JPMorgan officials then told Simmco Data. The bank also looked at traffic on its own network and discovered the same hackers had breached that system.

The hackers had originally gained access to the bank's network by compromising the computer an employee with special privileges had used both at work and at home and then moved across the bank's

network to access contact data, the *WSJ* reported.

The Corporate Challenge website was later taken offline after the hacking of the site was discovered, the *Journal* reported, but the site was restored by the bank ahead of upcoming races in Shanghai and Singapore, although payments have been moved to a Chase website.

Officials at JP Morgan Chase were not available for comment.

Earlier this month, *Reuters* had reported that two US states were investigating the theft of customer records in a massive cyber-attack uncovered over the summer.—Reuters

Branson to meet Virgin Galactic space team after crash

MOJAVE, (Calif), 1 Nov — Richard Branson is set to meet his Virgin Galactic space team in California's Mojave Desert on Saturday following the crash of a passenger spaceship being developed by his company that killed one pilot and seriously injured the other.

The entrepreneur has pledged to keep up the drive for space travel, saying on the company's web site: "Space is hard — but worth it.

We will persevere and move forward together." Friday's crash of the sub-orbital vehicle, undergoing its first powered test flight since January over the Mojave, 95 miles (150 km) north of Los Angeles, was the second disaster suffered by a private space company in less than a week, dealing a blow to the fledgling commercial space launch industry.

On Tuesday, an Antares rocket built and launched by Orbital Sciences Corp exploded after liftoff from Wallops Island, Virginia, destroying a cargo ship bound for the International Space Station.

In the Virgin crash, one pilot body was found in the wreckage, while the second pilot, who ejected and parachuted to the ground, survived with serious injuries, according to Kern County Sheriff Donny Youngblood.

The survivor was found more than a mile from the main wreckage of SpaceShipTwo near the Mojave Air and Space Port, he said.

Television footage of the crash site showed wreckage of the spacecraft lying in two large pieces on the ground, and the company said the spacecraft was destroyed. Youngblood said a debris field was spread over more than a mile.

Both crew members were test pilots for Scaled Composites, the Northrop Grumman Corp subsidiary that designed and built the spacecraft for Virgin and lost three other employees in a July 2007 ground test accident.

"While not a NASA mission, the pain of this (new) tragedy will be felt by all the men and wom-

en who have devoted their lives to exploration," NASA, the US space agency, said in a statement.

The crash occurred shortly after the craft separated from the jet airplane that carried it aloft for its high-altitude launch.

Scaled Composites President Kevin Mickey told a news conference on Friday the ill-fated flight

was the first using a new rocket fuel formula the company switched to in May. He said the formula "had been proven and tested on the ground" before Friday's test launch.

The US National Transportation Safety Board said it was sending one of its teams to investigate. More than 800 people have paid or put down

deposits to eventually fly aboard the spaceship, which is hauled to an altitude of about 45,000 feet (13.7 kms) and released by Virgin's White Knight Two carrier jet airplane.

Cost of a ride on the ship now goes for \$250,000 (156,431 pounds) and among those who have signed up are celebrities including singer Lady Gaga

and actors Angelina Jolie and Ashton Kutcher.

The Virgin and Antares back-to-back accidents are set backs for the commercial space launch industry, which has been taking on more work traditionally done by the governments while also expanding for-profit space markets, including tourism.

Reuters



Wreckage from Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo is shown in this still image captured from KNBC video footage from Mojave, California on 31 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

Bodies not yet recovered from site of Kansas airport plane crash

WICHITA, (Kan), 1 Nov— The bodies of four people killed when a small twin-engine turboprop airplane crashed into a building at Wichita's airport remained in the smoldering ruins on Friday as federal officials investigated the crash, officials said.

A demolition contractor has been called in to make sure the Flight Safety International building is stable enough for crews to remove the dead, Wichita city spokesman Dale Goter said.

Pilots from around the world go to Wichita for initial and continuing training for Cessna aircraft in the flight simulators in the building that was struck on Thursday morning by a Beechcraft King Air airplane, which had lost power in one engine after taking off.

"They'll come out as soon as we can get them out safely," Goter said.

The airplane ripped into the roof of the building and set off an explosion and fire killing three people who were in



Smoke billows from a building at at Mid-Continent Airport shortly after a twin-turbo airplane crashed into a building, killing several people, including the pilot in Wichita, Kansas on 30 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

a flight simulator in the building and the pilot, who was alone in the airplane. Safety concerns forced firefighters from the building on Thursday, where some walls and ceilings collapsed.

"There is still some smoldering on the roof," Goter said on Friday, adding that parts of the build-

ing must be removed before crews can enter.

Five people were injured in the building. One person was listed in serious condition at a local hospital on Friday and four people were treated

on Thursday for injuries and released.

The pilot reported losing power in the left engine shortly after taking off from the airport and the plane crashed as he tried to return, federal investiga-

tors have said.

Three witnesses have said the airplane started to drift to the left side of the runway after takeoff and then made a steep left bank into the building, Josh Lindberg, a National Transportation Safety Board investigator, said on Friday.

The airplane had undergone two maintenance test flights and showed no issues before the Thursday flight, Lindberg said.

The NTSB hopes to interview more witnesses and gain access to the crash site on Saturday, he said. They hope to recover a cockpit voice recorder and a digital flight data recorder for analysis, he said.

Authorities said more than 100 people were believed to have been in the building, which was operated by FlightSafety International, a Berkshire Hathaway Inc company.

Reuters

Building collapse traps one in southwest India

NEW DELHI, 1 Nov — A seven-floor residential building collapsed early on Friday in Pune in India's southwestern state Maharashtra.

The building occupied by eight families was evacuated just before it collapsed at 3 am, but one man was trapped in the debris, Sr Police Insp MB Chavhan told *Kyodo News*.

"The rescue operation is on and we are trying to

fish out the man trapped inside the rubble. There are no other casualties or injuries among the 25 people living in building," Chavhan told *Kyodo News* by telephone from Pune.

"The building was one year old and the reason for the collapse is still unclear. We have detained the builder for further investigation," the inspector added.

Kyodo News

Six troops, 20 militants killed in Pakistan's clash

ISLAMABAD, 1 Nov — At least six troops and 20 militants were killed in an armed clash between security forces and militants in Pakistan's northwestern tribal area of Lower Orakzai on Saturday, local media reported.

ARY News reported that the security forces conducted an operation against the suspected militants on an intelligence tip off in Shireen Darra area of Orakzai Agency, a tribal

area on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

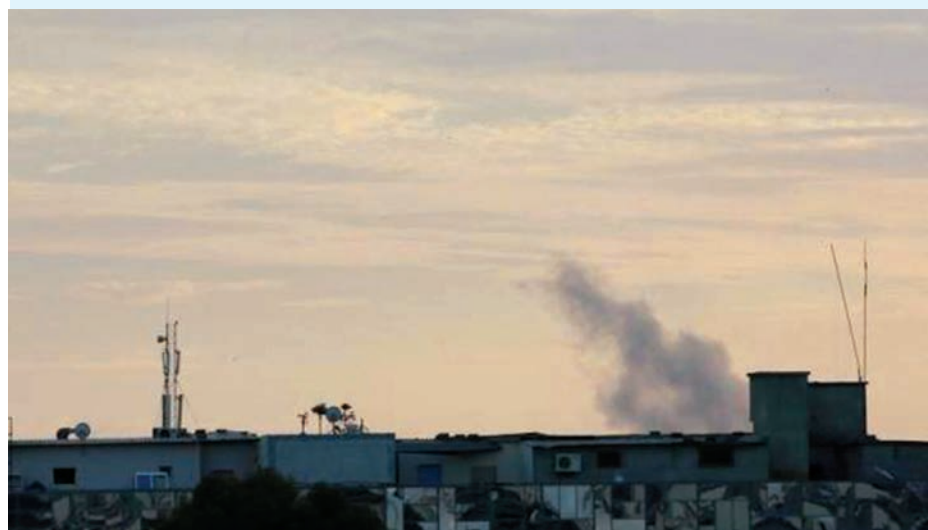
The troops shot down 20 militants, while in the exchange of firing, six soldiers also lost their lives.

The clash also left three soldiers injured who have been shifted to a nearby hospital.

Military did not officially confirm the clash yet.

Identities of the killed militants have also not been revealed by the security forces.—*Xinhua*

Libyan army says recaptures four barracks in Benghazi



Smoke billows from the vicinity of Benghazi University after an airstrike by forces loyal to former general Khalifa Haftar, in Benghazi on Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

BENGHAZI, 1 Nov — Libya's army special forces have seized back four barracks from armed Islamist groups in the eastern city of Benghazi, a commander said on Friday, after two weeks of heavy fighting which has killed at least 210 people.

The army, backed by forces of a former general and other fighters, have waged an offensive against Islamist groups in Libya's second-largest city — part of the chaos gripping the oil producer three years after the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi.

Special forces commander Wanis Bukhamada told *Reuters* his forces controlled the eastern exit road from Benghazi and four camps, including the former army headquarters which it had lost with three others to the Islamists in August.

The army had already said it had expelled Islamists from the airport area and the 17 February camp, one of their strongholds in the port city.

"The army is controlling 80 percent of the city and is cleansing several area of members of An-

sar al-Sharia," Bukhamada said, referring to a group blamed by Washington for a 2012 attack on the US consulate that killed the American ambassador.

The army took a *Reuters* reporter on a tour to showcase what officers said was territory it now controlled. Residents said more army reinforcements had arrived in the past few days. Colonel Mahdi al-Barghathi, commander of a tank battalion, said fighters from Ansar al-Sharia had fled to the area of the seaport. Clashes continued in the west of the city, he

Israel says rocket fired from Gaza into Israel, no injuries

GAZA, 1 Nov — A homemade projectile was fired before dawn on Saturday morning from the Gaza Strip into its southern Israel, no injuries or damages were reported, Israel Radio Arabic service reported. An Israeli army spokesman told Israel Radio that the projectile landed on Ashkol town in western Negev in southern Israel causing no damages or casualties.

The spokesman said the projectile was fired into southern Israel by militants in the Gaza Strip as a test launching, adding that the Israeli army systems discovered the projectile and the sirens didn't operate. No one in Gaza claimed responsibility for the firing the projectile into Israel. However, it is the second time that Israel says a rocket was fired into its southern territories since the end of the 50-day Israeli on Gaza in 26 August.

Xinhua

added.

At least 18 people died in the past two days, bringing the death toll from two weeks of fighting to 210, medics said.

The struggle is part of a wider conflict in the North African state where former rebels who helped oust Gaddafi are fighting for power and a share of the country's oil revenues.

Libya is divided between rival tribes and political factions with two governments vying for legitimacy since an armed group from the western city of Misrata seized Tripoli in August, forcing the internationally recognized Prime Minister Abdullah al-Thinni to move east.

The situation in Benghazi and other parts of Libya has been fluid as government forces are unable to control militias. Forces of former general Khalifa Haftar, which support the army in Benghazi, have planes from Libya's outdated air force though his opponents say he also gets air support from Egypt, which is worried about the spread of militants. Haftar denies this.

Most foreign embassies withdrew their staff in the summer when the Misrata-led forces expelled a rival group from Tripoli.

Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1458N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1458N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT
(S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (060N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (060N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (117N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ANAN BHUM VOY NO (117N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.11.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

Fire at French public radio complex, staff evacuated



A policeman stands near fire trucks as smoke rises from windows at the Maison de la Radio after a fire broke out on the upper floors of the building which houses French radio stations as in Paris on 31 Oct, 2014. —REUTERS

PARIS, 1 Nov — A fire broke out at France's public radio headquarters in Paris on Friday, forcing live programmes off the air as staff evacuated the vast Paris complex where major building work has been underway.

"The fire is not put out but it is under control," said Paris fire brigade spokes-

man Gabriel Plus, adding that there were no victims and that there was no longer any risk of the fire spreading to other parts of the building.

Photographs circulating on Twitter shortly after the fire broke out showed thick black smoke billowing from upper floors of the building on the banks of the Seine river in the western part of the French capital.

"Staff ... had to be evacuated because of a fire," said a Twitter message from France Info, one of several public radio channels housed at the building, the Maison de la Radio.

France Info highlighted that building work had been underway recently at the building, where thousands of journalists and other staff work.

Fire brigade spokesman Plus said that the fire broke out in a part of the complex where no staff were presented because of renovation work that in part concerned eradication of asbestos.—Reuters

Brazil says car taxes in line with WTO rules

BRASILIA, 1 Nov — Brazil's taxes on imported cars comply with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules, Foreign Minister Luiz Alberto Figueiredo said on Friday.

The comment came after the European Union (EU) announced earlier in the day that it had asked the WTO to establish a panel to look into possible unfair taxes imposed by Brazil on foreign-made cars.

"Our tax regimen is perfectly compatible and we are going to prove this at the panel," said the minister. Asked whether the EU's complaint amid negotiations between the EU and the Southern Common Market, a sub-regional trade bloc, could have negative impact on the Brazilian government, he indicated that it would not, saying "they are different issues."

The EU's complaint was sparked by Brazil's "Inovar Auto" programme, which was launched in 2013 and stays effective until 2017. The programme offers the Brazilian automotive industry tax breaks for meeting modernization goals and improving fuel efficiency.

"Products manufactured in the European Union and sold in Brazil face higher taxes than Brazilian products," the European Commission (EC) said in a press release.

"In addition, Brazil restricts trade by demanding Brazilian manufacturers use domestically-made components as a condition to receive tax breaks," the EC said. —Xinhua

Indian navy ship scraped by merchant vessel

NEW DELHI, 1 Nov — An Indian navy corvette was scraped by a merchant vessel on Friday in the Bay of Bengal off the eastern coast of India, resulting in minor damages, said officials.

"A minor incident involving INS Kora and merchant vessel Madeline Rickmers has been reported approximately 300 NM (Nautical Miles) at sea from

Visakhapatnam, wherein INS Kora was scraped by the merchant vessel in the early hours, 31 Oct 2014," said the Indian Ministry of Defence.

"INS Kora and INS Gaj were on passage from Visakhapatnam to Port Blair. INS Kora has reported minor damages to her ship's side. There has been no damage to the watertight integrity of the ship

or any injuries/loss of life," it said.

An inquiry is being launched to investigate into the circumstances leading to the incident, it said.

The Indian navy has suffered a series of incidents over the past few years, including the explosion and sinking of a submarine last August in Mumbai, in which 18 sailors were killed.—Xinhua

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 2nd November, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Mandalay Region and Shan State, scattered in Yangon, Bago and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States, Degree of certainty is (80%).

Advertise with us!

For inquiries to place an advertisement in the GNLM,

Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com



Palestinian workers work at an olive oil mill in Gaza City on 31 Oct, 2014. Farmers harvested their olives this year from mid-October to early November here and crushed olives at an olive oil mill to release the oil.—XINHUA

'Heaven Knows What' takes top prize at Tokyo film festival



Director Josh Safdie (3rd R) acknowledge the crowd with his brother and co-director Benny Safdie (2nd R) and cast members Caleb Landry Jones (R) and Arielle Holmes (3rd L) after they receive Tokyo Grand Prix for the film "Heaven Knows What" during the closing ceremony of the Tokyo International Film Festival in Tokyo on 31 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS

TOKYO, 1 Nov — Joshua and Benny Safdie's "Heaven Knows What," the story of a young heroin addict who finds love in the streets of New York, took the top prize at the Tokyo International Film Festival on Friday.

The Safdie brothers also won the best director award for the US-French production, which is based on a real-life account of the female lead, Arielle Holmes, and co-stars Caleb Landry Jones of "X-Men: First Class" fame. "It was very simple," competition jury president James Gunn said on selecting the winner. "This was the film that inspired us the most and got us the most excited."

The "Guardians of the Galaxy" director added that "Heaven Knows What" was the most balanced of the films in competition in terms of imagery, story and acting.

"Heaven Knows What" was one of 15 films competing for the \$50,000 Tokyo Grand Prix, after premiering in Venice and screening at

Toronto and New York.

The main competition lineup featured a strong slate of other films making their Asian premieres after screening at major festivals, including "1001 Grams," Norway's Oscar submission for Best Foreign Language Film, and French thriller "The Connection." Lone Japanese entry "Pale Moon," about an ordinary housewife who becomes involved in embezzlement, won the Audience Award. Outside the main competition, this year's festival put greater emphasis than previous years on animation, highlighting Japan's strength in anime.

The festival opened with the world premiere of "Big Hero 6," Disney Animation's next big feature after last year's hit "Frozen."

It also featured a section on the works of "Evangelion" animator Hideaki Anno, while "Super Mario" creator Shigeru Miyamoto unveiled his 3D "PIKMIN Short Movies," based on the Nintendo game characters.

Reuters

Seth Rogen to play Apple co-founder in Steve Jobs' biopic



Actor Seth Rogen is being eyed by Sony to play Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak in the studio's new Steve Jobs biopic.—PTI

NEW YORK, 1 Nov — Actor Seth Rogen is being eyed by Sony to play Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak in the studio's new Steve Jobs biopic.

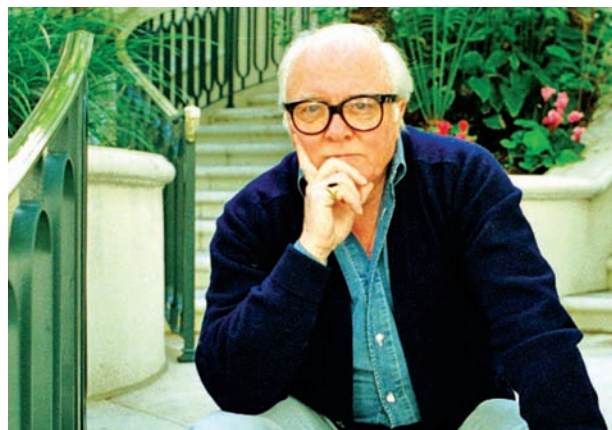
If the deal works out, Rogen, 32, would appear opposite Christian Bale in the film. Bale was cast as Jobs earlier this month, reported *Huffington Post*. Based on Walter Isaacson's biography of Jobs, this new film was written by Aaron Sorkin and will be directed by Danny Boyle. The film might include Jessica Chastain.—PTI

IFFI to pay special tribute to Richard Attenborough

PANAJI, 1 Nov — The upcoming edition of International Film Festival of India (IFFI) will pay special tribute to British filmmaker Richard Attenborough, best known for his Academy-award winning movie 'Gandhi'.

"Richard Attenbor-

ough stands as a very important filmmaker even in India. He gave (the movie) 'Gandhi' to the world. 'Gandhi' had a pan-global approach. There will be a very special and beautiful tribute to him," IFFI's steering committee member Vani Tripathi told PTI



British filmmaker Richard Attenborough is best known for his Academy-award winning movie 'Gandhi'.—PTI

Slumdog Millionaire star Dev Patel to work with Nicole Kidman in 'Lion'

LOS ANGELES, 1 Nov — 'Slumdog Millionaire' star Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman are set to star in 'Lion', a new drama produced by The Weinstein Co.

The drama, based on the memoir 'A Long Way Home' by Saroo Brierley, follows a street kid from Calcutta (Patel) who is taken in and adopted by a couple in Australia, according to *Hollywood Reporter*.

Garth Davis, who co-directed the Golden Globe-winning mini-series 'Top Of the Lake' with



'Slumdog Millionaire' star Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman

Jane Campion, is attached to helm 'Lion'. Luke Davies, the screenwriter on Anton Corbijn's upcoming 'Life', adapted the book for

the screen.

In addition to 'Lion', Patel plays self-taught Indian math genius Srinivasa Ramanujan in Matt

of big wigs from the Indian film industry for the festival's inauguration, she said the Information and Broadcasting ministry has contacted megastar Amitabh Bachchan for the opening ceremony. "Some very senior dignitaries of the film industry are expected to be present. Rajini sir (veteran actor Rajinikanth) is also one of the names in the list... The ministry will issue an official statement as soon as confirmations come," she said. This year, the festival is very special because Goa has become a permanent venue for IFFI, Vani said. "It is also a matter of prestige for Goa that the Central and state governments will be working in coordination with each other (for the festival)," she added.—PTI

Brown's period drama 'The Man Who Knew Infinity', which Mister Smith Entertainment is pitching to buyers; and co-stars in Lionsgate's Soviet-era thriller 'Child 44' and Annapurna's 'The Road Within', a remake of the hit German dramedy 'Vincent Wants to Sea'.

Patel also appears in John Madden's upcoming 'The Second Best Married', the sequel to the 2011 hit, which Fox Searchlight will release in the US next year.

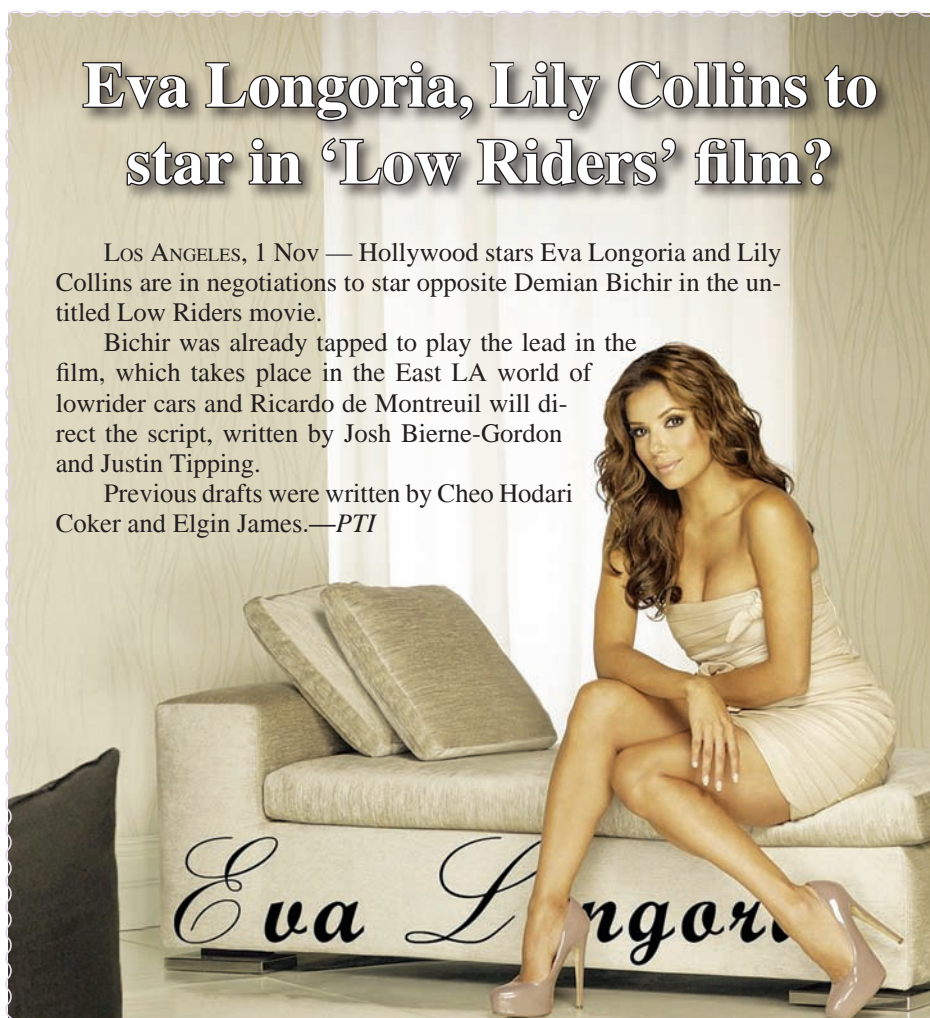
PTI

Eva Longoria, Lily Collins to star in 'Low Riders' film?

LOS ANGELES, 1 Nov — Hollywood stars Eva Longoria and Lily Collins are in negotiations to star opposite Demian Bichir in the untitled Low Riders movie.

Bichir was already tapped to play the lead in the film, which takes place in the East LA world of lowrider cars and Ricardo de Montreuil will direct the script, written by Josh Bierne-Gordon and Justin Tipping.

Previous drafts were written by Cheo Hodari Coker and Elgin James.—PTI



'Batman v Superman' forces Gal Gadot to pass on 'Ben Hur' role

LOS ANGELES, 1 Nov — Actress Gal Gadot has reportedly passed on the role of female lead in 'Ben Hur' remake due to scheduling conflict. Gadot's shooting schedule for 'Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice' forced her to abandon the role, which she had been circling to star in for Paramount and MGM, according to the *Hollywood Reporter*.

Gadot plays Wonder Woman in Zack Snyder's 'Batman v Superman', and is signed on to appear as the DC superhero in a number of Warner Bros' films, including a solo adventure and a series of Justice League movies. 'Ben Hur', a reboot of the 1959 Charlton Heston classic, will have Jack Huston as the Jewish prince who is betrayed by his best friend. Gadot was to play Ben Hur's love interest, a slave named Esther.—PTI

GENERAL

Kenya's Mutai goes for New York hat-trick

NEW YORK, 1 Nov — A doping scandal threatened to overshadow Geoffrey Mutai's run at a New York City Marathon hat-trick and Wilson Kipsang's bid for an eye-popping bonus after their compatriot Rita Jeptoo failed a drugs test.

The two Kenyans are among the headliners for Sunday's race but were suddenly sharing the spotlight with Jeptoo on Friday after Athletics Kenya said the winner of the Boston and Chicago Marathons the last two years failed a doping test.

With beefed up security and concerns about Ebola, a doping controversy was yet another unwanted distraction for the 26.2-mile (42.2-km) race through New York's five boroughs.

Mutai arrives in New York looking to become just



Geoffrey Mutai of Kenya runs in the New York City Marathon in New York, on 3 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

the third man, and first since Alberto Salazar in 1980-82, to win three consecutive times in New York.

The 33-year-old Kenyan set the standard in 2011 with a course record of two hours, five minutes and six seconds.

The 2012 race was can-

celled due to Superstorm Sandy but Mutai returned in 2013 to win in a more modest 2:08.24.

Mutai will hold a big edge in experience over his training partner Kipsang as the former world record holder makes his New York debut. Certainly much of

the pressure will be on the Kipsang, who needs a win on Sunday to avoid losing the World Marathon Majors title and the \$500,000 bonus to compatriots Dennis Kimetto.

The overall championship includes a runner's best results from six major marathons (Tokyo, Boston, London, Berlin, Chicago and New York) over two years. Mutai and Kipsang, the 2012 Olympic bronze medallist, plan to attack the course record, however, a weather forecast of gusting winds are likely to keep the mark from falling.

The two Kenyans are the only entries with marathon personal bests under two hours and four minutes but a quality field could see another winner emerge from a large pack of contenders.

Reuters

China to build permanent laboratory in Sierra Leone

FREETOWN, 1 Nov — China agreed to build a permanent laboratory in Sierra Leone, one of the three Ebola ravaged countries in West Africa, as the fight against the dreaded Ebola disease intensifies.

The two countries signed an agreement on Friday in Freetown. Finance Minister Kaifalla Marah signed on behalf of Sierra Leone, whilst Chinese Ambassador Zhao Yanbo on behalf of the Chinese government.

The Chinese Ambassador noted that China realises the challenges Sierra Leone is facing in its health care delivery service especially with the outbreak of the Ebola disease.

Cognisant of these challenges is why since the outbreak of the Ebola virus, China has made emergency medical aid to support the government and people of Sierra Leone to fight against the disease, Zhao said, adding that China was the first foreign country to come to the assistance of the three countries in May this year.

He mentioned the other humanitarian assistance his government has made available to the three nations in their fight to contain and eradicate the disease in the sub-region.

Zhao said apart from the assistance to fight the Ebola virus, the reason for the laboratory is to help the country in the fight against any further outbreak of any other tropical disease. He disclosed that the construction of the laboratory will commence this month.

Xinhua

European Games opens ticketing sign-up page

BAKU, 1 Nov — Baku 2015 European Games opened a sign-up page on its website to allow fans to register their interest in purchasing tickets for next summer's event on Friday.

The website allows international and Azerbaijani customers to request ticketing updates on the sports programme as well as receive all the latest news from Baku 2015.

Ticket sales to the general public will open next year, but those who register their interest now will be first to be sent frequent E-mail updates on all the latest developments as the countdown continues.

"We know that fans will be keen to secure their place as soon as possible to attend Baku 2015 and this system will make it easy for them to keep up to date with all the latest news and information about the ticket sales process next year," said Simon Clegg, Chief Operating Officer of 2015 European Games.

Baku was awarded the Games by the European Olympic Committees (EOC) in December 2012. The Baku European Games Operations Committee will organize and run the Games in co-operation with the EOC.

Xinhua

Museum needed for relics unearthed before China's water diversion

ZHENGZHOU, 1 Nov — A museum is needed to preserve rare relics unearthed to make way for the massive south-to-north water transfer project, a central China official said on Saturday.

More than 100,000 ancient artifacts were discovered in the relics-rich Henan Province over nine years during preparation for the project, said Zhang Zhiqing, division head of the provincial bureau of cultural relics.

The province boasts a rich history, with the most unearthed artifacts in the country. Some of the artifacts found helped solve some of the historic mys-

teries surrounding Henan, Zhang said. But a dearth of preservation locations has forced authorities to store a large proportion of the valuable relics in local warehouses, adding to concerns about possible damage.

"A museum for relic preservation is seriously needed," Zhang said. The middle route of the transfer project will see a massive 9.5 billion cubic meters of water per year pumped through canals and pipes from the Danjiangkou reservoir in central China's Hubei Province to the northern provinces of Henan and Hebei and to Beijing.—Xinhua

EU files dispute against Russia over duties on agricultural, manufactured goods

GENEVA, 1 Nov — The European Union (EU) requested a consultation with Russia over the tariffs the latter imposed on certain agricultural and manufactured goods, said the World Trade Organization (WTO) on Friday.

According to the WTO, the EU claimed that Russia applies duties in excess of bound rates in several ways, particularly duty rates applied to its paper and paperboard, and palm oil; and its fractions, refrigerators and combined refrigerators-freezers. The EU insisted the measures taken by Russia "adversely affect exports of these goods

from the European Union to Russia."

This is the fifth case filed against Russia since it acceded to the WTO in August 2012. The first two cases, related to the recycling fee on motor vehicles, were filed by both the EU and Japan in July 2013.

The third was filed in April 2014 by the EU over Russia's measures on the imports of EU live pigs and their genetic materials and products.

The fourth case brought forward by the EU to the WTO in May this year, disputed Russia's anti-dumping duties on light commercial vehicles from Germany

and Italy.

Request for consultations is the first step of a dispute in the WTO's dispute settlement system.

Russia has up to 10 days to respond and the members must enter into consultations within a maximum of 30 days after the request has been officially made.

The parties have 60 days from the time Russia receives the request to come to an amenable conclusion.

If the countries fail to find a satisfactory solution, the complainant may request an expert panel look into the dispute.

Xinhua

MITV MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(2-11-14 07:00 am~ 3-11-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * The Stories of The Great Souls (Daw Saw Mone Nyin — A Living Literary Legend of Myanmar)
- * World News
- * Today Myanmar "Japanese Cuisine: Sushi"
- * Local News
- * Joyous Celebration of Taunggyi Balloon Festival (Part-1)
- * World News
- * Innovative Handiworks Based on The Art of Line Drawing
- * Local News
- * A Trip to Mon State
- * World News
- * Sagaing: Gold Leaf
- * Local News
- * Black Gold (Part - I) & (Part - II)
- * World News
- * Distinct People, Different Lifestyles (Pan-Pack Village)
- * Local News
- * The Religious Insignias of pagodas In Myanmar
- * World News
- * In The Studio: Hemale
- * Local News
- * Their Traditions and Hot-air Balloon Competition
- * World News
- * A Monk's Robe
- * Local News
- * Human Right, Human Dignity: "Aim High in Creation"
- * World News
- * Myanmar Chef (Japanese)
- * Local News
- * Myanma Pottery
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass "Caricature"



A health worker gives Vitamin A to a child during the national polio vaccination campaign in Yaounde, Cameroon, on 31 Oct, 2014. Cameroon launched a three-day national polio vaccination campaign cooperated with partners like World Health Organization and United Nations Children's Fund. The campaign covering about 5.6 million children in Cameroon would last from Friday to Sunday. —XINHUA

Defiant Pellegrini won't change ahead of derby

MANCHESTER, 1 Nov — Manchester City manager Manuel Pellegrini insists he will not change the way his team play despite suffering two defeats in a week and losing playmaker David Silva ahead of Manchester United's visit on Sunday.

The Premier League champions have endured an indifferent start to the season and Pellegrini has come under increasing pressure after expressing concern over his side's form earlier this week.

A 2-1 loss at in-form West Ham United on Saturday left them third in the table on 17 points, six adrift from leaders Chelsea, before the defence of their League Cup title ended prematurely with a surprise 2-0 home defeat to Newcastle United on Wednesday. The beleaguered Chilean remained defiant, however, in the face of United's trip to the Etihad Stadium, insisting that his out-of-sorts team do not need to change much even if they will be without Silva, who will be missing for up to a month after injuring his knee. "David is a very important player but I always say the same thing. We have a squad and we have to re-

place him with another player," Pellegrini told a news conference.

"I think that we can play faster than we are doing. But still, I remember the games against the Newcastle and West Ham, the best player was their goalkeeper.

"If I think back to a year ago, I was answering the same questions. When we didn't win away for the first six games — it was the same questions I just answered now.

"I will continue to play the same way."

Pellegrini got his first taste of a Manchester derby at the Etihad last season and an excellent performance from his side ended in a resounding 4-1 victory.

The City boss indicated that a similar performance in the fixture on Sunday could galvanise his team, as it did last year.

"The game we played here, the first one at the Etihad (last year) was in a moment where I was new here, where maybe there were a lot of doubts about the result but I never changed my mind in the way we have to play against any other team," he said.—Reuters

Frenchman Levy shoots 63 to go four clear at BMW Masters

SHANGHAI, 1 Nov — American-born Frenchman Alexander Levy continued his brilliant form when he carded nine-under-par 63 and surged to a four-stroke lead after the third round at the BMW Masters on Saturday. Levy, the son of two pharmacists, conjured up a special formula of his own to rattle off nine birdies for a 22-under 194 total with one round left on the rain-softened Lake Malaren course. Welshman Jamie Donaldson (62), boosted by a late eagle, vaulted into second place on 18-under, with German Marcel Siem (65) another stroke behind in third place.

Halfway leader Nicolas Colsaerts of Belgium shot 73 to plunge nine strokes off the pace.

Levy, 24, seeking his third victory of the season on the European Tour, improved to 40-under in his past five rounds of stroke play (including two at the Portugal Masters which he won), an impressive achievement notwithstand-

ing the ideal scoring conditions at both events.

"I played an amazing round," the world number 74, who was not even ranked in the top 300 at this time last year, told reporters. "I was not surprised but it was fun. It's true I am confident and I need to enjoy this moment and do my best tomorrow and try to do the same job."

Levy said he enjoyed "target golf" — the type played on soft courses where players can aggressively fire at pins in the knowledge the ball will stop quickly. "When the greens are a bit more firm, it's not my best," said the man whose boyhood golf idol was Tiger Woods but these days most admires current world number one Rory McIlroy. Donaldson, barely a month removed from clinching victory for Europe at the Ryder Cup, enjoyed another magic moment when he holed a nine-iron from 142-yards at the par-four 16th to jump into second place.—Reuters

Gerrard shocked by Suarez's Ballon d'Or omission

LONDON, 1 Nov — Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard has criticized what he called FIFA's political decision not to include former team mate Luis Suarez on their shortlist for this year's Ballon d'Or award as the world's best footballer.

The list, announced earlier this week, had 23 names on it, but not that of the Uruguayan striker, who was banned for four months by FIFA after biting Italy's Giorgio Chiellini at the World Cup in June.

He only returned to football last weekend, playing in El Clasico against Real Madrid for Barcelona, whom he had joined from Liverpool for a fee the English club said was 75 million pounds (\$119.93 million).

"He scored 31 goals and was voted best player in the hardest league in the world," Gerrard said in an interview with the *Daily Mail*.

"So you tell me how he's not on the Ballon d'Or list? Incredible. He should be fighting Cristiano Ronaldo for it. That's a fact.

I can't believe it but that's politics in football isn't it?"

Gerrard, meanwhile, is waiting to open talks with his only club about a new contract.

"I certainly won't be retiring this summer," he said.

"I will play beyond this season. We will have to wait and see if that's at Liverpool or somewhere else. That's Liverpool's decision. If they don't come then I will see what's out there."

Liverpool have struggled so far this season without Suarez, partly because England international striker Daniel Sturridge has been out injured since the end of August and new signing Mario Balotelli has yet to score a league goal.

"I'm not looking for excuses but there are collective reasons for our stuttering start this time," Gerrard said.

"We lost a key player, we've had a key player injured and other Premier League sides have improved.

"For me, when you talk



Uruguay's Luis Suarez (L) and England's Steven Gerrard fight for the ball during their 2014 World Cup Group D soccer match at the Corinthians arena in Sao Paulo on 19 June, 2014.—REUTERS

about potential in this country, Daniel Sturridge is the player with the most. Ability-wise he is possibly the number one (English) striker I've played with, when you talk about speed, sharpness and skill and different types of goals."

Gerrard also has faith in the maverick Balotelli, of whom he says: "He just needs time to score the goals he needs to prove to people he is worthy of staying here. I am not going to judge him

after 10 games.

"To come in after Suarez was always going to be a big ask and he's not feeling sorry for himself. He is working hard, doing extra shooting sessions."

Sturridge remains unfit ahead of a big eight-day period for Liverpool, who are away to Newcastle on Saturday, Real Madrid in the Champions League on Tuesday, then at home to league leaders Chelsea on Saturday week.—Reuters

Federer's number one hopes take a hit in Paris defeat

PARIS, 1 Nov — Roger Federer's hopes of knocking Novak Djokovic off the top of the ATP world rankings before the end of the year took a hit when he lost to big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic in the Paris Masters quarter-finals on Friday.

The Swiss second seed was beaten 7-6(5), 7-5 and Djokovic later saw off Andy Murray 7-5, 6-2 to advance to the semi-finals of a tour-

nament he won last year.

Federer had narrowed the points gap on Djokovic in recent weeks but defeat in Bercy halted his charge, while Japan's Kei Nishikori and Raonic completed the line-up for the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals which will be played in London from 9-16 November. All is not lost for Federer, however, as the Swiss is able to boost his points tally in



Switzerland's Roger Federer serves against Milos Raonic of Canada during their men's singles quarter-final match at the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Bercy sports hall in Paris, on 31 Oct, 2014.

REUTERS

the Davis Cup final against France.

"Milos played well. As I said, I always thought it was going to get solved in London," Federer, who beat Raonic in the Wimbledon semi-final this year, told a news conference. "Whether I am number one at the end of this year or one or two weeks later next year, it doesn't really matter. Novak seems to be fit, anyway."

Seventh seed Raonic, who qualified for London after Nishikori beat Spanish fourth seed Ferrer 3-6, 7-6(5), 6-4 to become the first Asian singles player to qual-

ify for the season-ending showpiece, served 21 aces to beat Federer for the first time in seven attempts.

Raonic will face Tomas Berdych in the semi-finals after the Czech booked his place in London with a 6-7(4), 6-4, 6-4 victory over South African Kevin Anderson.

Djokovic, who edged a close first set against Murray before running through the second, will take on sixth seed Nishikori. Federer appeared relieved that he would have a little more time to prepare for the Tour Finals.—Reuters