Japan seeks U.S. understanding on dispute with China over Senkakus


Gemba and Burns also confirmed close cooperation among Japan, the United States and South Korea before the three countries hold working-level talks in Tokyo on Wednesday to discuss North Korean affairs, Japanese officials said.

The meeting came as worries remain over tensions between Japan and China following Tokyo’s purchase most of the Japaneseadministered Senkaku Islands from a Japanese citizen last month.

Japan maintains that no territorial dispute exists over the uninhabited islands, which China claims and calls Diaoyu.

Gemba also asked Burns that the U.S. Marine Corps observe a set of safety measures agreed on between the two countries over the operation of MV-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft deployed at a Marine air base in Okinawa Prefecture.

He was quoted by the officials as telling Burns in the meeting to take “maximum care” of safety when operating the combat troop carriers. Gemba also called for safe operations of the Osprey aircraft when the Marines conduct low-altitude flight training missions planned across the country.

Kyodo News

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (15-10-2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cocogyun</td>
<td>1.77 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyu</td>
<td>1.30 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taungup</td>
<td>1.18 inches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayan</td>
<td>1.06 inches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) liaison office allowed in Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—The President Office denied the speculations widely spread among the public over the opening of the liaison office of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Myanmar for humanitarian aids to the country, saying it “goes against the will of the population.”

The President have set four criterions — national integrity, national interest, sovereignty and environment — for bilateral or international MoUs to be signed by the government and ensured strict adherence by the government.

Kyodo News

Vice-President U Nyan Tun meets performing arts contestants

Patron of 19th Myanmar National Races’ Traditional Performing Arts Competition Vice-President U Nyan Tun gives medicines to doyen artistes.

The Vice-President cordially greeted the contestants and presented gifts to doyen artistes.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun is patron of the leading committee for holding the event.

MNA

Honda set to play in Japan-Brazil friendly

WROCLAW, Poland, 15 Oct.—Japan midfielder Keisuke Honda is ready to roll against Brazil after the CSKA Moscow man finally took part in full-blown training on Sunday.

Honda remained rooted to the bench in Friday’s 1-0 victory over France, nursing a bruised right calf that he picked up while playing for CSKA just before the international week.

But Honda, arguably coach Alberto Zaccheroni’s most trusted and tried player, and who has served as the focal point of the Japanese attack, trained with the team during a closed session upon arriving in Poland for Tuesday’s friendly here versus the five-time World Cup winners.

While Japan recorded their first-ever win over Les Bleus through a very late goal by Shinji Kagawa, the Asian champions could surely use Honda against the Selecao, after failing to click for large phases of the game.

Honda as well as first-choice goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima’s man-of-the-match caliber performance, there was a chance Japan could have been embarrassed by the hosts — just like 11 years ago when they were humbled 5-0 at the Stade de France under Philippe Troussier.

Japan were without Honda as well as first-choice attacking players Ryoichi Maeda and Shinji Okazaki, and had to cope with an out-of-shape captain Makoto Hasebe, whose lack of playing time for his club (zero appearances this season for Wolfsburg) must be a growing concern for Zaccheroni.

Kyodo News
UEC chairman meets guests from Denmark and the Netherlands

Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye meets Senior Advisor Ms. Hanne Lund Madsen of The Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy (DIPD) from Denmark and Senior Programme Manager Ms. Karin de Jong of The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD).—MNA

Navy Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—Union Election Commission Chairman U Tin Aye met with Senior Advisor Ms. Hanne Lund Madsen of The Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy (DIPD) from Denmark and Senior Programme Manager Ms. Karin de Jong of The Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD) from Netherlands at his office at 2 pm today. Also present at the call together with the UEC chairman were Members U Myint Naing, U Aung Myint, U Nyunt Tin, U Win Ko and officials from commission office. The measures to render assistance for parties and electoral procedures were discussed at the call. MNA

Myanmar, Norway to enhance cooperation in environmental conservation and forestry sectors

Navy Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—At the invitation of the Ministry of Environment of Norway, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun paid a visit to Oslo, Norway from 9 to 12 October.

On 10 October morning, the Union minister held comprehensive discussions with Norwegian Minister for Environment Mr. Bard Vegar Solhjell on bilateral cooperation in environmental conservation and forestry sectors at the formal luncheon.

Next, the Union Minister and Norwegian Minister gave an interview on bilateral cooperation to NRK Broadcasting Cooperation.

Then the Union Minister held discussions on matters of ongoing REDD+ works in Myanmar. Investment in forestry sector and prevention against illegal trafficking of timber and forest products and wildlife in border areas in meeting with responsible persons of Norway-based non-governmental organizations.

The Myanmar delegation led by the Union minister visited University of Life Science in Oslo and Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute and held discussions with Baller Mayor Mr. Reidar Kaabbel and party.

On 11 October morning, the Union minister and party visited CIENS of Oslo University where CIENS Chairman Mr. Erik Framstad and experts explained opportunities and challenges of ecotourism including conservation works for Wulianzushai Lake which is famous in the People’s Republic of China.

The Myanmar delegation explained conservation of forests in watershed areas of Imlay and Hnawgyi Lakenes and discussed bilateral cooperation in research and human resources development works.

In the afternoon, the Myanmar delegation met officials of the Ministry of Environment of Norway. The meeting focused on forestry and environmental conservation between the two countries.

International White Cane Day marked

Yangon, 15 Oct—In commemoration of the 21st Yangon Mayor’s Cup white cane walk took place at People’s Square and People’s Park in Dagon Township here this morning. Altogether 462 blind contestants from schools for the blinds, training schools and workshops totalling 14 across the nation took part in the walk. Next, prize presentation ceremony followed at Yangon City Hall.

Vehicle carrying ironwood firewood turns over

Paungkhlang, 15 Oct—A vehicle turned over on Pyay-Toungoo Road near Pyaksoekyan Village, eight east of Paungkhlaung, on 29 September. In the incident, Maung Nyi Nyi Tun, 24, bus conductor, died on the spot.

The vehicle of Myosagyi Brokerage from Paungkhlaung carrying ironwood firewood occurred traffic accident on its return. Paungkhlaung Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Maung Nyi Lin Htay. —Kyemon

Role of the State to be studied in transition period of Myanmar

Life of people with transparent opinion, confidence and emotion

Scoops among the public

As of 18 October

Three newspapers will be published in colour in Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay daily.

Myanma Alin and the Mirror will be in circulation in Yangon every other week

Publication of all newspapers with new forms in colour will be in mid-December

There will be no change in prices. Agents are requested to not rise the original paper prices. Colour advertisements are invited.

National Unity Congress Party applies for registration as political party

Navy Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—The Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and passing application of registration for political parties. National Unity Congress Party led by U Myint Wai and 16 people applied for registration as a political party to the Union Election Commission and thus the UEC has granted the party in conformity with laws and bylaws.—MNA

BDC No (29/2012) opens

Yangon, 15 Oct—The opening of Basic Diplomatic Course No (29/2012) was held at Wunzinminraza Hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs this morning. Current international issues, holding international conference, negotiation, international law, foreign economic relations, international etiquette, writing of office letter and diplomatic writing and communication will be lectured at the 12-week course.—MNA

International White Cane Day marked

Yangon, 15 Oct—In commemoration of the 21st Yangon Mayor’s Cup white cane walk took place at People’s Square and People’s Park in Dagon Township here this morning. Altogether 462 blind contestants from schools for the blinds, training schools and workshops totalling 14 across the nation took part in the walk. Next, prize presentation ceremony followed at Yangon City Hall. Secretary of Yangon City Development Committee U Kyaw Soe spoke words of thanks and presented the Cup and awards. Then the wife of the Yangon Mayor, the secretary and committee members and officials presented glasses to blind children.

On behalf of the schools for the blinds, the wife of the Yangon Mayor accepted K 10 million donated by wellwishers.—MNA

Vehicle carrying ironwood firewood turns over

Paungkhlang, 15 Oct—A vehicle turned over on Pyay-Toungoo Road near Pyaksoekyan Village, eight east of Paungkhlaung, on 29 September. In the incident, Maung Nyi Nyi Tun, 24, bus conductor, died on the spot. The vehicle of Myosagyi Brokerage from Paungkhlaung carrying ironwood firewood occurred traffic accident on its return. Paungkhlaung Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Maung Nyi Lin Htay. —Kyemon
Iran, UN-AL envoy to Syria urge resolving Syrian issue in peaceful way

The joint special representative of the United Nations and the Arab League (AL) to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi (L) and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Akbar Salehi attend a joint press conference in Teheran, Iran, on 14 Oct. 2012. Both of them called here on Sunday for resolving the Syrian issue in a peaceful way. 

A supporter wearing a “Virginians for Obama” shirt takes a picture of US President Barack Obama (L) as he greets supporters at his campaign office in Williamsburg, Virginia, on 14 Oct. 2012. — REUTERS

Although the US unemployment rate dipped below 6 percent last month for the first time since Obama took office in January 2009, Romney now leads the incumbent by 42.5 percent to 39.2 percent among likely voters on the question of who would be better at creating jobs. That reverses a lead of almost 6 points for Obama on that issue on 30 September, before the first debate. The pressure is now on Obama, who has acknowledged he was "too polite" in that debate, to be more confrontational without appearing strident or desperate. — Reuters

Iran

The Greek PM says Greece faces “last hurdle”

Antonis, 15 Oct — Greece faces the “last hurdle” before the start of recovery, Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said in an interview published on Sunday. “We restored the country’s credibility. Now we face the last hurdle,” stressed Samaras speaking to Greek newspaper “Kathimerini” as bailouts talk with inspectors of international creditors in Athens on the release of further loans were in the “final stretch” ahead of the 18 Oct EU summit, according to government sources. The Greek Prime Minister also expressed confidence that he will reach Brussels with a final agreement on the fresh austerity package for 2013-2014 and other prerequisites requested by European Union (EU) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the disbursement of the next 31.5 billion euro rescue loans. Without the new tranche, debt-crippled Greece could financially collapse by year end, sending shockwaves across Europe and the international financial system. Several positive steps have been taken, yet much remains to be done,” IMF’s chief Christine Lagarde said the same Greek newspaper.

In the meantime, month-long marathon negotiations between auditors and Greek government officials entered the final stretch on Sunday at the Greek Finance Ministry, according to sources. A blueprint of a deal could be sealed by Samaras and his coalition partners by Wednesday. — Xinhua

Thousands of British troops to quit Afghanistan in 2013

London, 15 Oct — Britain plans to withdraw thousands of troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014. Britain’s defence budget, like that of other NATO members, is under pressure, forcing the defence ministry to slash spending and cut force numbers and equipment programmes. The Treasury, struggling to revive a flagging economy, earlier this year said it would use money once earmarked for the military mission in Afghanistan to fund tax cuts. German news magazine Der Spiegel said on Sunday that the German government had agreed to reduce the number of German troops stationed in Afghanistan to significantly below 4,000 ahead of the withdrawal of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) by the end of 2014. The magazine also said German Defence Minister Thomas de Maiziere and Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle had agreed that the army’s new mandate would be longer than the usual 12 months so that it extended beyond the Afghan presidential elections planned for the beginning of 2014. — Reuters

EU plans major new sanctions against Iran

Luxembourg, 15 Oct — European Union governments plan to ratchet up sanctions pressure against Iran over its nuclear program on Monday, approving new measures against Teheran’s banking sector, industry and shipping. The new sanctions mark one of the toughest pushes against Iran by Europe to date, and come amid mounting concerns over the Islamic Republic’s military intentions and the failure of diplomacy to solve the atom stand-off this year.

Iran insists its nuclear work has only peaceful dimensions and has refused in three rounds of talks since April to scale it back unless major economic sanctions are lifted. But governments in Europe and the United States have refused to do so, and, instead, are tightening the financial screws against Teheran as fears grow that the nuclear dispute could envelop the Middle East in a new round of sanctions.

On Monday, Luxembourg meeting, foreign ministers will also extend measures levied against Belarus over human rights abuses, and approve a new round of sanctions against Syria to pressure President Bashar al-Assad to halt violence against rebels. — Reuters

Iran, UN-AL envoy to Syria urge resolving Syrian issue in peaceful way

The joint special representative of the United Nations and the Arab League (AL) to Syria Lakhdar Brahimi (L) and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Akbar Salehi attend a joint press conference in Teheran, Iran, on 14 Oct. 2012. Both of them called here on Sunday for resolving the Syrian issue in a peaceful way. 

A supporter wearing a “Virginians for Obama” shirt takes a picture of US President Barack Obama (L) as he greets supporters at his campaign office in Williamsburg, Virginia, on 14 Oct. 2012. — REUTERS

Although the US unemployment rate dipped below 6 percent last month for the first time since Obama took office in January 2009, Romney now leads the incumbent by 42.5 percent to 39.2 percent among likely voters on the question of who would be better at creating jobs. That reverses a lead of almost 6 points for Obama on that issue on 30 September, before the first debate. The pressure is now on Obama, who has acknowledged he was “too polite” in that debate, to be more confrontational without appearing strident or desperate. — Reuters

Iran

The Greek PM says Greece faces “last hurdle”

Antonis, 15 Oct — Greece faces the “last hurdle” before the start of recovery, Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said in an interview published on Sunday. “We restored the country’s credibility. Now we face the last hurdle,” stressed Samaras speaking to Greek newspaper “Kathimerini” as bailouts talk with inspectors of international creditors in Athens on the release of further loans were in the “final stretch” ahead of the 18 Oct EU summit, according to government sources. The Greek Prime Minister also expressed confidence that he will reach Brussels with a final agreement on the fresh austerity package for 2013-2014 and other prerequisites requested by European Union (EU) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) for the disbursement of the next 31.5 billion euro rescue loans. Without the new tranche, debt-crippled Greece could financially collapse by year end, sending shockwaves across Europe and the international financial system. Several positive steps have been taken, yet much remains to be done,” IMF’s chief Christine Lagarde said the same Greek newspaper.

In the meantime, month-long marathon negotiations between auditors and Greek government officials entered the final stretch on Sunday at the Greek Finance Ministry, according to sources. A blueprint of a deal could be sealed by Samaras and his coalition partners by Wednesday. — Xinhua

Thousands of British troops to quit Afghanistan in 2013

London, 15 Oct — Britain plans to withdraw thousands of troops from Afghanistan by the end of 2014. Britain’s defence budget, like that of other NATO members, is under pressure, forcing the defence ministry to slash spending and cut force numbers and equipment programmes. The Treasury, struggling to revive a flagging economy, earlier this year said it would use money once earmarked for the military mission in Afghanistan to fund tax cuts. German news magazine Der Spiegel said on Sunday that the German government had agreed to reduce the number of German troops stationed in Afghanistan to significantly below 4,000 ahead of the withdrawal of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) by the end of 2014. The magazine also said German Defence Minister Thomas de Maiziere and Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle had agreed that the army’s new mandate would be longer than the usual 12 months so that it extended beyond the Afghan presidential elections planned for the beginning of 2014. — Reuters

EU plans major new sanctions against Iran

Luxembourg, 15 Oct — European Union governments plan to ratchet up sanctions pressure against Iran over its nuclear program on Monday, approving new measures against Teheran’s banking sector, industry and shipping. The new sanctions mark one of the toughest pushes against Iran by Europe to date, and come amid mounting concerns over the Islamic Republic’s military intentions and the failure of diplomacy to solve the atom stand-off this year.

Iran insists its nuclear work has only peaceful dimensions and has refused in three rounds of talks since April to scale it back unless major economic sanctions are lifted. But governments in Europe and the United States have refused to do so, and, instead, are tightening the financial screws against Teheran as fears grow that the nuclear dispute could envelop the Middle East in a new round of sanctions.

On Monday, Luxembourg meeting, foreign ministers will also extend measures levied against Belarus over human rights abuses, and approve a new round of sanctions against Syria to pressure President Bashar al-Assad to halt violence against rebels. — Reuters
Microsoft debuts Xbox music service to take on Apple

NEW YORK, 15 Oct—Microsoft Corp on Monday announced that Xbox Music, a digital music service to vie with Apple Inc’s iTunes and Amazon.com Inc’s Cloud Player, will be available for its Xbox game consoles on Tuesday.

The service will be expanded to Windows software-based computers and tablets, including the upcoming Surface tablet, from 26 October, when Microsoft launches Windows 8. It will be expanded to phones shortly after that.

The world’s largest software maker has been trying for years to make the household living room an entertainment hub with its Xbox. More than 67 million units have been sold since 2005.

About 18 months ago, the company realized that Xbox users were spending half of their entertainment services rather than video gaming. Xbox Music general manager Jerry Johnson said.

The market-leading video game console already streams Netflix, ESPN and other channels and is bolstering its service with music and other video content.

“We also realize, as an entertainment company, that music is an important ingredient on its own and as a part of different user experiences,” Johnson said.

Xbox Music replaces Microsoft’s digital media brand Zune that struggled to compete with iTunes. Microsoft will offer a free ad-supported music streaming service, and a premium $9.99 subscription service for unlimited, ad-free streaming.

The service includes a download-to-owner music store with over 30 million songs in its global catalog, more than iTunes’ library of over 26 million songs. It also carries over 70,000 music videos, available only on the Xbox console.

It has cloud-storage features similar to iTunes and Amazon Cloud Player and an artist-based radio function like music streaming services Pandora and Spotify.

Xbox Music will be available in 22 countries. Microsoft hopes to take the service to Apple iOS and Google Inc Android devices next year.

Bangladesh enters 3G era, putting telecom growth on fast track

DHAKA, 15 Oct—Bangladesh has officially entered the next generation of wireless communications when Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Sunday inaugurated the long-awaited 3G or third generation mobile services via a state-run cellphone operator Teletalk.

Prime Minister Hasina launched the cutting-edge technology by making a 3G-enabled mobile phone call to President Zillur Rahman from a formal ceremony at Bangabandhu International Conference Center, formerly known as China-Bangladesh Friendship Conference Centre, in capital Dhaka.

With the launch of the next generation services, she said Bangladesh’s millions of cellphone users will now have access to high-speed 3G Internet through their mobile phones at a relatively lower rate.

3G system enhances the services such as multimedia, high-speed mobile broadband, internet access with the ability to view video footage on mobile handset.

Experts say the launch of 3G services could assist in minimizing the “digital divide” in Bangladesh, a country being poorly served by broadband Internet service.

According to officials, Teletalk’s 3G services would also lead to lower costs for 3G services for customers, according to the company.

Teledeshi telecom-communications ministry, which is now formalizing the draft of the 3G guideline, will award licenses to run the third generation mobile services through an open auction in the shortest possible time, officials said.

At least four slots of bandwidth will be sold off the open auction, BTRC official who preferred to be unnamed had earlier said, adding almost all the big operators in the country’s telecom sector like Grameenphone, Robi, Banglalink and Airtel are expected to bid for the spectrum.

Amazon says Kindle users are entitled to e-book refunds

CHICAGO, 15 Oct—Owners of Amazon.com’s Kindle e-readers will receive refunds for past e-book purchases and see e-book price drops if a judge approves legal settlements with publishers accused of fixing prices, according to the Internet retailer.

Amazon told Kindle owners in emails on Saturday that they could receive a refund of between 30 cents and $1.32 for e-books they bought between April 2010 and May 2012. The books must have been purchased by three publishers who have agreed to settle a lawsuit that accused them of inflating e-book prices.

The settlements are subject to court approval and a hearing is scheduled for February. If approved, the settlements would also limit the publishers’ ability to set future e-book prices, which could lead to lower costs for Kindle users, according to Amazon.

Amazon did not immediately respond to questions on Saturday about how many customers could be eligible for refunds.

The settlements came about after the Justice Department in April accused Apple Inc and five publishers of illegally colluding on prices as part of an effort to fight Amazon’s dominance of e-books.

The department filed an antitrust case in February.

“We also realize, as an entertainment company, that music is an important ingredient on its own and as a part of different user experiences,” Johnson said.

The settlements are subject to court approval and a hearing is scheduled for February. If approved, the settlements would also limit the publishers’ ability to set future e-book prices, which could lead to lower costs for Kindle users, according to Amazon.

Amazon did not immediately respond to questions on Saturday about how many customers could be eligible for refunds.

The settlements came about after the Justice Department in April accused Apple Inc and five publishers of illegally colluding on prices as part of an effort to fight Amazon’s dominance of e-books.

The settlements are subject to court approval and a hearing is scheduled for February. If approved, the settlements would also limit the publishers’ ability to set future e-book prices, which could lead to lower costs for Kindle users, according to Amazon.

Amazon did not immediately respond to questions on Saturday about how many customers could be eligible for refunds.

The settlements came about after the Justice Department in April accused Apple Inc and five publishers of illegally colluding on prices as part of an effort to fight Amazon’s dominance of e-books.

The settlements are subject to court approval and a hearing is scheduled for February. If approved, the settlements would also limit the publishers’ ability to set future e-book prices, which could lead to lower costs for Kindle users, according to Amazon.

Amazon did not immediately respond to questions on Saturday about how many customers could be eligible for refunds.

The settlements came about after the Justice Department in April accused Apple Inc and five publishers of illegally colluding on prices as part of an effort to fight Amazon’s dominance of e-books.
S Korea’s auto production declines 8.2 pct in September

SEOUL, 15 Oct— South Korea’s auto production declined 8.2 percent last month due to partial strikes by the nation’s five automakers, including Hyundai Motor, Kia Motors, GM Korea, Renault Samsung Motors and Ssangyong Motor, reached 343,458 vehicles in September, down 8.2 percent from a year earlier, according to the Ministry of Knowledge Economy.

Asian shares ease on corporate earnings worry

NEW YORK, 15 Oct— Asian shares fell on Monday on growth concerns ahead of the third-quarter corporate earnings season, lifting the safe-haven dollar which in turn undermined commodities.

As risk sensitive assets retreated, the dollar index (DXY) measured against a basket of six major currencies gained 0.4 percent.

A stronger dollar and worries that a slowing global economy may further dent fuel demand pushed US crude futures down more than $1 to $90.82 a barrel. Brent fell 0.6 percent to $113.99. (DR)

The MSCI index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan <.MIAPEX> fell 0.3 percent.

Tokyo’s Nikkei average (.N225) was down 0.1 percent. (J)

Softbank nears $20 billion deal for 70 percent of Sprint: sources

SoftBank nears $20 billion deal for 70 percent of Sprint: sources

NEW YORK, 15 Oct— Japanese mobile operator SoftBank Corp is near a $20 billion deal to acquire a majority control of US carrier Sprint Nextel Corp, sources familiar with the matter said, as the firm led by billionaire Masayoshi Son seeks a foothold in the US market.

A deal, which the sources said could be announced as early as Monday, would be Japan’s biggest overseas buy, and would also give Sprint ammunition to potentially acquire peers and build out its 4G network to compete better in a US wireless market dominated by AT&T and Verizon.

SoftBank shares tumbled more than 7 percent early Monday, as an index lost more than a fifth of its value since news first broke of the firm’s interest in Sprint. Investors are concerned that Son, who has a reputation for taking risks, may be offering too much.

Masayoshi Son, chief executive officer of SoftBank Mobile Corp.—Reuters

Study says Folic acid doesn’t cut risk of colon polyps

BOSTON, 15 Oct— Taking extra folic acid and other B-vitamin supplements may not help protect against colon polyps, according to a US study that contradicts observational studies suggesting people who get more of the vitamins are less likely to get colon cancer.

The study, led by Yiqing Song from Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston and published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, followed 1,470 women with an average initial age of 62.

The women were randomly assigned to take daily folic acid and vitamins B6 and B12, or a vitamin-free placebo pill, and then followed them to see who developed colon polyps.

Business

Societe Generale said in a client note on Friday. A Tokyo-based Softbank spokesman reiterated on Monday that the company was in talks about making an investment in Sprint, but no agreement had been reached. Sprint representatives were not immediately available to comment, and a Clearwire spokesman declined to comment. CNBC’s David Faber reported the news earlier on Sunday.

Softbank is in talks with Japan’s leading banks— Mizuho Financial Group Inc, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group and Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group—to borrow up to $23 billion for a deal, people familiar with the matter told Reuters on Friday.

The banks involved in the syndicated loan could release an commitment letter as soon as this week, the sources said.

Study: can a few cherries a day keep gout away?

BOSTON, 15 Oct— Cherries may no longer be just for ice cream sundae—a US study of people with gout linked eating the fruit with a 35 percent to 75 percent lower risk of having an attack.

Doctors have reported that some patients recommended cherries prevent gout attacks, but the connection has only been studied a few times before, said lead researcher Yuqing Zhang, a professor at the Boston University School of Medicine. “These findings suggest that cherry intake is associated with a lower risk of gout attacks,” Zhang and colleagues wrote in the journal Arthritis & Rheumatism.

But Zhang warned that the study does not prove that cherries alone prevent gout attacks, and that patients should stick with their present gout medications.

“A person can go out and eat the cherries, but they shouldn’t abandon their medical treatment at all,” Zhang added.

Rheumatologists agree with uric acid crystals build up in the joints. The body produces uric acid when it breaks down purines—substances found naturally in the body but also in certain foods, like organ meats, anchovies, mushrooms and some seafoods.

For the study, Zhang and his colleagues recruited patients over the Internet to take online surveys about their attacks. All the 633 participants had a gout attack in the last 12 months, had been diagnosed with gout by a doctor, lived in the United States and were at least 18 years old. Overall, the researchers found that eating cherries over a given two-day period was linked to a 35 percent decrease in the risk of having a gout attack during that period, compared to not eating cherries.—Reuters

Health
Israel upgrades sea, air surveillance Shoval drone

TEL AVIV, Oct 15 — Israel on Sunday unveiled an enhanced unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) for maritime and air surveillance that allows a faster and more precise identification of objects. The drone, known as 1 (Shoval), will help improve Israel’s Naval and Air Force’s recognition of unknown or hostile ships and aircraft even if they are 300 km away, with a range that reaches Turkey, Cyprus or Egypt.

These upgrades on the Shoval drone were showcased by the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), Israel’s prime aerospace and aviation manufacturer, Ynet News site reported. “The system can inquire and intercept any object within just a few minutes,” an IAI official told the newspaper on Sunday, after the Shoval drone had concluded a demonstration in which the new cameras captured every detail of a ship sailing the Mediterranean.

“The Shoval has satellite communication abilities, which means any footage it takes will be broadcasted online to distant location like Paris,” the official said. The older model, officials said, had only one camera on its bottom and its radar did not have such long-range. The upgraded Shoval will help Israel identify any suspicious vessel, cargo or aircraft on the Mediterranean.

IAI unveiled the new Shoval drone only a week after a Israel’s Air Force jets shot down a rogue drone that entered southern Israeli airspace, apparently in an attempted surveillance mission.

Herborizh claimed ownership of the drone a few days later, stating that its reconnaissance mission over Israel had been successful. The drone penetrated into Israel’s airspace from the Mediterranean Sea near the Gaza Strip. A fighter jet fired two missiles at the drone, the second one shooting it down over the northern Negev desert.— Xinhua

Syria’s stolen archeological artifacts worth two bln USD

DAMASCUS, 15 Oct — At a time when the Syrian administration and the rebels are involved in a tug of war for controlling hotspots in the country and driving each other out of some areas, some people are busy in smuggling the country’s centuries-old artifacts and relics.

The online Syria Stops website has warned on Sunday that the Syrian artifacts, some of which go back to more than 6,000 years ago, have been pillaged at the hands of a well-organized mafia that smuggles them outside the country, especially to Syria’s arch-enemies or the countries that overtly support the Syrian rebels.

The on-line report said the artifacts which were plundered from the Syrian museums and smuggled to the museums of Tel Aviv, London, the United States and other countries are estimated at two billion US dollars. It deplored the Syrian government’s dereliction in protecting its monuments and its failure in taking precautionary measures to prevent looting, indicating that the government should have taken archeological treasures to safer places. The report urged the government to work immediately to look after its treasures to prevent the repetition of the Iraqi scenario in Syria.

At any rate, some say that the value of the looted Syrian artifacts is two billion US dollars, and we say what has been stolen is priceless,” said the report. Since the outbreak of protests in Syria 19 months ago, the two conflicting sides have been trading blame for the damage that has been inflicted on some archeological citadels and other historical monuments, the most recent of which was the fire that has gutted at least 600 shops at the Aleppo’s Medieval covered ancient market or souk that has been declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Archaeologists warned against ruining Syria’s archeological monuments that include Greek, Islamic, Roman and Aramaic artifacts, and pleaded with concerned international organizations to safeguard them.

Some activists claimed that Syrian tanks and personnel carriers have been stationed at some archeological sites, and that several ancient citadels have been transformed into military sites.—Reuters

Pakistan to UK for treatment

ISLAMABAD, 15 Oct — The Pakistani schoolgirl who was shot by Taleban gunmen for pushing for girls to be educated has been sent to the United Kingdom for medical treatment, a military spokesman said on Monday.

The spokesman said in a statement that 14-year-old Malala Yousufzai, whose shooting has drawn widespread global condemnation, had been shifted abroad to a UK centre which has the capability to provide integrated care to children who have sustained severe injury,” said the spokesman in a statement.

Malala has become a potent symbol of resistance against the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf’s efforts to deprive girls of an education.

Pakistanis have held protests and candlelight vigils but government officials have refrained from publicly criticizing the Taleban by name over the attack, in what critics say is a lack of resolve against extremism.

Opponents of Pakistan’s government and military say the shooting is another reminder of the state’s failure to tackle militancy.

Malala Yousufzai, a Pakistani schoolgirl who was shot by the Taleban on 9 Oct, 2012. Reuters
Tokyo, 15 Oct — US Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke on Sunday stressed the significance of monetary easing steps, saying the central bank’s policy accommodation will assist global economic growth as well as the US recovery. Speaking at a forum jointly hosted by the Bank of Japan and the International Monetary Fund in Tokyo, Bernanke said, “This policy not only helps strengthen the US economic recovery, but by boosting US spending and growth, it has the effect of helping support the global economy as well.”

In its policy meeting last month, the Fed employed additional quantitative easing steps through increased asset purchase, while signaling that the bank will keep its ultralow interest rate policy at least through mid-2015, an extension of a half year from its earlier projection of late 2014.

The Fed chief also downplayed an unexpected drop in the US unemployment rate from 8.1 percent to 7.8 percent in September, saying it is “well above what we judge to be its long-run normal level.”

The Fed said in September that it will continue to purchase agency mortgage-backed securities and undertake additional asset purchases until the outlook for the labor market improves substantially in the context of price stability. Bernanke also brushed aside concerns among emerging market economies about the negative impacts of the Fed’s monetary easing policy on their economies. “It is not at all clear that accommodative policies in advanced economies impose net costs on emerging market economies,” he said.

While noting that he is “sympathetic to the challenges” faced by many countries in a world of volatile international capital flows, Bernanke said, “The linkage between advanced-economy monetary policies and international capital flows is looser than is sometimes asserted.”

WELLINGTON, 15 Oct— New Zealand has a long history of actively engaging with China Customs and we appreciate their willingness to work cooperatively with us on issues specific to New Zealand’s trade,” Williamson said. In the year to July, New Zealand exports to China grew more than 10 percent from 5.6 billion to 6.2 billion NZ dollars (4.55 billion to 5.05 billion US dollars) and imports from China grew about 9 percent from 6.7 billion to 7.3 billion NZ dollars. This year is the fourth anniversary of the New Zealand-China Free Trade Agreement, and the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries.— Xinhua

Wellington, 15 Oct— New Zealand Conservation Minister Kate Wilkinson is to represent the country at the 11th Convention on Biological Diversity in Hyderabad, India, the New Zealand government announced on Monday. “New Zealand has a long history of actively engaging in these meetings,” Wilkinson said in a statement. “The decisions which come from them cover a wide range of issues, set international environmental standards, and have the potential to cut across our agricultural and trade interests,” the statement added. Key areas to be discussed would include biodiversity and livelihoods, integration of the value of biodiversity in national planning, strategic resource mobilization and coastal and marine biodiversity. “These topics are of key importance to New Zealand. I look forward to taking part in this convention,” Wilkinson said.

An estimated 8,000 delegates, including representatives from states, non-government organizations and indigenous people’s groups, were expected to attend the convention which runs from 16 to 19 October. A high-level meeting of ministers and heads of state will be held from 16 to 19 October.— Xinhua

New Zealand to attend global biological diversity talks in India

Wellington, 15 Oct— An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale hit New Zealand’s North Island on Monday afternoon. The quake, which occurred at 00:05 GMT on Monday, was centered 15 km east of Tokoroa and was felt widely around lower and central North Island and Hawke’s Bay. GNS Science reported. No causalities have been reported. The quake was felt widely around lower and central North Island and Hawke’s Bay.

GNS Duty seismologist John Ristau said the quake was felt so widely due to the way energy from deep earthquakes traveled. —Xinhua

Deep 5.2-magnitude earthquake rattles New Zealand North Island

Wellington, 15 Oct— An earthquake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale hit New Zealand’s North Island on Monday afternoon. The quake, which occurred at 10:05 p.m. local time on Monday, was centered 15 km east of Tokoroa and was felt by residents in the region. The New Zealand government geological agency GNS Science confirmed the report and said no causalities have been reported.
Depression

The exact cause of depression is not known yet. Many researchers believe it is caused by chemical changes in the brain. This may be due to a problem with our genes, or triggered by certain stressful events. More likely, it’s a combination of both. Normally, people who have depression usually see everything with a more negative attitude. They cannot imagine that any problem or situation can be solved in a positive way.

Depression is characterized by a number of common symptoms. These include a persistent sad, anxious, or empty mood, and feelings of hopelessness or pessimism. A person who is depressed also often has feelings of guilt, worthlessness, and helplessness. They no longer take interest or pleasure in hobbies and activities that were once enjoyed; this may include things like going out with friends or even sex. Insomnia, early-morning awakening, and oversleeping are all common. Moreover, people who have low self-esteem, who consistently view themselves and the world with pessimism or who are readily overwhelmed by stress, are prone to depression.

But there are effective ways to prevent and cure depression. If we have depression, we should not drink alcohol or use illegal drugs. These substances can make depression worse and might lead to thoughts of suicide. In general, treatments for depression include: medications called antidepressants, and talk therapy, called psychotherapy.

We must take medication exactly as our doctor instructed. We must ask our doctor about the possible side effects and what we should do if we have any. We must learn to recognize the early signs that the depression is getting worse.

Some of the methods that might help us feel better are: get more exercise, maintain good sleep habits, seek out activities that bring us pleasure, volunteer or get involved in group activities, talk to someone we trust about how we feel, and try to be around people who are caring and positive.

Job creation and technological transfer...

(Job creation and technological transfer... (from page 16)

A delegation from Myanmar many years ago, he added. Myanmar people are very hospitable. Myanmar existence in Asia-Pacific region is highly beneficial to the region.

He said they all had hope that mutual cooperation in the region would be realized. He continued that Australia had always remembered Myanmar people who gave a helping hand to Australian soldiers during the second world war, saying that cooperation in technological and educational sectors with Myanmar would be realized in future.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker said that he would like to express thanks for having such an opportunity to have a meeting and an offer to cooperate with Myanmar.

Next year, it would be the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties between Myanmar and Australia. Australia was the first country that announced lifting of sanctions against Myanmar. Job creation and technological transfer through investing in oil and natural gas sector, small and medium scale enterprises and other sectors would be beneficial to Myanmar. There would be mutual benefits in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors as Australia had achieved remarkable progress in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors.

The Governor replied that he would call on Sydney University to accept Myanmar students. There are many teachers who adore Myanmar in Sydney University. He said that he would hold discussions with the teachers how they could help to be able to promote Myanmar education. There would be discussions on investment in tertiary education and on ensuring Myanmar students to have an opportunity for their further studies at other universities in Australia, apart from Sydney University. A network for Myanmar students to make a study tour of hospitals in Australia. Arrangements would be made for doctors and nurses in Myanmar for their further studies in Australia.

On their arrival at Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Reform Council on O’Connell Road, Director of the Council Mr. Andrew Hayne and officials explained functions of the central government and local governments, accountability, tax collection and budget allocation, and the Myanmar delegation raised questions.

On 9 October morning, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and members visited Port Kembla Coal Terminal in Wollongong, toured downtown Wollongong and Council Building where they enjoyed a luncheon hosted by Mayor and Councillor Gordon Bradbury OAM. The delegation then visited Fitzroy waterfall where they observed environmental conservation. They arrived in Canberra at 7 pm and had dinner with the Myanmar ambassador and families of Myanmar embassy in Australia.

The delegation on 10 October visited Parliament Library of Australia where they were conducted around by Librarian Dr Diagne Heriot. They then learned functions of the parliament office from the director-general of Senate Office. Chairman of Australia-Myanmar Parliamentary Group Ms Janelle Saffin hosted lunch to the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and party.

The delegation then visited the Senate and the House of Representatives of Australia. The delegation met Speaker of the House Hon John Hogg and Speaker of the House of Representatives Hon Madame Anna Burke at 5 pm. The Speaker proposed study visits of Myanmar MPs and Hluttaw office staff for collecting experiences at the Australian parliament. The two speakers agreed on the proposal and pledged support for assistance programmes of UNDP and AUSAID.

Myanmar and Australia became new members of ASEP-7 meeting held in Vietiane of Laos in the previous week.

The Australian speakers hosted dinner to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw delegation at Old Parliament House.

On 11 October, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker met Senators Stephen Parry and Alan Eggleston separately.

The delegation then visited National Library of Australia.
Agricultural Cooperatives: Key to Feeding to the World

Early in the morning, when you get up in the position of on back, or sitting making breathing exercise, inhale breathing in or breathing out, strongly, thirty times, (breathing in/ breathing out count on time).

Remark-Do not beath in standing position.

After finishing breathing exercise take one glass of water, ten minutes later, you will pass wind, motion all the excrement will be passed away. If the excrement are not gone, or left, in the afternoon, you have to repeat this exercise, thirty times after drinking one glass of water. To take out all the excrement from the worm.

Advantages to make exercise regularly

1. Constipation, to pass excrement by eating fugitive with expense. It will be comfortable in motion without expense, cure constipation.
2. To clear the lung and it can be enriched lung.
3. To be good in blood circulation, think in blood, sediment of blood obesity, unnecessary fats, with excrements will be passed away.

(a) Prevention of paralyzed stroke, hypertension, and good winds.
(b) Prevention of pile disease.
(c) Reduce fatty acid, in obesity, cover fatty acid liver and heart.
(d) Regular per-spiration, prevent from pain relief, arthritis, light in body, fair in skin.

“To Live Longer for All the Human Being, In the World Please Try It Without Expense of Money and Time

U AUNG THEN

ICT Exhibition packed with visitors

People and enthusiasts visit International Myanmar ICT Exhibition 2012 at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on UWisara Road in Yangon on 12 October.

School Environment Day observed

School Environment Day was observed at No 7 Basic Education High School in Zabuthiri Township on 14 October morning. Headmaster U Than Lin, teachers and students participated in sanitation works at the school.

Kyaunkaik Creek Bridge inaugurated in Htigyaing

Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye addressed the opening of Kyaunkaik Creek Bridge, 300 feet wide and 28 feet wide, on Htigyaing-Kyaunggon Road in Htigyaing Township on 11 October. Region Minister and officials formally opened the bridge.

Mobile telephones on sales

Officials of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications and local authorities coordinated the plan and sold mobile phones to the rural people of Pyu Township through installment system as of 10 October.
Asian, European financial leaders meet to boost dynamic cooperation

Bangkok, 15 Oct.— The 10th Asia-Europe (ASEM) Finance Ministers’ Meeting opened here on Monday to discuss the dynamic growth and cooperation between the two regions.

Under the theme “Strengthening Dynamic Partnership, Sharing Dynamic Growth”, the one-day meeting brought groups and finance ministers and high level officials from 46 Asian and European member countries and regions, heads of international organizations, including European Commission, ASEAN Secretariat, World Bank, International Monetary Funds (IMF), European Central Bank (ECB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Addressing the meeting, the leaders of the two regions, the financial minister said that in 2011, almost 1 trillion US dollars of goods traversed from Asia to European destinations. Meanwhile, more than 600 trillion US dollars of European goods disembarked at Asian ports.

Kittiratt Na Ranong, minister of finance of Thailand, said in the opening speech that Asia and Europe have become two major economic powerhouse in the world in this hard turbulent time and the outcome of the meeting will produce solution and create conducive atmosphere for a stronger and stable situation that would set the world economy back on track.

Speaking highly of the cooperation between the two regions, the finance minister added that by hosting the meeting, Thailand will have the opportunity to learn from knowledge and experiences shared among ASEM members, especially on the recent European financial crisis and its policies and measures imposed to mitigate the crisis. The ASEM, officially established in 1996 as the first summit in Bangkok, is an interregional forum aimed at strengthening relations between Asia and Europe at all levels.

China

Blast leaves one dead, four missing in east China city

Jinan, 15 Oct.— At least one person has been confirmed dead and four other missing after an explosion ripped through a residential building in the coastal city of Weihai in east China’s Shandong Province on early Monday morning.

The blast hit the building’s sixth floor at around 1 am and subsequently caused a fire. In addition to the dead and missing, 10 people were injured. Among them, three sustained severe injuries, said rescuers. Preliminary investigation indicated the blast was caused by a gas leak.

Key al-Qaeda militant killed in Algeria

Algiers, 15 Oct.— A key al-Qaeda militant responsible for “extemal relations” between al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the parent organization al-Qaeda had been killed on Friday by Algeria’s National People’s Army (ANP), local media reported.

Five crew members of a Venezuelan oil tanker who had been kidnapped were killed during a late night attack near the West African country of Gabon, a prosecutor said.

Gaza

Israeli airstrike kills one Palestinian in central Gaza

Gaza, 15 Oct.— A Palestinian was killed and three others were wounded on Sunday afternoon in an Israeli airstrike in central Gaza Strip, medical sources and witnesses said.

A medical spokesperson of the search and rescue work is continuing at the building located in Weihai, Economic and Technology Development Zone. Preliminary investigation indicated the blast was caused by a gas leak.

One Chinese killed, over 100 detained for gold mining in Ghana

Accra, 15 Oct.— A 16-year-old Chinese national was killed and more than 100 others were detained by Ghanaian police for suspected illegal gold mining, the Chinese Embassy in Accra said on Sunday. Ghana’s police and immigration officials launched a joint action on Thursday and Friday to investigate illegal gold mining activities by foreigners in the Ashanti region and arrested more than 100 Chinese citizens, the embassy said.

On one mining site near Manoso, a township close to the region’s capital Kumasi, policemen on Thursday destroyed mining facilities and work sheds. In the operation, the boy, known as Chen, was shot dead when he tried to escape, the embassy said. Upon learning the news, Chinese Ambassador Geng Jinzhong urgently met Ghanaian Deputy Foreign Minister Chris Kpodo and National Security Coordinator Larry Chevolet Larrey and expressed serious concerns over the death of Chen and the detention of Chinese workers.

The ambassador demanded thorough investigation in the shooting and compensation for the family of the victim.

The Ghanaian government has expressed deep sorrow over the death of the Chinese boy and promised to investigate the case. The Chinese Embassy called on all Chinese in Ghana to abide by related laws and regulations to safeguard their legal interests. According to Ghanaian laws, foreign companies are only allowed to work independently on large and open-pit mines. A majority of Chinese workers in Ghana work in road and rail projects, hydraulic projects, large pipeline projects and other China-aided projects.

As Singapore reveals in its reputation as an open economy with the world’s highest concentration of millionaires, the tiny island of 5.3 million people is also accused of being a magnet for tax evaders — an image it is vehemently seeking to banish. Amid German concerns that its wealthy citizens are moving funds from Switzerland before a new German-Swiss tax treaty takes effect next year, Singapore and Germany said on Sunday they had agreed to bolster their double-taxation agreement with internationally agreed standards on information sharing.

“The banking secrecy will not constitute an obstacle to exchanging information,” said the joint statement, which came at the end of German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble’s weekend visit to Singapore. Media reports have put the amount of German money moving to Singapore in the double-digit billions. “The perception is that Swiss banks have concluded Switzerland is unlikely to remain a tax haven for much longer and Singapore is the new place to do business,” said Romen Palan, a professor at City University London who has conducted numerous studies on offshore finance.

Swiss banks could see assets from Western European clients fall 28 percent to 623 billion Swiss francs ($688 billion) by 2014 because of the deals to tax undeclared accounts, the Boston Consulting Group said in a report in May.

Reuter

Indonesian minister criticizes OECD on food sufficiency report

JAKARTA, 15 Oct — An Indonesian minister criticized the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) over its report issued last week that criticized the Indonesian government’s food self-sufficiency goal staves poor consumers, including the majority of Indonesian farmers, who buy more staples such as rice, cooking oil and sugar than they sell.

The OECD, which counts as members most developed nations, said that Indonesia, the world’s 10th largest agricultural producer, should open its food markets to international trade and move away from its “self-sufficiency” objectives. The report also criticized the government’s use of import protection to increase returns to farmers because the policy also led to an increase in food costs for poor consumers and hindered the competitiveness of the agricultural sector.

Jakarta Globe reported. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono has set the goal of making the nation self-sufficient in rice, cattle, sugar, corn and soybean by 2014.

The government imposed either taxes or quotas on imports of the five commodities in order to encourage local farmers to produce and discourage imports. Suswono said that foreign entities should not intervene in the government’s effort to boost local production.

The policy seeks to control the price local farmers receive for their goods. The government has been grappling with the rising global commodities price, for items that are popular among Indonesian consumers.

In August, the price of soybean rose sharply, causing the price of products such as tempeh and tofu to increase significantly.

File photos taken in October 2012, show former King Norodom Sihanouk delivering a speach in front of the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh — Kyodo

Former Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk dies at 89

PHNOM PENH, 15 Oct — Former Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodia’s linchpin in its turbulent and bloody political journey to democracy since the 1940s and one of the grand survivors of post-colonial Southeast Asia, died on Monday in Beijing. He was 89.

Norodom Bunchhay, deputy prime minister and secretary general of the royalist FUNCINPEC Party, told Kyodo News that Sihanouk, who was in the Chinese capital for medical check-ups, died of a heart attack early Monday.

I was told that His Majesty (the former King Sihanouk)... he had heart problem and

Kyodo

India, Russia to hold talks on nuke liability, trade

NEW DELHI, 15 Oct — India and Russia will hold talks on civil nuclear liability and trade in the national capital Monday, sources said on Sunday.

“Indian External Affairs Minister SM Krishna and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin will hold the bilateral meeting. Issues like civil nuclear liability and measures to intensify trade between the two countries will be on their agenda,” the sources said.

Both the countries will discuss the Kudankulam nuclear power plant in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, jointly built by India and Russia, where protests of locals have halted the operation of the plant set to produce nuclear power.

The Russian Deputy Prime Minister is also scheduled to meet Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Commerce Minister Anand Sharma, the sources added.

The talks will be held ahead of Russian President Vladimir Putin’s visit to India next month, during which he will meet Indian Prime Minister for annual summit talks.

Kyodo

Regional

Singapore, 15 Oct — All Nippon Airways Co resumed direct flights between Japan and Myanmar after 12 years amid an increase in the number of business travelers to the Southeast Asian country.

ANA resumes Myanmar flights after 12 years

NARITA, 15 Oct — All Nippon Airways Co on Monday resumed direct flights between Japan and Myanmar after 12 years amid an increase in the number of business travelers to the Southeast Asian country.

The resumption of regular ANA services came as the number of tourist and business passengers is expected to increase in line with democratization in Myanmar.

The three weekly round-trip flights between Narita airport near Tokyo and Yangon airport will use the Boeing 737-700ER, equipped with only 38 business class seats. — Kyodo

Samoan PM to mark half century of independence in New Zealand visit

WELLINGTON, 15 Oct — Samoan Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lพթpeliai Sailele Malielegaoi will discuss a range of bilateral and regional issues during a visit to mark Samoa’s 50th anniversary of independence from New Zealand.

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announced on Monday. The visit this week followed Key’s visit to Samoa in August to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship between the two nations. “Samoa is the only country in the world with which New Zealand has a formal Treaty of Friendship,” Key said in a statement.

“This special relationship is built on our shared Polynesian history, cultural ties, people-to-people links and regional cooperation, including through the Pacific Islands Forum,” he said.

The treaty was signed shortly after Samoa gained independence from New Zealand in 1962, and had been at the heart of the bilateral relationship ever since, he said. “Regular high-level talks are an important part of our relationship, reflecting the closeness between our two countries and providing an opportunity to discuss and progress bilateral issues,” said Key. “In addition, Prime Minister Tuilaepa is a long serving and respected Pacific leader, and I look forward to discussing regional issues of mutual importance.” — Xinhua

Xinhua

Indonesia

An aerial view of the Sentosa Cove luxury homes in Singapore in this 14 Feb, 2012 file photo. — Reuters
Claims Day Notice

MV Bangka VOY NO (79)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGKA VOY NO (79) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2012 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
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: MS Wongsamut Ocean Shipping Co Ltd
Phone: 256916/256919/256921

Claims Day Notice

MV JasA AMAN VOY NO (2)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JASA AMAN VOY NO (2) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 15.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: Seals Co Ltd
Phone: 256924/256914

Claims Day Notice

MV Sinar Bima VOY NO (126N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (126N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

Shipping Agency Department
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: M/S SamuDeKa Shipping Lines
Phone: 256008/378316/376797

Claims Day Notice

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (317)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (317) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2012 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
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: M/S Regional Container Lines
Phone: 256090/378316/376797

Claims Day Notice

MV Forex Sighter VOY NO (5C)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FOREX SIGHTER VOY NO (5C) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 16.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.T.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
Myanmar Port Authority
Agent for: Eastern Car Liner S’Pore PTE LTD
Phone: 256924/256914

Serial bomb blasts kill one, injure 23 in Iraq’s Kirkuk

KIRKUK, (Iraq), 15 Oct—Three car bombs and a roadside bomb struck Iraq’s northern province of Kirkuk on Monday morning, killing at least 13 and wounding 22, an police source told Xinhua.

Two car bombs went off almost simultaneously near the provincial government compound in central the capital city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad, the source told Xinhua.

Meanwhile, a roadside bomb detonated in the same area as a reinforcement Iraqi army convoy, killing one and wounding 16, the source added. The casualties could rise as ambulances and civilian cars evacuated the victims to several hospitals and medical centers in the city.

In a separate incident, a third car bomb went off near a court building in the city of al-Riyadh, some 15 km south of Kirkuk, wounding five people, the source said.

Xinhua

Former commerce secretary says corporation between China, US paramount

New York, 15 Oct—The relationship between China and the United States is the most important bilateral ties in the world and the corporation between the two countries is paramount, former US Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez said Sunday.

When addressing to the audience at the 18th annual conference of The Chinese Finance Association (TCFA), Gutierrez, now vice chairman of Institutional Clients Group of Citigroup, said the economic partnership between China and the United States in many ways defines the global economy.

While working in finance today, Gutierrez said his perspective about China may have been a little bit different because of his former role in the US government. “I'm not the first one to call that China-US relationship is the most important relations of the world but I'm happy to repeat it because it's so obviously true," Gutierrez said. "Other economists either hide the wave of our success or they suffer when we stall. Gutierrez said a lot of Americans don't know how to think about China.

Politicians describe China using a variety of terms from "strategic competitor" to "strategic partner" to "strategic competitor." Gutierrez admitted that as the two biggest economies in the world, China and the United States do compete in a lot of areas. However, he said that like so many competitor dynamics, the competitiveness can be a force for good, spurring two nations to develop more and more trade agreements, if the energies are properly channeled.

Talking about the recent dispute between the two countries concerning the solar industries, Gutierrez said the only way to find a solution is dialogue. He believed the world’s largest economic leaders are too inter-dependent to risk a trade war. "To put it simply, our two countries need each other," Gutierrez said. "Corporation is paramount. We each have an interest in economically helping each other, and that value is the foundation of the whole world."— Xinhua

China’s inflation rises 1.9 pct in September

BEIJING, 15 Oct—China’s Consumer Price Index (CPI), the main gauge of inflation, grew 1.9 percent year over year in September, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced on Monday.

The inflation eased from 2 percent registered in August. On a month-on-month basis, September’s CPI grew 0.3 percent from the previous month, according to the data released by the NBS.

Food prices, which account for nearly one-third of the weighting in the calculation of China’s CPI, rose 2.5 percent last month from one year earlier, which was down from the 3.4 percent increase in August.— Xinhua

Philippines President to lead trade delegation to New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 15 Oct—Philippines President Benigno Aquino will lead a cabinet and business delegation to New Zealand next week to discuss a host of bilateral trade issues, New Zealand Prime Minister John Key announced on Monday.

Aquino would be accompanied by Secretary of Foreign Affairs Albert del Rosario, other members of the Philippine cabinet and a large trade delegation for the visit on 22 and 23 October, Key said in a statement. "I am delighted to welcome President Aquino on his first visit to New Zealand, particularly as our countries share so many interests, including as members of regional forums such as APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) and the East Asia Summit," said Key.

The Philippines was an important market for New Zealand dairy exports and discussions were expected to include how the two countries could collaborate further in dairy development, as well as issues concerning the geothermal industry, tourism and aviation.

"The Philippines’ economy is growing strongly, and President Aquino’s administration is making progress to improve the business environment as well as peace and security," said Key.—Xinhua

Trade

New Zealand
**Entertainment**

**Russell Brand swaps partying for all night yoga sessions**

New Delhi, 15 Oct—The former heroin addict—who this year celebrates 10 years since he successfully completed rehab treatment—recently went to his local yoga studio at 2am for a marathon five-hour session. A source told the Daily Star newspaper: “Forget wild partying or all-night bonking. Russell went on solo yoga enlightenment.”

“He turned up alone at his local yoga studio at 2am, let himself in and meditated until 7am.”

Lindsay Lohan wants to do more charity work

New Delhi, 15 Oct—The 26-year-old actress is planning to help out disadvantaged children after being “inspired” by drinks company Mr Pink.

Speaking at the launch of the Mr Pink Ginseng Drink at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel last night (11.10.12), she told Hollycoop.com: “I really appreciate what Mr Pink’s doing...I work with a lot of kids and he wants to get into charity work and that’s something that I aspire to do.”

Lindsay—who had an explosive row with her mother Dina earlier this week that saw police called to the showbiz matriarch’s New York home—has had a turbulent few years, with numerous legal problems and stints in rehab but she is happy now, getting her life back on track.

She said: “I’m working and being happy and just living my life the way I want to live it, which is working.”

The Mean Girls star recently shot The Canyons opposite porn star James Deen and she admits some of the racier scenes made for uncomfortable viewing—because she watched it with her mother.

She said: “It’s great. I saw it with my mom. It was hard for my mom to watch but it was really good. [Director] Paul Schrader did a great job.”

**Hotel worker fired for complimenting Jennifer Aniston**

LONDON, 15 Oct—A New Mexico hotel worker claims he was fired for complimenting Jennifer Aniston.

Terry Siegler was recently dismissed from the Encantado Resort in Santa Fe—where the actress was staying while filming her new movie We’re the Millers—because he broke the hotel’s strict celebrity confidentiality policy by speaking to other guests about the actress.

The former shuttle driver told US gossip website TMZ he only told guests that the 43-year-old actress was “very sweet and much more petite than I thought.”

He claims that he was only responding to other guests who had asked him if he had seen the actress at the hotel and the guests were later overheard discussing the brief conversation about Jennifer by one of her entourage. He said: “They brought [Jennifer] up first... Was I supposed to deny it?”

Terry, who is considering suing for wrongful termination, claims he was fired for violating the hotel’s celebrity privacy policy after Jennifer’s team complained to his supervisors that he was sharing private information about the actress to other guests.

The hotel’s General Manager told TMZ: “I cannot confirm anything about our employees but I will say that we have a very strict confidentiality policy and we enforce those policies.”

The incident does not seem to have damped Jennifer’s New Mexico experience as she is said to be considering getting married to Justin Theroux there in the near future and is interested in exchanging vows at Julia Roberts’ secluded ranch there. A source said: “Jen has fallen in love with New Mexico, it has a very relaxed vibe that fits both her and Justin perfectly, so it would be a great place for them to have the wedding.”

**Brad Pitt has confessed he still knows how to get drugs**

LONDON, 15 Oct—Brad Pitt has confessed he still knows how to get any drug he wants.

The 48-year-old father-of-six—who opened up about his former marijuana habit earlier this year—said he no longer uses drugs but is confident he would have no problem getting his hands on anything he wanted within 24 hours.

The Killing Them Softly actor said: “My drugs days are long since passed but it’s certainly true that I could probably land in any city in any state and get you whatever you wanted. I could find anything you were looking for. Give me 24 hours or so.”

Brad was speaking to the audience at a Los Angeles screening for the new hard-hitting documentary he executive produced called The House I Live In about the war on drugs on Friday (12.10.12), according to the Huffington Post.

He said: “We have spent a trillion dollars. It’s lasted for over 40 years. A lot of people have lost their lives for it. And yet we still talk about it like it’s this success.”

Earlier this year, the Moneyball star revealed he once used drugs as a way to escape the pressures of fame and this led to his battle with depression.

He said: “I got really sick of myself at the end of the 1990s: I was hiding out from the celebrity thing; I was smoking way too much dope; I was sitting on the couch and just turning into a doughnut; and I really got irritated with myself.

“I used to deal with depression, but I don’t now, not this decade — maybe last decade. I was doing the same thing every night and numbing myself to sleep — the same routine: Couldn’t wait to get home and hide out. But that feeling of insecurity was growing and one night I just said, ‘This is a waste.’”

**Mila Kunis won’t let her love life get in the way of her career**

New Delhi, 14 Oct—The 29-year-old actress is currently dating Ashton Kutcher and was previously in long-term relationship with Macaulay Culkin but Hollywood veteran Britt Ekland believes Mila will always be successful because she is so mature.

She told The Sun newspaper: “Mila is fantastic. She is lovely, petite and wonderful. And she’s a modern, smart young person.

“Her boyfriend Ashton Kutcher has a good career too but I think she has managed not to let her men dominate her life.”

“An actor who is the talk of his yoga class.”

**Brad Pitt**

 Reuters

**Brad Pitt**

PTI

**Mila Kunis**

PTI
Not enough information to generate a correct representation of the document.

KYODO

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

| 7:30 am | Toacos (Day) |
| 7:50 am | Health Programme |
| 8:10 am | Documentary |
| 8:20 am | Teleplay (Health) |
| 8:40 am | International News |
| 8:45 pm | University of Distance Education (TV lecture) |
| 11:00 am | Song for Upholding National Spirit |
| 12:30 pm | Read to 7th SEA GAMES (Bicycle) |

Hoitol Felix Baumgartner of Austria and Technical Project Director Art Thompson of the US celebrate after Baumgartner successfully completed the final manned flight for Red Bull Stratos in Roswell, New Mexico, on 14 Oct, 2012. — Xinhua

Austrian skydiver makes historic supersonic free fall from “edge of space”

HOUSTON, 15 Oct — Austrian extreme athlete and skydiver Felix Baumgartner made a record-breaking free fall from a capsule 24 miles (38,400 meters) above Roswell in New Mexico, the US, on Sunday, becoming the first skydiver to break the sound barrier. The 43-year-old former military parachutist lifted his arms in victory after landing in eastern New Mexico desert minutes after jumping from the stratosphere.

Baumgartner took off in a pressurized capsule carried by a 55-story ultra-thin balloon in a more than two hours journey into the stratosphere, and then he jumped into a near vacuum with no oxygen to begin the fastest, farthest free fall from the highest-ever manned balloon. The jump was postponed twice last week because of high winds. Baumgartner almost made an attempt last Tuesday, but the launch was canceled in the last minute when he was waiting in his capsule for the giant helium balloon to finish inflating, a gust of wind knocked down the balloon.

There was a live Internet stream of the event from nearly 30 cameras on the capsule, the ground and a helicopter. After a weather delay of several hours Sunday morning, the balloon rose from its launch site at 9:30 am MT (11:30 am ET), with Baumgartner in the capsule hanging beneath it. Shortly after launch, screen at mission control showed the capsule as it rose above 3,000 meters, high above the New Mexico desert that served as the starting point, 8,000 meters above the ground.

Baumgartner, dubbed “Fearless Felix,” planned to fall 115,000 feet (35,052 meters) in less than five minutes, then deploy a parachute for the final 5,000 feet (1,524 meters) to ease.

The daredevil dive has risks.

Xinhua

Pilot killed in Yemeni helicopter crash due to technical problems

DUS, Yemen, 15 Oct — A military helicopter with a pilot onboard crashed near the Adan air base in Yemen’s southern province of Lahj on Monday, a government official told Xinhua.

Technical problems caused the chopper to go down as it was preparing to take off from the Adan air base located in Lahj province, the pilot died later with serious injuries, the local government official said, requesting anonymity.

The accident took place at around 9.25 am local time, when the military helicopter encountered some technical problems and crashed near the air base, the government official said.

The Adan military air base used by US army to train Yemeni counter-terrorism forces in combating al-Qaeda militants in the country’s restive south.

A military official told Xinhua anonymously that “the chopper crashed and caused a huge blast in the area.”

The reasons of the incident are under investigation, the official said that “the plane burst into a pillar of flame and smoke that could be seen up to one kilometer away.”

The country’s Defense Ministry confirmed the incident in a brief text message stating that “a Russian-made MiG-21 crashed during training mission in the Adan air base. Technical problems were behind the incident.”

Yemen has undergone a political transition after the stepping down of former leader Ali Abdullah Saleh earlier this year under a peaceful transfer of power backed by the United Nations.

Xinhua

Turkey bans Syrian planes from its air space, rebels gain

Turkey has banned all Syrian aircraft from its air space as it takes an increasingly firm stance against President Bashar al-Assad, while Syrian rebels said Sunday they had made more gains in a key province near the Turkish border.

Human rights Watch made cluster bombs over civilian areas in the past week as they battled to reverse rebel advances, an act which rights groups say can constitute a war crime.

NATO-member Turkey has increasingly taken on a leadership role in the international coalition against Assad.

Turkish confrontation with Syria increased in the past two weeks because of cross-border shelling and escalated on 10 October when Ankara forced down a Syrian air force plane in its territory, accusing it of carrying Russian munitions for Assad’s military.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Sunday Turkish air space had been closed to Syrian planes. Syria banned Turkish planes from flying over its territory on Saturday.

“We made a new decision yesterday and informed Syria. We closed our air space to civilian Syrian flights as well as military flights,” Davutoglu said.

Russia has said there were no weapons on the ground plane and that it was carrying a legal cargo of fuel.

It is not a question of if, but a question of when,” said Simor, when asked during an interview with Kyodo News if Hungary should adopt the common currency.

Hungary central bank chief thinks country should still adopt euro

The sovereign debt crisis in Europe has a negative impact on even non-eurozone countries like Hungary, but that does not diminish the need for Budapest to introduce the euro, Hungarian central bank governor Andras Simor said Sunday in Tokyo.

Simor, who is visiting Japan for the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, said that switching the currency from the forint to the euro would mean that the country will lose a “tool of adjustment.”

He also said fulfilling the Maastricht euro convergence criteria “is necessary, Hungary needs to be better prepared — in such areas as labor and budget — than some countries that joined the eurozone before. Simor said joining the euro is “very important” because of Hungary’s already strong link to the eurozone in trade and banking.

“I would say that Hungary, in terms of trade, is probably more integrated into the eurozone than some countries which are already members of the eurozone,” Simor said.

“From the unfeasable economic development in the eurozone has an immediate impact on Hungary,” he added.

Some believe the gigat helium balloon to finish inflating, a gust of wind knocked down the balloon. There was a live Internet stream of the event from nearly 30 cameras on the capsule, the ground and a helicopter. After a weather delay of several hours Sunday morning, the balloon rose from its launch site at 9:30 am MT (11:30 am ET), with Baumgartner in the capsule hanging beneath it. Shortly after launch, screen at mission control showed the capsule as it rose above 3,000 meters, high above the New Mexico desert that served as the starting point, 8,000 meters above the ground. Baumgartner, dubbed “Fearless Felix,” planned to fall 115,000 feet (35,052 meters) in less than five minutes, then deploy a parachute for the final 5,000 feet (1,524 meters) to ease. The daredevil dive has risks.

It is not a question of if, but a question of when,” said Simor, when asked during an interview with Kyodo News if Hungary should adopt the common currency.

Hungary central bank chief thinks country should still adopt euro

Simor, who is visiting Japan for the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, said that switching the currency from the forint to the euro would mean that the country will lose a “tool of adjustment.”

He also said fulfilling the Maastricht euro convergence criteria “is necessary, Hungary needs to be better prepared — in such areas as labor and budget — than some countries that joined the eurozone before. Simor said joining the euro is “very important” because of Hungary’s already strong link to the eurozone in trade and banking.

“I would say that Hungary, in terms of trade, is probably more integrated into the eurozone than some countries which are already members of the eurozone,” Simor said.

“From the unfeasable economic development in the eurozone has an immediate impact on Hungary,” he added.

Some believe the
Job creation and technological transfer through investing in oil and gas sector, SMEs and other sectors beneficial to Myanmar

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint addresses launching of Australia-Myanmar Business Taskforce at Asialink on 32nd floor of Corrs Chambers Westgarth Governor Phillip Tower.—SNA

Nav Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—At the invitation of the Speakers of Senate and House of Representatives of Australia, Myanmar Hluttaw delegation led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint paid a goodwill visit to Australia and arrived at Sydney International Airport on October evening where they were welcomed by Myanmar Ambassador U Paw Lwin Sein, Director Mr. Andres Lomp of International Relations Office of Australia Parliament and officials. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and party on 7 October morning went sightseeing by boat along Sydney beach and enjoyed the luncheon hosted by Member of Parliament Chief.

Japan foreign minister offers apology to former US POWs

Tokyo, 15 Oct—Foreign Minister Koichiro Gemba offered an apology to former prisoners of war from the United States on Monday for the damage and suffering they were forced to endure in captivity during World War II.

Gemba also conveyed to 14 guests, including seven former POWs, his intention of advancing consultations for reconciliation, according to Japanese officials.

Government Whip Hon Joel Fitzgibbon. On 8 October morning, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker addressed the opening of Australia-Myanmar Business Taskforce organized by Asialink on the 32nd floor of Corrs Chambers Westgarth Governor Phillip Tower. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker answered the queries on cooperation in education, social and economic development.

Next, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker gave an interview to Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and explained political changes in Myanmar.

At Sydney University where Director of Sydney University said that he was very glad to welcome the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and delegation members. He met with persons, scholars and (See page 8)

Seven non-formal education camps in operation in Mon State

Nav Pyi Taw, 15 Oct—Education Department has opened seven non-formal education camps in Mawlamyine Township to enable adult illiterates pursue education.

A team of Mon State Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Myanmar delegation viewed round the Sydney University.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and delegation members met Governor of New South Wales H.E Professor Marie Bashir ACCVO at the latter’s residence. The Governor said that he was very glad to welcome the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker and delegation members. He met with persons, scholars and (See page 8)

Free clinic opens in Hsihseng

Hsihseng, 15 Oct—Under the auspices of Presiding Nayaka of Zawanyama Patiyatti Monastery Bhaddanta Kovidha of Hsihseng Township, the opening ceremony of free clinic was held at Aria Maggin Myoely Dhammanayon in Hsihseng on 12 October afternoon.

Plan under way for 13 more waterworks

Yangon, 15 Oct—About 160 million gallons of water is being supplied to the dwellers in Yangon daily. A plan is under way to build 13 more waterworks in five townships to be able to supply water to the far distance areas of the water pipelines.

The townships where the waterworks will be built are six in Thingangyun Township, three in Dagon Myothit (North) Township, two in Dagon Myothit (East) Township, one in Bahan Township and one in Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

On completion, water can be supplied for the local consumption of the five townships located in the far distance of pipelines.

Chinese leaders mourn death of Cambodia’s former King Sihanouk

Beijing, 15 Oct—Chinese leaders on Monday expressed condolences on the death of Cambodia’s former King Norodom Sihanouk, calling him “a great friend of the Chinese people.”

In a statement, the Foreign Ministry said Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, State Councillor Dai Bingguo and Li Zhanshu, director of the General Office of the Communist Party of China’s Central Committee earlier visited Sihanouk in Beijing Hospital as he lay dying and conveyed their sympathy to him. Sihanouk, who abdicated in October 2004 and was succeeded by his son Norodom Sihamoni as king, regularly traveled to Beijing to undergo medical checkups and treatment, spending months at a time in the Chinese capital.

Chinese doctors had treated him for various ailments, including cancer, diabetes, hypertension and cataracts.

In the past, he also lived for extended periods in Beijing as well as in Pyongyang, having built good relations with China and North Korea for decades.

Chinese Vice-President Xi Jinping visited Cambodia’s former Queen Monineath Sihanouk on Monday and expressed his condolence and sympathy over the death of the former king.

Also calling him “an old friend of the Chinese people,” Xi hailed Sihanouk for forging a “profound friendship” with generations of Chinese leaders and making an “indelible contribution” to strengthening Sino-Cambodia relations, the official Xinhua News Agency reported—Kyodo

Iran, UN-AL envoy to Syria urges resolving Syrian issue in peaceful way

Krista Duchene of Canada celebrates after crossing the finish line at the 23rd Toronto Waterfront Marathon in Toronto, Canada, on 14 Oct, 2012. This annual event attracted 23,000 participants from over 50 countries and regions.