Stability and peace could not prevail in the nation in the absence of the rule of law

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann speaking at the meeting with organizations for rule of law at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) on Inya Road in Kamayut Township.—mna

Australia’s Rudd concedes election defeat to conservative leader Abbott

Tony Abbott (2nd R), who leads the conservative opposition, cast his vote as his wife Margaret and daughters Louise, Frances and Bridget (L-R) look on. Reuters

Yangon, 7 Sept—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met the organizations for rule of law at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) Inya Road in Kamayut Township, here, this afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, the Speaker said that rule of law is of utmost importance for the nation. He stressed the need for all the people to abide by the laws. He noted that the laws should be observed whether they are just, and can be abided by, stability and peace could not prevail in the nation in the absence of the rule of law and it may harm the sovereignty, he said. He urged those present to hold discussions and give suggestions on the rule of law with positive attitude instead of blaming each other and organizations.

Chairperson of Rule of Law and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, Chairman of Judiciary, Legal Affairs and Complaints and Appeals Scrutiny Committee Thura U Aung Ko and Chairman of Public Affairs Management Committee U Maung Oo discussed the rule of law, judicial and legislative matters.

Supreme Court Judge of the Union U Myint Aung, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, officials of the Attorney-General of the Union and officials of Bar Association (Yangon), legal experts and retired judicial staff participated in discussions on judicial matters, rule of law and others.

Next, the Speaker pointed out that the Hluttaw is responsible for the rule of law and enactment of the just laws the people can abide by. He said that revocation and amendment of laws and drawing the new laws will be discussed at the Hluttaw. The rule of law is tied with just laws and the laws that serve interests of the State and the citizens. He stressed the need to carry out ongoing tasks by reviewing the discussions from the meeting, and expressed thanks for discussions of those present for the rule of law.

Obama rejects G20 pressure to abandon Syria air strike plan

NASA robotic spacecraft lifts off to probe lunar dust

Taipei 101 sky-scraper attracting booming mainlanders.

Critic savages ‘cheap and cheerless’ Diana film as tawdry soap

Hluttaw representatives’ excursion to Hungary

Myanmar paralympic delegation leaves for Uzbekistan

U Thein Win left here by air this morning to attend 2013 Asian Paralympic Committee Conference to be held in Tashkent of Uzbekistan from 9 to 11 September. —mna
Magway Region focuses on tourism development

Magway, 7 Sept.—The Magway Region tourism development meeting took place at Nan Htaik Thu Hotel in Magway on 5 September morning. Chief Minister of Magway Region U Phone Maw Shwe spoke on the occasion. He held talks with officials of Myanmar Tourism Federation on development of tourism industry.

Chairman of Magway Zone Hoteliers Association U Kyi Tun reported on matters related to tourist destinations in the region and Head of Magway Region Forest Department U Myint Thein, setting up of ecotourism.

Those present at the meeting participated in the discussions on tourism industry. Also present on the occasion were Magway Region ministers, departmental officials, hoteliers and entrepreneurs.—Tin Tun Oo

Anti-Narcotic Drives

Stimulant tablets seized in Tachilek

Ward in Tachilek and found 70 stimulant tablets each from two straws of soft drinks and another two straws containing 20 tablets, totalling 180 weighing 18 grams.

The seized tablets were worth K 360,000. IP Myint Naing arrested the person in front of witnesses with warrant.

Tachilek Myoma Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against drug possessor Nan Yon, son of U Yi Nun under the law, and is striving for arresting the related persons in the case.

Heroin seized in Mongphyat

Mongphyat, 7 Sept.—SIP Hein Winna Maung and party of Mongphyat District Police Force of Shan State (East) seized 0.2 gram of heroin in a 5cc syringe, one four inches long bamboo tube and two lead sheets from cigarette box from Sai Kawiya, 44 of Manli Village in Hsipaw Township, passenger from the express bus driven by Sai Lai Kham heading for Tachilek from Kengtung at the toll gate at 7 pm on 3 September.

Hsipaw Township Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Sai Kawiya under Section 15/16(c) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.—Kyemon-Than Zaw (Mongphyat)

Thawtapan edible oil donation for 10th time in Mandalay, Sagaing

Mandalay, 7 Sept.—The 10th Thawtapan oil donation ceremony for 207 monasteries in six Mandalay townships and Patheingyi Township where above 50 monks stay was held at the hall of Shwe Hope Co on 80th Street in Mandalay on 4 September.

At the ceremony, 10850 viss of edible oil, 4430 viss of salt and 207 packets of medicines were donated to members of the Sangha.

On 9 pm 10 September, edible oil, salt and medicines will be donated to members of the Sangha and nuns from Sagaing hill, Minwun hill and Sagaing and Mingun on the platform of Laygyun Manaung Pagoda in Sagaing.

This year, 16919 viss of edible oil will be donated to 1279 monasteries from Sagaing and Minwun hills and Sagaing Myoma and Mingun this year, said Secretary of the Thawtapan Oil Donation Committee U Aung Min.

In the ninth time, they donated 11506 viss of edible oil, 5184 viss of salt and 204 packets of assorted medicines to 204 monasteries in Mandalay townships and Patheingyi Township.

The Sagaing Section donated 16383 viss of edible, 16383 viss of salt and medicines to 16383 monks and nuns from Sagaing and Mingun hills and Sagaing Myoma and Mingun.

To mark the donation ceremony, writers gave literary talks on 6 and on 7 September.

Kyemon-Nanda Min Lwin

Dry Day aimed at reducing fuel consumption in Yangon

Yangon, 7 Sept.—The dry day will be organized in Yangon on 22 September, according to the information from Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee.

Some world countries hold car free day for reducing fuel consumption and emission of smokes from the vehicles. On 22 September, the car free day will be organized in the townships surrounded by Yangon River, Ngamoyeik Creek and Pazundaung Creek including downtown Yangon from 9 am to 3 pm inclusive of using vehicles with black number plates.

“The programme will include industrial zone-made vehicles and saloons with black number plates. It will not be organized in southern part of Yangon River such as Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha townships and highway bus terminal.

Thakayta and Dawbon townships will include in the plan but it will not be implemented in South, East and Seikkan Dagon. A plan is underway to give educative talks on car free day,” said Chairman of the Educative Talks and Discipline Enforcement Committee U Hla Thaung Myint.

Although the vehicles with black number plates will be prohibited on the car free day, taxis with read plate, religious vehicles with yellow plates, diplomatic vehicles and UN vehicles with white plates and tourists vehicles with blue plates will be allowed normally, it was learnt.

It is a test. The region minister has allowed to issue information. As it falls on Sunday, the process is expected to be smooth and easy,” he added.

The vehicles that did not abide by the disciplines will be taken action under supervision. The system has been realized for the vehicles of the defence services since 50 years. Dry day system was also practised for departmental vehicles twice a month in the past.

The Car Free Day will be organized by Yangon Region government, and necessary preparations are being made for the new system.

Kyemon-Htet Khaing (Sangyoung)

Thiri Yadana

Myoma Market Coop holds third anniversary

Lewe, 7 Sept.—The Thiri Yadana Myoma Market Cooperative Society held the 10th Anniversary at its office on 30 August afternoon.

Chairman of the society U Kyaw Win made a speech. Chairman of the market committee U Nyunt Maung submitted the financial report and presented gifts to those who put largest amount of savings to the society.

Kyemon-Lewe IPRD

Transport

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Obama rejects G20 pressure to abandon Syria air strike plan

SEUL, 7 Sept—The top US diplomat on East Asia on Friday urged North Korea to fully comply with its international obligations, saying such a move will guarantee its security and economic prosperity.

Daniel Russel, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, made the remarks to reporters following a meeting with senior South Korean Foreign Ministry officials.

“Only by full compliance with its international obligations with the UN Security Council resolutions, only by adhering to its own commitments under the six-party process, can North Korea achieve security, let alone respect, let alone prosperity and economic growth that it says it wants,” he said.

Russel stressed the goal of the long-standing six-party talks is “complete and verifiable denuclearization” of North Korea and urged Pyongyang to realize that “its security and interests are undermined by its pursuit of nuclear weapons and its nuclear programme.”

The six-party talks among the two Koreas, the United States, China, Japan and Russia have been deadlocked since late 2008. Russel, who arrived on Thursday in South Korea for a three-day visit on the first leg of a five-country Asian tour, has held talks with South Korea’s chief nuclear envoy Cho Tae Yong, 1st Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kyu Hyun and Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Lee Kyoung Soo.

Commenting on the crisis in Syria, Russel said he discussed the issue with officials in Seoul and supports a statement issued 31 August by South Korea’s Foreign Ministry that strongly condemned the Syrian government for using chemical weapons against civilians near Damascus on 21 August.—Kyodo News

Uncertainty around Italian coalition ahead of Senate vote

ROME, 7 Sept —The uncertainty that has weighed on Italian politics for weeks continued on Friday, with allies of Silvio Berlusconi playing down the risk of a crisis that could topple Prime Minister Enrico Letta’s fragile coalition government.

Angelino Alfano, secretary of Berlusconi’s People of Freedom party (PDL), welcomed a statement from President Giorgio Napolitano on Thursday in which the head of state said he expected Berlusconi to continue supporting Letta.

“President Napolitano’s confidence in Berlusconi is well placed,” Alfano said in a message posted on Twitter.

The PDL has alternated between offering support to Letta and threatening to bring his government down ever since Italy’s top court confirmed a verdict last month convicting Berlusconi of tax fraud and sentencing him to a four-year jail term.

On Thursday, one of the 76-year-old billionnaire’s most loyal lieutenants said he had already recorded a video in which he could announce his withdrawal from the unwieldy coalition of left and right formed after deadlocked elections in February.

The growing tension prompted Napolitano, who would have to decide whether to order new elections in the event of a government collapse, to warn that a crisis would expose Italy to “extremely serious risks”.

“I read Napolitano’s remarks very positively. I see it as a 360-degree call for responsibility,” the PDL parliamentary floor leader in the lower house, Renato Brunetta, told reporters at the margins of a conference in Cernobbio, outside Milan.

At an official cross-party Senate panel that will vote on whether to begin proceedings to expel Berlusconi from parliament, Letta said Monday that his government will begin meetings on Monday although it may be several weeks before the process is complete.

Letta’s centre-left Democratic Party (PD) insists it sees no margin for flexibility and will vote to strip Berlusconi of his seat, while the PDL says that the law under which he could be forced out should not apply because it was passed after the events over which he was convicted.

The political nuc-}

Obama rejects G20 pressure to abandon Syria air strike plan

US President Barack Obama speaks to the media during a news conference at the G20 summit in St Petersburg, on 6 Sept 2013.—Reuters

St Petersburg, (Russia), 7 Sept—US President Barack Obama resisted pressure on Friday to abandon plans for air strikes against Syria and enlisted support to talk him out of his decision.

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Obama refused to blink after Russian President Vladimir Putin led a campaign to talk him out of military intervention at a two-day summit of the Group of Twenty developed and developing economies in St Petersburg.

He persuaded nine other G20 nations plus Spain to join the United States in signing a statement calling for a strong international response, although it fell short of supporting military strikes, underscoring the deep disagreements that dominated the summit.

A senior US official said German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the only European leader at the summit who did not sign the statement, held off because she wanted to let the European Union have a chance to weigh in first.

Leaders of the G20, which accounts for 90 percent of the world economy and two-thirds of its population, put aside their differences to unite behind a call for growth and jobs and agreed the global economy was on the mend but not out of crisis.

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US urges N Korea to comply with int’l obligations

UN envoy, Russia say striking Syria would hurt chance for peace

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The political nuc-
NASA robotic spacecraft lifts off to probe lunar dust

The small car-sized Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer (LADEE) is a robotic mission that will orbit the moon to gather detailed information about the structure and composition of the thin lunar atmosphere and determine whether dust is being lofted into the lunar sky is pictured at NASA’s Wallops Flight Facility on Wallops Island, Virginia on 5 Sept, 2013. **Reuters**

**Portland, 7 Sept —** An unmanned Minotaur 5 rocket blasted off from the Virginia coast on Friday to send a small NASA science satellite to orbit the moon, officials said. The Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer spacecraft, known as LADEE, was designed to look for dust rising from the lunar surface, a phenomenon reported by the Apollo astronauts decades ago.

“For the first time in 40 years, we have the opportunity to address this mystery,” project scientist Richard Elphic, with NASA’s Ames Research Centre in Moffett Field, California, said during a launch broadcast on NASA TV. “From an orbit as low as about 31 miles above the lunar surface, LADEE also will probe the thin pocket of gases surrounding the moon. The tenuous atmosphere, which contains argon, helium, sodium, potassium and other elements, may hold clues about how water came to be trapped inside craters on the moon’s frozen poles.

“We’ve taught in grade school and probably junior high that the moon has no atmosphere,” Elphic said. “Indeed it does have an atmosphere, but it’s utterly unlike our own atmosphere. It’s very tenuous,” he said.

LADEE’s 30-day trip to the moon began with an 11:27 pm EDT/0327 GMT Saturday liftoff of a five-stage Minotaur rocket making its debut flight. The first three stages are decommissioned intercontinental ballistic missile motors, and the last two stages are commercial motors manufactured by Alliant Techsystems Inc.

The rocket blasted off from the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at NASA’s Wallops Island Flight Facility, the first deep-space mission to fly from the Virginia spaceport.

Weather permitting, the rocket was expected to be visible from Maine to eastern North Carolina, and as far west as Wheeling, West Virginia. New Yorkers were due to be treated to a live televised view of the launch on the Toshiba Vision Screen in Times Square, just below the site where the famous New Year’s Eve ball is dropped.

The use of decommissioned missiles comes from the decision to fly from Wallops Island, one of only a few launch sites permitted to fly refurbished ICBMs under US-Russian arms control agreements.

**Apple hit with US injunction in e-books antitrust case**

**New York, 7 Sept —** A US judge who found Apple Inc conspired to fix e-book prices imposed new restrictions on the iPad maker on Friday, limiting its agreements with publishers. US District Judge Denise Cote in New York also said she would appoint an external monitor to review Apple’s antitrust compliance policies, procedures and training for two years.

The injunction was narrower than the US Justice Department had sought, in line with Cote’s statement last week that she wanted it “to rest as lightly as possible on how Apple runs its business.” The department had sought a broader injunction that could have affected Apple’s agreements with suppliers of movies, music and TV shows. Cote ruled on July 10 that Apple was liable for conspiring with five publishers to raise e-book prices above those established by the dominant retailer in the market, Amazon Inc.

The five publishers, all of which have settled with regulators, include Lagardere SCA’s Hachette Book Group Inc, News Corp’s HarperCollins Publishers LLC, Penguin Random House LLC, CBS Corp’s Simon & Schuster Inc and Verlagsgruppe Georg von Holtzbrinck GmbH’s Macmillan. The terms of Friday’s judgment will expire after five years, but Cote’s order allows for extensions in one-year increments if necessary.

The Justice Department welcomed the injunction.

**Deutsche Telekom applies for sports betting license**

**Frankfurt, 7 Sept —** Deutsche Telekom has applied for a sports betting license which could pit the telecommunications company against online gambling companies competing for a limited number of concessions.

The matter is still at a very early stage, a spokesman for Deutsche Telekom told Reuters on Friday, adding that the application was being reviewed by the Interior Ministry of the German state of Hesse.

“It is not yet certain whether that will turn into an operating business,” the spokesman said. A ministry spokesman declined to comment on the matter.

Germany’s states have agreed to grant 20 concessions to companies to offer sports bets nationwide.

They have long maintained tight control of the site online gambling and sports betting market, citing the risk of widespread gambling addiction in an unregulated scenario.

Betting companies like Bwin.party Digital Entertainment has been pressing for the rest of Germany to adopt the more liberal approach that had been pioneered by the northern state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Other British-listed gambling companies like William Hill and Betfair have scaled back their operations in Germany because of tax and regulatory hurdles.

**MYANMAR ON THE MOVE**

The following is the reproduction of the Myanmar Hotel and Tourism Guide 2013—Ed

**Arriving**

**Nay Pyi Taw Airport**

Nay Pyi Taw Airport opened in early 2006 and is about 30 minutes from the administrative capital, Nay Pyi Taw. All domestic carriers operate from Nay Pyi Taw to the commercial capital, Yangon, and the cultural capital, Mandalay, as well as to other destinations, such as Sittway and Heho.

**Yangon International Airport**

About 15 kilometres (9 miles) from downtown Yangon, the airport boasts attractively-designed arrival and departure terminals offering good services and facilities. Airlines operating at the airport include Myanmar Airways International, Air Bagan, Air Mandalay, Thai Airways International, Thai AirAsia, Bangkok Airways, Silk Air, Jetstar Asia, Indian Airlines, Malaysia Airlines, China Southern Airlines, China Airlines, Vietnam Airlines, Korean Airlines, Qatar Airlines, EVA Airlines, All Nippon Airways and El Al.

**Mandalay International Airport**

About 35 kilometres(21 miles) south of downtown Mandalay, the country’s second international airport has similar services and facilities to those available at Yangon International Airport. Chloe Eastern Express operates regular flights between Mandalay and Kunming and the airport is also served by domestic carriers.

**Overland entry**

Overland entry is permitted to Thai, Chinese and Indian tourists with border passes and to third party tourists with visa at designated checkpoints along Myanmar’s borders with Thailand, China and India. Prior permission is required for tourists entering the country through border checkpoints.

**Air**

Air travel often is the best form of transport as it saves time. Domestic carriers Yangon Airways, Myanma Airways, Air Mandalay and Air Bagan, Asian Wings, Air Star, Golden Myanmare Airlines, fly to more than 32 destinations throughout the country. It can be cheaper to book through travel agents than directly with the airlines.

**Express trains**

Though a more leisurely and comfortable form of transport, international travellers mainly use the line between Yangon and Mandalay. Myanmar Railways long-distance trains offer first and economy class compartments, sleeping berths and reclining seats. Tickets are available at railway stations and it is recommended to buy them one day in advance.

**Express coaches**

It is possible to travel by air-conditioned coach to most tourist attractions throughout the country. Two highway bus terminals in the capital, Nay Pyi Taw, provide transportation services to major cities including Yangon and Mandalay. Several highway bus services in Yangon operate to destinations throughout the country, including Golden Rock, Bagan and NyaungU, Inlay Lake, Mrauk-U, Chaungtha and Ngwe Saung beaches near Pathein, and Ngapali beach near Thandwe. There are two highway bus terminals in Mandalay, offering services to destinations in central, upper and eastern Myanmar.

**Intra-city transport**

Taxis are widely available in Yangon. Taxis are metered and the rate is K150 a kilometre, plus and extra K500. However, it is best to bargain the cost of the fare in advance of any trip. Public buses are available in major cities such as Yangon, Mandalay and Nay Pyi Taw. In-city buses also operate throughout the country. Trishaws and horse carts are also used as transport in many parts of the country. Trishaws are common in Yangon and horse carts operate at Pyin Oo Lwin, Bagan and some other destinations in Upper Myanmar. Many visitors to Yangon enjoy trips on the city’s circular railway, which links the downtown area with outlying suburbs.
Substance use relates to recidivism

Vancouver, 7 Sept — Offenders with mental disorders are not as strongly associated with repeating crime as may be commonly thought, but offenders with substance use disorder do have higher odds of recidivism, according to a new Canadian study.

The study, published earlier this week in the American Psychological Association’s Journal of Psychology, Public Policy and Law, was based on a two-year research of more than 31,000 offenders in the Canadian province of British Columbia. According to researchers, abundant research confirms a high prevalence of substance use and mental disorders. However, research on how these two disorders interact is lacking.

However, it is still unclear how or if these two disorders contribute to the risk of repeat offending. In the study, the researchers found offenders with non-substance-related mental disorders were at no greater risk of recidivism than those with no diagnosis. In contrast, nearly 50 percent of repeat offenders had a physically-diagnosed substance use disorder in the five years prior to their offense. It’s the first study to use such a large and diverse sample, said Julian Somers, a Simon Fraser University health and criminal justice researcher on the research team. “This study highlights the fact that substance use problems are associated with recidivism,” he said.

CEO tells paper Daimler to build Mercedes compact cars in Brazil

FRANKFURT, 7 Sept — German carmaker Daimler (DAIGn.DE) plans to build a new Mercedes factory in Brazil to benefit from growing demand for compact cars in the country, its chief executive told a German newspaper.

Stuttgarter Zeitung cited the luxury car division’s CEO Dieter Zetsche as saying Daimler would choose this year between two or three locations it had shortlisted for the plant in Brazil. He told the daily’s Saturday edition it would not have been profitable to export compact cars to Brazil. “With the new compact class we have with us an offer that are attractive and can be produced at low costs, making them a good fit for this market,” Zetsche said.

“It was simply a question of either producing in Brazil or not to be present there at all in this segment. Our decision is: We want to take part.” Zetsche did not specify the model to be built there. Daimler defines its compact class as comprising the A-class and B-class as well as GLA and CLA models. Daimler said last month it was considering such a move but had made no decision yet.

Luxury carmakers are flocking to Brazil in an attempt to exploit growing demand. Brazil’s government complicated their plans, however, with an effort to protect local jobs by increasing a tax on foreign-made cars last year. Brazil’s auto industry lobby group on Thursday raised its 2013 production outlook helped by exports, mainly to the United States.

Study finds fewer female soccer injuries on artificial turf

NEW YORK, 7 Sept — Female soccer players suffered fewer severe injuries while competing on an artificial surface called FieldTurf than when playing on natural grass fields, in a new study. Researchers found women’s college teams had an average of 7.7 injuries — both minor and serious — for every 10 matches they played on FieldTurf, compared to 9.5 injuries per 10 matches on grass.

Most competitive collegiate soccer seasons consist of 20 to 25 matches. The findings suggest “FieldTurf is a practical alternative to natural grass,” study author Michael Meyers of Idaho State University in Pocatello told Reuters Health. Early versions of synthetic turf, which appeared in the late 1960s and 1970s were sometimes little more than a layer of thick, carpet-like material laid over concrete, he said.

In today’s US artificial surface market, more than 30 companies compete with proprietary mixes of what the industry calls “infill systems,” which can include rubber, silica sand and polyethylene fibers. Montreal-based FieldTurf, which funded 40 percent of the current study, relies on a blend of silica sand and crenogenically ground rubber for its fields. Estimates vary, but artificial field turf surfaces can last up to 10 years, with initial installment costs ranging from $800,000 to $1 million and annual maintenance fees of about $2,500.

“As the impact of the game increases, as the adverse weather worsens, FieldTurf provides a more consistent surface,” than grass fields, said Meyers, who does not own any stock in the company.

Harman CEO says worst over for European car market

BERLIN, 7 Sept — US audio systems maker Harman International Industries Inc said that Europe’s automotive industry, which accounts for most of its sales, has already bottomed out and may show modest recovery in the current fiscal year. There are indications that the European car market, where sales dropped to a two-decade low, might be turning the corner, with the region’s two top carmakers — Daimler and Volkswagen — reporting healthy profits for the second quarter.

“The rate of decline has slowed down and is close to zero now,” Chief Executive Dinesh Paliwal told Reuters on the sidelines of IFA, Europe’s largest consumer electronics trade show, which opened its doors on Friday. “For the current fiscal year we assume in our planning for the European auto sector a flat to 1 percent decline from last year. We hope it will be zero to 1 percent plus.” Harman, whose brands include JBL and Harman Kardon, is the largest player in the car entertainment market, which accounts for more than half its sales. It caters to luxury carmakers such as Daimler AG, Fiat SpA’s Ferrari sports cars and Volkswagen’s Audi brand. Harman’s sales to German carmakers accounted for 43 percent of its revenue for the year ended June 2012, with carmakers in the rest of Europe bringing in another 20 percent.

UNSG’s message on International Literacy Day

8 September 2013

More than 773 million young people and adults around the world cannot read this message. They are among the ranks of our fellow citizens who have not yet gained full literacy skills. They may not be able to fill out a job application, decipher a bus timetable or read a story aloud to their children. Two out of three and women who are denied this essential ingredient to full participation in society.

In our knowledge-based era, literacy is a foundation for a more just, inclusive and sustainable world. It can advance all the Millennium Development Goals. Literacy enables people to gain access to information to improve their health and nutrition, widen their livelihood options, cope with environmental change and make informed choices.

When we invest in learning and literacy, we invest in human dignity, development and peace. That is why I launched the Global Education First Initiative, which focuses on ensuring that every child can go to school. Worldwide, at least 250 million primary-school-age children cannot read, write or count. Half of these girls and boys never make it to school or are pushed out before their fourth year. Another 200 million adolescents, including those who completed secondary school, do not have basic literacy skills — and so our initiative also focuses on improving the quality of education as well as fostering global citizenship.

I urge all countries to make education and literacy national priorities and to work with partners across society to advance these goals. By promoting literacy, we can help millions of people write their own chapter of opportunity in their lives and our common future.

UNICEF/Tongon

Cookies and cakes can be seen at a booth during the 2013 World Food fair in Istanbul on 6 Sept, 2013. More than 400 food producers and companies from 28 countries and regions participated in the exhibition opened here on Friday. — Xinhua

Harman CEO says worst over for European car market

BERLIN, 7 Sept — US audio systems maker Harman International Industries Inc said that Europe’s automotive industry, which accounts for most of its sales, has already bottomed out and may show modest recovery in the current fiscal year. There are indications that the European car market, where sales dropped to a two-decade low, might be turning the corner, with the region’s two top carmakers — Daimler and Volkswagen — reporting healthy profits for the second quarter.

“The rate of decline has slowed down and is close to zero now,” Chief Executive Dinesh Paliwal told Reuters on the sidelines of IFA, Europe’s largest consumer electronics trade show, which opened its doors on Friday. “For the current fiscal year we assume in our planning for the European auto sector a flat to 1 percent decline from last year. We hope it will be zero to 1 percent plus.” Harman, whose brands include JBL and Harman Kardon, is the largest player in the car entertainment market, which accounts for more than half its sales. It caters to luxury carmakers such as Daimler AG, Fiat SpA’s Ferrari sports cars and Volkswagen’s Audi brand. Harman’s sales to German carmakers accounted for 43 percent of its revenue for the year ended June 2012, with carmakers in the rest of Europe bringing in another 20 percent.
France seeks EU backing for Syria stance but meets scepticism

EU agencies decry latest Snowden revelations

Syria, Egypt turmoil nudges Israel, Palestinians toward peace

Message from Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of the International Literacy Day

Economic growth and social development among its priorities

France's President Francois Hollande (R) speaks with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius (L) and Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault before a National Security Council meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris on 28 Aug, 2013. REUTERS
Anti-Narcotic Drives

Talks on drug menace given to children.

YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talk on prevention of drug abuse was organized by General Administration Department in Yankin Township in Yangon East District at the hall of menace Education High School No (2) on 5 September morning.

YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talk on dangers of drugs given to children was held in Mya Wutyi Hall of Basic Education High School No (1) in Kyimyindaing Township.

Festival

130th PhaungtawU Pagoda festival to be organized on 12-19 Sept

Meiktila, 7 Sept—The 130th Pagoda Festival of historic PhaungtawU Pagoda will be organized in Meiktila in Meiktila District in Mandalay Region on 12-19 September. Alms offering and traditional boat races will be held in the ceremony of the landmark PhaungtawU Pagoda of Meiktila.

Road in Thanylin Tsp upgraded

YANGON, 7 Sept—Bogyoke Ne Win Road is a major road in Thanylin Township in Yangon South District. The road was damaged by heavy rain in the township on several days.

Prevention of violence against women

YANGON, 7 Sept—An educative talk on prevention of violence against women was organized by Botahtaung Township Women’s Affairs Organization in Yangon East District at the township government administration office on 31 August. Chairperson of Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Cho Zin Thant delivered an address at the ceremony, calling for awareness of the people.

Kalay University organizes bodybuilding contests

KALAY, 7 Sept—Kalay University in Sagaing Region organized Mr and Ms Bodybuilding contests at Zalatmi Hall of the university on 31 August.

Mini book corners updated monthly

New Light of Myanmar
Sunday, 8 September, 2013

Three motorboat to serve as ambulances in Twantay

YANGON, 7 Sept—Three motorboat to serve as ambulances for violence against women with examples.

Health

Three motorboat to serve as ambulances in Twantay

YANGON, 7 Sept—Three motorboat to serve as ambulances for violence against women with examples.

Secretary of Township WAO Daw Mi Mi Aung gave talks on dos and don’ts for ladies to distance themselves from violence.

Members of WAO and teenage participated in discussion.

Women’s Bodybuilding contest.

The rector and wife, the pro-rector, professors, heads of departments and instructors presented prizes to winners.

Kalay University in Sagaing Region organized Mr and Ms Bodybuilding contests at Zalatmi Hall of the university on 31 August.

The Champion

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Kalay University in Sagaing Region organized Mr and Ms Bodybuilding contests at Zalatmi Hall of the university on 31 August.
Slight earthquake hits inside Myanmar

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 September—A slight earthquake of magnitude 4.2 Richter Scale with its epicenter inside Myanmar (about 30 miles northeast of Homalin), about 235 miles north-west of Mandalay seismological observatory was recorded at 09 hrs 56 min 44 sec at its danger level during the next 48 hours, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

Water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha may reach danger level

Nay Pyi Taw, 7 September—According to the observation at 14:30 hr M.S.T today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Katha is observed as 94 cm (about 3 ft) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.
Poem

LITERACY FOR ALL

* To produce intellectuals is top priority
* Literacy achievement be a national duty
* Human resource development is fundamental requirement
* Meant for facilitation of national development.
* Second priority to building learning society
* Citizens will have access to literacy
* International Standard Education to be promoted
* For all programmes be implemented.
* 3-R literacy movement is being waged
* Momentum of literacy is being raised
* Education programmes are being extended yearly
* Necessary assistance has been provided properly.
* Myanmar strives to increase literacy rate
* Education opportunities not to be vague
* Education is a matter of development
* Should be connected with our environment.
* “Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Prize” and “Noma Prize”
* Stood for the glory and pride
* Education on eradication of evil illiteracy
* Brings about tangible changes in history.
* Education for children of displaced families
* Ensures rights for children with disabilities
* Mobile schools are also kept open
* For the sake of reduced children.
* To build a constant learning society
* Enable citizens to pursue basic literacy
* September Eighth is designated as International
* Literacy Day
* Every nation celebrates the Day in own way.

Maung Swe Ngae

Shamanism in Myanmar ...

(from page 8)

of your life (3) concocting aphrodisiacs for sex energy and attraction to opposite sex and (4) making a ball of mercury compound [philosopher’s stone] by which you can fly in the air and dive into the water and earth and conquer all your enemies.

Shamanism comes into all four categories. A beginner in alchemy must be highly educated in classical languages such as Pali and Sanskrit, well versed in all treatises and literature on metals, metal smelting, herbal medicine, and occult science, must have vast experience in experimenting with metals on fire.

A g.c.m.p.l.i.s h e d. alchemists who would not live in the community. They shun public and crowd. They live isolated, away from madding crowd, at remote live isolated, away from public and crowd. They shun the community. They shun alchemists would not live in with metals on fire.

experience in experimenting

Science, must have vast

herbal medicine, and occult

all treatises and literature

Sanskrit, well versed in

highly educated in classical

enemies.

earth and conquer all your

and dive into the water and

pounded. Remains of their

bellows blowing and using

place operated by old style

for experimentation in a fire

keep a special workshop

not favour it. Alchemists

kind received should be

shaman agent. Cash and

and consulted through

man can get such ball. Such

honest and observing five

Good, kindhearted, religious,

whomsoever he favours.

give one of such balls to

whomsoever be favours. Good, kindhearted, religious,

honest and observing five

moral precepts [Pancha Sila]

man can get such ball. Such

alchemists can be invoked and consulted through shaman agent. Cash and kind received should be used for religious works and communal welfare.

Alchemy is still practiced in the country. But Theravada Buddhism does not favour it. Alchemists keep a special workshop for experimentation in a fire place operated by old style bellows blowing and using earthen containers in which metals are melt or compounded. Remains of their workshop, experimenting fire places are found on sacred mountains such as Mount Popa, Hpo Win Taung, Hpo U Taung, Kyauk Ht’ Yoe, Zwagabin Taung, etc.

Here the writer wishes to beg the readers’ indulgence to wait for the second part of this article in the next issue of The New Light of Myanmar.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann receives Thai Ambassador

YANGON, 7 Sept—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann received Thai Ambassador Mr. Pisanu Suvanajata at the Hluttaw Office Branch (Yangon) on Inya Road in Kamayut Township, here, this morning. Also present at the call were Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Os and officials from the Hluttaw Office.

Plan to build embossed print factories

YANGON, 7 Sept—According to the recent news, Directorate of Road Administration will extend the Embossed Print Plate Factories.

The department plans to build more factories to produce embossed print plates for vehicles.

Under the supervision of respective governments, open tenders will be invited to construct the embossed print factories since the number plates of the vehicles have been changed with English alphabets and regional signs.

“After building the factories, job opportunities will be created for the local people. In consequence, the transport charge will decline,” said an official of the directorate.

Arrangements are being made to build the embossed print factories in the directorates (Ywathaygyi) and (Mandalay).

Educative talks on drug-resistant malaria given

MYITKYINA, 7 Sept—An educative talk on drug-resistant malaria was organized by Health Department in Kachin State at Myitkyina General Hospital on 26 August.

The State Social Affairs

‘At present, the embossed print factory is located at the Directorate of Road Administration (Myintha) of Yangon Region.

Kyemon-K Thein Swe

(PYMYAL-Moe Kyaw

(Myitkyina)

Pathein, glory of Ayeyawady Region

Byline: Maung Tin Hlaing (H&T)

Pathein, capital of Ayeyawady Region sees a lot of progress and development. It is easily accessible by train, ship and car. Better transport contributes to equitable development across the country, thereby promoting educational, social and economic standards of the regions.

The newly-opened Theikelchaung River-crossing Bridge that was put into services on 7-7-2013 is 60% of its kinds in Ayeyawady Region.

In 2012-2013 FY, 39 roads were built under the management of Ayeyawady Region Government. The number of roads has increased to 52 in 2013-2014 FY. The total road miles have increased to 1601 miles and seven furlongs in 2013-2014 FY from 1582 miles and two furlongs in 2012-2013 FY. Townsend Development Affairs Committee carries out beautifying and greening tasks in the region.

For smooth and better transport, Kinmalinkyun Highway Bus Terminal was upgraded. There are 20-25 bus lines running to Mandalay, Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw through Pathein. The township DAC upgraded roads to concrete ones. A total of 304 roads (88.2 miles)—33 concrete roads, 65 tarred roads, 58 gravel roads and 30 laterite roads and 108 earth roads—were built. Thanks to infrastructural development, Pathein sees more progress like that of other regions and states.

Kyemon: 5-9-2013

Tr: MT
**Local News**

**Red Cross**

**First-aid Course (Basic) concludes at Sagaing University of Cooperative**

SAAGING, 7 Sept—The first-aid course (basic) No 1, jointly Red Cross Society of Cooperative University (Sagaing) and Sagaing Region Red Cross Society, concluded at Mya Tharaphu Hall of the university (Sagaing) on 4 September. Rector-in-Charge Dr Yi Yi Win of the university delivered a speech. The trainee students demonstrated first-aid rescue of the snake-bite patients.

**Drug elimination, human trafficking prevention disseminated**

SAAGING, 7 Sept—Under the arrangements of Mandalay Region Anti-Narcotics Association, the talks on drug elimination and trafficking in person was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Singaing on 3 September morning. Vice-Chairman of Kyaukse District Committee for Drug Abuse Control and Anti-Human Trafficking Committee Commander of District Police Force Lt-Col Myint Aung made a speech. Chairman of Mandalay Region ANA Police Col Hla Myint (Retd) extended greetings.

**Pyapon District striving for enhancement of livestock breeding**

PYAPON, 7 Sept—With the aim of ensuring poverty alleviation and rural development and raising production of meat and fish sector in Pyapon District and Township, a ceremony to distribute DYL pig pitts was held in Gyowa Pyapon Village on 4 September.

**Anti-Human Trafficking Drives**

KYAUKSE, 7 Sept—With the aim of preventing trafficking in girls and children, Kyaukse District Women’s Affairs Organization held an educative talk at the Dhammayon of YwaU Village of Kyaukse Township of Mandalay Region on 3 September morning.

**Confiscated farmlands handed over to farmers in Mohnyin**

MOHNYIN, 7 Sept—A ceremony to pay back farmlands confiscated by regiments and units and departments to farmers was held at Hopin Administrat Office in Mohnyin District on 4 September afternoon.

**Shwe Zeyar invitational monsoon football tourney successfully concludes in Sagaing**

Sagaing, 7 Sept—The final match of the Shwe Zeyar invitational monsoon football tournament was held in conjunction with the prize presentation for the winners at People’s Sports Ground in Sagaing on 5 September. The final match, White Pearl team secured champion in the tournament by winning over Western team with a 1-0 result.

Myanma Railways and Marn Cell teams stood joint first prize winner White Pearl team.

Chairman of Shwe Zewmyey FC U Thurein gave K200,000 to first prize winning team.

Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Win Tint and Chairman of the Peaceful Committee U Zaw Win presented K150,000 and Chairman of Zeyar Shewmyey FC U Thurein K100,000 to second prize winning Westerm team.

Chairman of District Management Committee U Myint Wai and Organizing Committee Chairman U Ditt Tun (Nyein Thiri) gave third prizes and K 50,000 each to Myanna Railways and Marn Cell teams.

Officials handed best player awards and man of the match awards to the respective winners.

Ju Ju Sports Suits and Sports Gear Shop owner U Soe Hla gave prizes to first and second prize winning teams.

The tournamentran from 15 July to 5 September with the sponsorship of Union Minister for Construction (Rtd) Thiri Pyanu U Khin Maung Myint for uplifting sports standard in Sagaing.

**Kyaemon-Nanda Min Lwin**

**National Sports**

The tournament ran from 15 July to 5 September with the sponsorship of Union Minister for Construction (Rtd) Thiri Pyanu U Khin Maung Myint for uplifting sports standard in Sagaing.

Kyaemon-Nanda Min Lwin

**Livestock Breeding**

**Prevention against trafficking in girl talked**

IT was attended by students and villagers from Kyaygyi, Kyantlaw, Mezetaw and Thonpo villages of Thamantal Village-tract Chairperson of the organization Daw Aye Aye Win made an opening for the school children, gave educative talks and organize the livestock breeding farms.

**Kyaemon-Thayle Tun**
**Tokyo, 7 Sept—The Hokkaido government is considering overhauling historical displays at its prefectural museum to put a greater emphasis on the indigenous Ainu people who were deprived of their livelihood and culture through the development of the northern island, according to Hokkaido officials familiar with the matter. The Historical Museum of Hokkaido, whose Japanese name, Hokkaido Kaitaku Kinenkan, literally means “Hokkaido Pioneer Memorial Hall,” would be renamed Hokkaido Museum in the spring of 2015, the officials said on Monday. The Ainu consider the development of Hokkaido as a negative aspect of their history, as they were forced from their ancestral land by settlers from the mainland. Hokkaido is home to around 24,000 Ainu people, according to Hokkaido prefectural assembly in October at the earliest. The renaming of the museum would be formalized through an ordinance to be introduced next spring. The central government is also considering building a national museum in Hokkaido to promote a correct understanding of the history and culture of the Ainu and plans to develop a basic plan for the museum during the next fiscal year. The current Hokkaido museum opened in Sapporo’s Asutsubetsu Ward in 1971. It has displays on traditional Ainu costumes and dwellings, but the Hokkaido government has judged that it needs to expand these to incorporate the perspective of the Ainu. This is due in part to the recent surge of interest in the indigenous people, according to the officials. The plan will include Japan’s assimilation policy toward the Ainu, which is currently not mentioned in detail at the museum. Exhibits would also explain how the 1899 Hokkaido Former Aborigines Protection Act introduced a basic plan for the museum in 1971.**

**Hokkaido mulls revamping museum to feature Ainu minority perspective**

**Heavy floods claim 190 lives in India’s eastern state of Bihar**

**New Delhi, 7 Sept—**At least 190 people have died in heavy floods due to incessant rains in India’s eastern state of Bihar, local reports said on Friday. Fear looms large of more rain in the coming days as a result of which the death toll is likely to rise. Some 6 million people have been affected by the flooding. After conducting an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said as many as 20 districts of the state have been badly affected. Most of the flood-affected areas are located near the Nepal border, with water gushing down from the hills in Nepal causing most of the destruction. According to a Press Trust of India report, the chief minister assured that his government had readied all arrangements to meet the challenge of heavy rains next week, as forecast by the meteorological department. **S**

**S Korea, China complete first-stage FTA talks**

**Seoul, 7 Sept—**South Korea and China had completed first-stage negotiations on the bilateral free trade agreement (FTA), setting foundations for more in-depth talks over mutual opening and liberalization, South Korea’s trade ministry said on Friday. “Both sides wrapped up the first-phase negotiations for the Sino-Korea FTA by agreeing on the modality (or basic guidelines),” Woo Tae-hee, South Korea’s assistant trade minister and a chief negotiator for the FTA with China, told a Press briefing. South Korea and China held the seventh round of first-stage FTA negotiations in Beijing for three days through Thursday. The two countries started such talks in May last year. Woo noted that the first-stage talks set the foundation for the upcoming second-phase negotiations, which will discuss items allowed to be liberalized by lowering or removing tariff barriers. FTA talks tend to start item-by-item negotiations directly, but the Sino-Korea FTA talks divided into two phases given concerns over protection of the agricultural sector in South Korea and of the manufacturing sector in China, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy (MOTIE) said in a statement. The first-stage talks agreed on basic guidelines for four areas, including products, service, investment, regulations and economic cooperation. On the product front, the two countries agreed to abolish tariffs within a certain period of time on 90 percent of all products in terms of the number of items, and 85 percent of imports in terms of their monetary value. Tariffs on normal items will be removed immediately or within 10 years after the implementation of the FTA, while those on sensitive products will be abolished within 10-20 years after the deal takes effect. Highly sensitive items, which will be excluded from tariff removal, took up 10 percent of the total in the first-stage talks, but the two countries agreed to lower the “reference number” during the second-phase negotiations, the ministry said.**

**Firing leaves eight dead in Pakistan’s Peshawar**

**Islamabad, 7 Sept—**At least eight people including a child were killed when some unknown gunmen attacked passenger vehicles in Pakistan’s northwest provincial capital of Peshawar on late Friday night, local media and official said on Saturday. Station House Officer of Police Abdul Rehman told media that the incident took place at the Kohat road in Peshawar’s Mattani area, a zone between provincial capital and restive tribal region of Dara Adamkhel. According to the police officer, unidentified gunmen sprayed bullets indiscriminately at the vehicles including a passenger bus that were travelling to southern districts. Four people including a child were killed on the spot while four others got injured in the attack. Police, security forces and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the bodies and the wounded to the Lady Reading Hospital in Peshawar where all wounded succumbed to their injuries Saturday morning. Police and other law enforcement forces cordoned off the area and launched a search operation to search for the miscreants. Police and security forces had exchange of fire with the attackers that lasted for one hour, but the assailants managed to run away to unknown place. **Xinhua**
China mulls changing Teachers’ Day to birthday of Confucius

BEIJING, 7 Sept — Chi-na is considering moving the present Teachers’ Day to 28 September, believed to be the birthday of Confucius (551-479 BC), the most important educationalist and philoso-pher in Chinese civilization.

The idea was made public on Thursday when the Legislative Affairs Office of the State Council, China’s Cabinet, released a draft amendment on a pack-age of education laws to canvass public opinion.

From 1985, Teacher’s Day was designated as 10 September every year, only a few days after the new school year begins. It is an important day in China, where a high value has tradi-tionally been put on educa-tion and where teachers are widely respected.

For some years experts and legislators have been promising to change the date of Teacher’s Day. Li Han-qua, a scholar in traditional Chinese culture, suggested in 2004 that Teachers’ Day should have historical and cultural associations and should fall on the birthday of Confucius.

There is little agree-ment in academic circles on the exact date of Confucius’ birth. Some believe he was born on 28 September in 551 BC, while others reckon 8 September or 9 October. However, since 1913, Chi-nese people have held rituals to commemorate Confucius on 28 September, and in Taiwan, where the Chinese traditional culture is jeal-ously safeguarded, Teach-ers’ Day is on 28 September.

In an online survey (http://sina.com.cn), one of the coun-try’s major web portals, al-most 70 percent of people support the change, as it avoids the hectic beginning of new school year. The 30 percent who oppose the change mostly believe it is nothing but formalism.

Al-Qaeda assassinates two Yemeni intelligence officers

SANAA, 7 Sept — Al- Qaeda militants assassi-nated two senior Yemeni intelligence officers in the southern part of the coun-try, government officials said on Friday.

Colonel Abdulmajid al-Salmi, of a military intel-ligence body, was shot in the head near his home in the southwestern province of Lahj, a local security of-ficial told Xinhua by phone on condition of anonymity.

He said that the assail-ants rode a motorcycle to al-Salmi’s home and killed him late on Thursday.

The 50-year-old was also head of a social, sport and youth club in al-Ma’hafa area in Lahj’s District of Tirm.

A provincial spokes-man of the Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) told Xinhua that “their investigations in the past weeks in Lahj and nearby provinces of Abyan and Shabwa revealed that Colonel al-Salmi was one of the officials responsible for recruiting local youths to place electronic chips on targets to instruct the US drone strikes.”

US drones increased air raid last month against the AQAP in Yemen’s southern regions after Washington temporarily closed its embassy in Sanaa due to security threats. The Yemeni government said more than 40 suspected ter-rorists were killed in the strikes.

Meanwhile, the Yem-eni Defence Ministry said that Colonel Omar Bdyee bin Amro, with the Po- litical Security Agency’s branch in the southeastern province of Hadramout, was killed on Friday after-noon.—Xinhua

NZ legislators concern with C African Republic situation

WELLINGTON, 7 Sept — The head of an international group of legislators on Fri-day called for greater global action to prevent a deteria-tion in the conflict in the Central African Republic.

New Zealand Member of Parliament and presi-dent of Parliamentarians for Global Action Ross Robert-son said the African nation had been facing a security and humanitarian crisis since a coup in March, with rebel forces committing serious human rights violations and international crimes.

“Hundreds have been killed and more than 200,000 forced to flee their homes. The nutritional and health status of the population is seriously deteriorating, with the UN estimating that there are 1.5 million Central Af-rican Republic nationals in need of protection and hu-manitarian assistance,” Rob-ertson said in a statement.

“Given this extremely worrying situation, interna-tional bodies are struggling to find an adequate answer to put an end to these abuses and to ensure appropriate humanitarian response to the population,” he said.

“Parliamentarians for Global Action is continuing to support its members in the Central African Repub-lic, who were democratically elected, but currently are un-able to play any part in the governance of their country.”

Robertson said he had lodged a notice of motion in the New Zealand Parliament calling on the government to work with the United Na-tions towards a lasting peace in the Central African Re-public.—Xinhua

Iraq to impose traffic restriction in Baghdad
to stem violence

BAGHDAD, 7 Sept — The Iraqi government on Thurs-day announced a traffic re-striction will be imposed on the streets of Baghdad in an apparent move to combat the increasing car bombings in the capital. The measure imposed by the General Di-rectorate of Traffic of the Iraqi Interior Ministry will come into effect on Saturday and last until further notice, allowing cars with even and odd license numbers to take daily turns to go out, the Ira-qiya TV channel reported. The report did not give any specific reason for the measure, but it is widely regarded as a move to deal with the increasing violence in the country, in particular more and more frequent car bomb attacks in Baghdad.

Taxis, trucks and cer-tain government vehicles will be exempt from the regulation, according to the report. On Tuesday evening, at least a dozen of car bombs struck across Baghdad, mostly in Shiite neighbour-hoods, killing 47 people and wounding 163 others.

Iraq’s monthly death toll from violence in Au-gust was 841, according to a statement released by the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq on Sunday. Also, al-most 5,000 civilians have been killed and 12,000 in-jured since the beginning of 2013.—Xinhua

New Light of Myanmar
Japanese anime master Miyazaki hangs up director hat

TORONTO, 7 Sept — Oscar-winning Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki said on Friday he will make no more of the full-length films that have brought him global fame, confessing that his real love is drawing and — at age 72 — he is tired of directing. Miyazaki’s latest film, “The Wind Rises”, claimed a coveted competition slot at the current Venice Film Festival. He won an Academy Award for “Spirited Away” and many other Japanese and international prizes.

But Miyazaki told a packed news conference that the stresses of directing long films made with the hand-drawing techniques he swears by were starting to wear him down. “I have never once thought I was glad I became a director but I have been glad I’m an animator many many times,” he told about 600 journalists gathered at a Tokyo hotel.

“To be an animator, if you are able to perfectly capture the water or the wind, you’ll be really happy for the next few days... But if you’re the director, you have to make all the judgments. It’s not good for my stomach.” A bit of a break lies ahead but Miyazaki said he intended to work “for the next 10 years or so, as long as I can still drive a car to the studio.” He has numerous projects in mind, including renewing the exhibits at the popular Ghibli Museum west of Tokyo that showcases the work of his studio.

“The Wind Rises,” Miyazaki’s 11th feature film, is based on the life of the man who designed Japan’s feared Zero fighter plane used in World War Two and highlights the dangers of war and nationalism.—Reuters

Mallika Sherawat: Taj Mahal is most beautiful

Mallika Sherawat: Taj Mahal is most beautiful

Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki speaks during a news conference held to announce his retirement from film in Tokyo on 6 Sept, 2013. — Reuters

Weevils and all, Rome ring-road film marks documentary comeback

VENICE, 7 Sept — A portrait of life along Rome’s ring road is emerging as the quirkiest of a flurry of documentaries making waves at two of the world’s top film festivals. Italian director Gianfranco Rosi’s “Sacro GRA” — a pun on the ring road’s name which evokes the Italian word “holy” and “grat”, a deli — has been met with a spate of one-star reviews. “Even when these lines are delivered by the fragrant Naomi Watts, doing her level best with a squirmingly embarrassing script, this film is still atrocious and intrusive,” wrote Kate Muir in the Times newspaper.

Director Gianfranco Rosi (2nd R) poses with his cast during a red carpet for the movie "Sacro Gra" at the 70th Venice Film Festival on 5 Sept, 2013.— Reuters

Ranbir Kapoor and Pallavi Sharda wrap up wedding song in a day

MUMBAI, 7 Sept — Dancing seems to come naturally to Besharam actors Ranbir Kapoor and Pallavi Sharda. The two will be seen grooving to wedding number, Lut Gaye in the film, which they reportedly wrapped up in just a day.

“Director Aashvin Kashyap had kept three days aside for the shoot of the song, but to his and entire unit’s surprise, Ranbir and Pallavi finished the song in just one day. When they started shooting for the song, the two got in to the groove and decided to finish the song the same day,” said a source from the film.

A wedding number, Lut Gaye is sung by Mamta Sharma and Ashwarya Niogam. Its music is composed by Lalit Pandit, while the lyrics are penned by Nikhat Khan.—PTI

Caption: Cast member Naomi Watts of Australia, who plays the title role, signs autographs before the world premiere of “Diana” at Leicester Square in London on 5 Sept, 2013. — Reuters

LONDON, 7 Sept — Film critics have savaged a new movie of the late British Princess Diana’s relationship with a Pakistani doctor as an intrusive and embarrassingly cheap soap opera. British-born Australian actress Naomi Watts plays the jilted princess trapped in a gilded cage. English actor Naveen Andrews is heart surgeon Hasnat Khan, who gives her the love she craves in “Diana”, which holds its world premiere in London on Thursday.

The British tabloids — who followed every twist and turn from Diana’s 1981 marriage to Prince Charles, to their divorce and her death in a 1997 Paris car crash — were scathing about the film from German director Oliver Hirschbiegel. “The Queen of Hearts has been recast as a sad-sack singleton that even Bridget Jones would cross the street to avoid,” wrote the Mirror’s David Edwards in a one-star review dubbing the film a “cheap and cheerless effort”.

The movie is based on “Diana: Her Last Love”, a book by author Kate Snell published in 2000, which argues that the estranged wife of the heir to the British throne had a clandestine affair with Khan in the last two years of her life. “Diana” focuses on the vignettes of their assignations in hospitals, cars, his flat and Kensington Palace, interspersed with the public Diana campaigning against landmines and giving her infamous 1995 interview about her relationship with Charles in which she said there were “three of us in this marriage”.

The Diana character tells Khan on their first “date” that she loves television soap operas and some of the movie scenes, including their final break-up in a London park in the middle of night could be straight out of one. The dialogue, which includes Persian poetry and lines such as “Now that I have been loved, I don’t feel lonely anymore”, has been met with a spat of one-star reviews. “Even when these lines are delivered by the fragrant Naomi Watts, doing her level best with a squirmingly embarrassing script, this film is still atrocious and intrusive,” wrote Kate Muir in the Times newspaper.

Weevils and all, Rome ring-road film marks documentary comeback

Mallika Sherawat: Taj Mahal is most beautiful

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Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki speaks during a news conference held to announce his retirement from film in Tokyo on 6 Sept, 2013. — Reuters

Venice, 7 Sept — A portrait of life along Rome’s ring road is emerging as the quirkiest of a flurry of documentaries making waves at two of the world’s top film festivals. Italian director Gianfranco Rosi’s “Sacro GRA” — a pun on the ring road’s name which evokes the Italian word “holy” and “grat”, a deli — has been met with a spate of one-star reviews. “Even when these lines are delivered by the fragrant Naomi Watts, doing her level best with a squirmingly embarrassing script, this film is still atrocious and intrusive,” wrote Kate Muir in the Times newspaper.

Japanese director Hayao Miyazaki speaks during a news conference held to announce his retirement from film in Tokyo on 6 Sept, 2013. — Reuters

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Djokovic, Nadal aiming for US Open showdown

New York, 7 Sept— Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal can set up a de facto US Open final between the top two players in the world with 2013 grand slam bragging rights at stake by posting victories in Saturday’s semi-finals.

Australian Open champion Djokovic and French Open winner Nadal have designs on adding a second grand slam to their honours this year but first must get past familiar foes in Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka and France’s Richard Gasquet, respectively.

Top-seeded Djokovic, who advanced to his 14th successive grand slam semi-final with a four-set victory over Mikhail Youzhny, and Nadal, a straight-sets winner over fellow Spaniard Tommy Robredo, have both lost only one set in the tournament.

The darkhorse challenge, however, are at the top of their games, both wielding lethal one-handed backhands as a key part of their arsenal.

Nadal said there was no danger of him looking past longtime friend Gasquet and at a possible marquee clash with Djokovic. “I hope to be ready to play a good match against Richard. If not, I will not have the chance to play the final,” the second-seeded Spaniard said.—Reuters

Ronaldo rescues Portugal, Spain and Germany win

Portugal’s Cristiano Ronaldo (C) celebrates with teammates Joao Moutinho (L) and Miguel after scoring against Northern Ireland during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Windsor Park Stadium in Belfast on 6 Sept, 2013.— Reuters

England’s Jack Wilshere (C) is challenged by Moldova’s Simeon Bulgaru and Alexandru Onica (R) during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Wembley Stadium in London, on 6 Sept, 2013.— Reuters

London, 7 Sept— Cristiano Ronaldo rescued Portugal with a speedy hat-trick to avoid a slip-up in Northern Ireland, while Netherlands dropped their first points as Spain and Germany took easier steps towards World Cup qualification.

England moved level on points at the top of Group H with Montenegro after matching to a 4-0 home win over Moldova that came as their rivals were held 1-1 in Poland.

Ronaldo was in serious danger of being knocked off the top of Group F, after second-placed Russia had earlier thumped Luxembourg 4-1, as they found themselves trailing 2-1 to Northern Ireland.

Their hosts had previously threatened Russia 1-0 last month and it looked like they were heading for another when Portugal’s Helder Postiga was shown a straight red card for a headbutt on Gareth McAuley just before halftime.

Northern Ireland, already out of qualifying contention, made the man advantage count early in the second half when Jamie Ward scored after a corner and Portugal’s fortunes turned when Kevin Brunt was shown a second yellow card to make it 10 against 10.

Then followed 15 minutes of trademark Ronaldo brilliance as he headed in two goals and scored another from a free kick to turn the match around and put Portugal on 17 points from eight games with Russia on 15 having played one game fewer.

There were more individual plaudits in Germany’s 3-0 win over Austria in Group C as forward Miroslav Klose opened the scoring in the 34th minute to equal Gerd Mueller’s record of 68 goals for the country.

The clean sheet banished concerns over recent German defensive frailties as they stayed in control of the group on 19 points from seven matches, five ahead of Sweden who beat Ireland 2-1. Austria dropped to third on 11, level with the Irish.

“We did our homework, we defended well, we played with the right aggression and intensity,” Germany coach Joachim Loew told ZDF television.

The same could not be said of Group E leaders Switzerland, who let slip a 4-1 lead to draw 4-4 with Iceland, allowing second-placed Norway to close the gap on them to four points after they beat Cyprus 2-0.

Netherlands also had defensive questions to answer after they saw a first-minute goal secured by Arjen Robben evaporate in Tallinn where they stood seconds away from an embarrassing 2-1 defeat after a Konstantin Vassiljev double for the hosts.—Reuters

Serena books US Open rematch with Azarenka

New York, 7 Sept— Defending champion Serena Williams slugged her way to a US Open title re-match against Victoria Azarenka as the top two seeds scored straight-sets knock-outs in their semi-finals on Friday.

World number one Williams thrashed a rattled Li Na 6-0, 6-3, overcoming some staunch resistance at the end, while Azarenka returned to the Flushing Meadows final with a 6-4, 6-2 win over unseeded Italian Flavia Pennetta.

“Just to be able to defend a title for once would be really awesome,” said French Open winner Williams, who will get her chance on Sunday after failing to go back-to-back following her 1999, 2002 and 2008 titles in New York.

Although overpowering in the opening set, Li battled valiantly in the second, saving six match points to hold serve before the top seed finally closed the deal on a seventh with an unrewarded serve.

“It was a good match. It was tough at the end,” Williams said. “I got a little nervous but I was able to close it out.”

Former French Open champion Li, China’s first semi-finalist at the US Open, admitted that she experienced a bout of nerves when she hit the Arthur Ashe Stadium court.

“I should not be, like, nervous because (it was) not the (first) time to play semis,” said Li, twice an Australian Open finalist. “But when I walked to the court I was feeling the court (was) so big. I mean, even my side, it was feeling like a football court.”

Italian’s goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon (C) makes a save during the World Cup qualifying soccer match against Bulgaria at the Renzo Barbera Stadium in Palermo on 6 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

Victoria Azarenka of Belarus makes a heart symbol as she celebrates defeating Flavia Pennetta of Italy at the US Open tennis championships in New York on 6 Sept, 2013.— Reuters

Novak Djokovic of Serbia celebrates defeating Mikhail Youzhny of Russia during their quarter-final match at the US Open tennis championships in New York, on 5 Sept, 2013.— Reuters

Novak Djokovic and Rafa Nadal can set up a de facto US Open final between the top two players in the world with 2013 grand slam bragging rights at stake by posting victories in Saturday’s semi-finals.
Canada hopes to sell more wood, wood products to China

VANCOUVER, 7 Sept — Canada’s Minister of International Trade Ed Fast Friday vowed to export more Canadian wood and wood products to China.

Welcoming a business delegation of 60 buyers from China to the annual Global Buyers Mission (GBM) and Wood First Forum, Fast said, “Having a strong business delegation from China here in Whistler, British Columbia (BC), complements our effort to continue to grow our exports to China.”

“Canada is now China’s largest supplier of imported lumber and among the fastest-growing markets for Canadian wood products. The value of Canadian wood exports to China has increased more than 10 times in the last five years, to over 1.4 billion Canadian dollars in 2012,” he said.

Canadian wood and wood products exports to China are being facilitated by the government strategic investment and partnerships in building the Asia-Pacific Gateway infrastructure, said Fast, who visited one of China’s top importers of Canadian wood products in Tianjin during his most recent trade mission to China last April.

“To date, we have invested over 1.4 billion Canadian dollars in projects that are making it easier, faster and more efficient for our exporters to reach the Chinese market. In fact, Canada’s west coast ports are more than two days closer to Asia than any other ports in North America,” he said. “We want to continue to grow our exports to China and we will continue helping our forestry exporters reach new markets,” he said.

The 10th GBM started on Friday in Whistler in Canada’s westernmost province of British Columbia. The three-day event attracted 240 buyers from 22 countries, who are expected to buy 48 million Canadian dollars worth of wood products.” —Xinhua

6.5-magnitude quake hits Guatemala

MEXICO CITY, 7 Sept — An earthquake measuring 6.5 degrees on the Richter scale on Friday rocked Guatemala with its epicenter 244 km southwest of the capital. The quake, recorded at about 06:13 pm local time (00:13 GMT), was sensitive in at least six geographic districts but the National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction has not yet reported any significant damage and casualties. But the Coordinator has declared an institutional orange alert.

The quake was felt strongly in the capital, but the authorities have not reported any damage immediately. At the time of the quake, many people rushed out of their homes and several were treated by the quake, many people reported any damage immediately. At the time of the quake, many people rushed out of their homes and several were treated by firefighters due to nervous breakdown. In all these areas, as reported by firefighters, people were evacuated from building. In San Marcos, where a 7.2-magnitude quake in November last year killed at least 40 people, cries and screams of panic were heard. Eddy Sanchez, director of the National Institute of Seismology, Volcanology and Meteorology, told Xinhua that they have detected an aftershock three minutes later after the main quake and the results of the seismographs are being analyzed to determine the possible cause of the quake.

The Traffic Department of National Civil Police have reported several landslides in the west and south of the country.” —Xinhua

Ukraine thrash San Marino 9-0 in record victory

Ukrainian players celebrate a goal during their teams’ World Cup qualifying soccer match against San Marino at the Arena Lviv stadium in Lviv on 6 Sept, 2013. —REUTERS

KIEV, 7 Sept — Ukraine earned their biggest ever win by beating San Marino 9-0 at a packed Lviv Arena on Friday before they host England in a key World Cup Group H qualifier in four days’ time.

Serbia’s emphatic victory over a San Marino side who have now conceded 38 goals and scored none in seven matches came courtesy of eight different goal scorers with Evhen Khacheri scoring twice with a goal either side of the break.

The win left Ukraine in third place in a point behind England, who are top with 15 points after a 4-0 win over Moldova, and Montenegro, who have played a game more and are second after a 1-1 draw away to Poland who have 10 points.

Ukraine’s Serbia-born striker Marco Devio opened the scoring after 11 minutes, shooting low into the far corner following a fine headed pass inside the area by right back Artem Fedetsky.

Striker Evhen Seleznev scored from close range in the 26th minute after an assist from centre back Khacheri got above his marker in the penalty area. Brazilian-born playmaker Edmar slotted home to make it 3-0 from the centre of the area six minutes later before San Marino keeper Federico Valentini failed to clear the ball and Khacheri nodded in at the end of the first half.

Ukraine’s scoring spree continued after the restart when Evhen Konoplyanka curled in the fifth goal and a lone Khacheri tapped the ball in following a corner kick.

Roman Bezus needed just three minutes to score after coming off the bench on the hour and Artem Fedetsky added an eighth goal before centre back Khacheri headed in from a corner.

Ukraine’s previous highest score was 6-0 in wins over Andorra and Azerbaijan. —Reuters
All national races need to join hands in attempt to widen scope of people

Coord meeting on test broadcasting of National Races Channel held

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—A coordination meeting on test broadcasting of National Races Channel was held at Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) in Nay Pyi Taw (Tatkon) this morning with an address by Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi.

In his speech, the Union Minister said that test broadcasting of national race channel will be done in mid-October. The meeting is aimed at seeking the advice from national races ministers from the Region/State and members of national races cultural troopers.

All national races need to join hands in an attempt to widen the scope of people. It is hoped that the channel would serve the interests of all national races. For national races development, dissemination of knowledge is crucial not only for the people in urban areas but also for those in remote areas. Sharing of accurate and knowledgeable information calls for helps of media in national races regions. It can be done only by non-commercial community services.

The Public Service Media Bill which has been submitted at the Hluttaw covers the prescriptions that can help support non-commercial community services to a greater extent. Since the early 20th century, the PSM has been widely accepted by all world countries as a media mechanism that can share information equally to the four corners of the country including national races regions. He urged those present to make collaboration in successful transmission of the channel.

Next, the sample videos of national races programme were shown. Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut touched upon national races programme at the second session. After that, Director-General U Tint Swe explained arrangements made for trial transmission. Those present gave suggestions on the programme.

The meeting came to an end with the concluding remarks by the Union Minister. Those present held a roundtable discussion with MRTV staff who will serve duties in the regions and states.—MNA

MJA marks its founding anniversary

YANGON, 7 Sept—A ceremony to mark the founding anniversary of Myanmar Japan Association (MJA) was held at Sedona Hotel, here yesterday evening, with an address by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Mikio Numata extended greetings. Patron U Hlay Oo and MJA Chairman U Saw Hla Min accepted donation of K 99.2 million and 5300 USD for the association by MJA patrons, CEC members and donors.—MNA

Union S&T Minister attends Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo delivered an address at the Forum on China-ASEAN Technology Transfer and Collaborative Innovation held at Guangxi Wharton International Hotel of Nanning of China on 3 September.

He invited investments in science and technology sector in Myanmar and said that through efforts made by China and ASEAN and sharing of China’s experience, cooperation between China and ASEAN contributes much to socio-economic development of peoples in the region. The speech also includes establishment of joint Myanmar-China laboratory, sending of Myanmar scholars to China for research and opening of China-ASEAN Technology Transfer Center (branch) in Myanmar.

It was also attended by Minister for Science and Technology Dr Wan Gang of China, ministers and deputy ministers from the Ministry of Science and Technology and officials.

Respective companies inked agreements on science and technology cooperation projects.

The Union Minister held talks with the Chinese Science and Technology Minister on cooperation in science and technology sectors of the countries and programme to recognize norms and standards by both sides. Then, the Union minister looked round production process of traditional medicines in Pura Pharm Cooperation Factory and production and assembly of digital hardware and electronics in Guangxi Leader Digital Technology Co, Ltd.—MNA

Last Hitler bunker witness Misch dies at 96

BERLIN, 7 Sept—Rochus Misch, the last surviving witness of Adolf Hitler’s final days in the Berlin bunker who always referred to the Nazi dictator as “the Boss”, has died in his home at the age of 96, his book agent said on Friday.

He was captured after the war and spent nine years in Soviet prisons. Back home, he launched a house-painting business.

Misch said he stayed in the bunker even after Hitler’s end. “I went to the commander and said: ‘The Fuehrer is dead’. My colleague then said, ‘Now the boss is to be burnt’,” he quoted agents as saying.

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