President U Thein Sein receives delegates to 2nd Myanmar Global Investment Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Sept—President U Thein Sein met Vice-President of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Mr Xiaoyu Zhao and party who are in Myanmar to attend 2nd Myanmar Global Investment Forum, at Myanmar International Convention Center (MICC) here this morning.

President U Thein Sein said holding of the Investment Forum is a golden opportunity for Myanmar at a time when sweeping reforms are taking place in the country. The economic topics that will be discussed in the forum would contribute a lot to economic development of the country. He expressed his thanks to the representatives from international organizations and his hope for holding of similar forum next year.

It was also attended by Union Ministers U Thein Nyunt, U Myint Hlaing, U Win Tun, U Khin Maung Soe, U Win Shein and Dr Kan Zaw, Attorney-General of the Union Dr Tun Shin, Deputy Minister U Thant Kyaw and departmental heads.

After the call, the President cordially greeted guests at the meeting hall of MICC.

Myanmar Global Investment Forum commences

Myanmar Global Investment Forum in progress at MICC in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Sept—The Myanmar Global Investment Forum, jointly organized by Myanmar Investment Commission and Euromoney Conferences, kicked off at Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC), here, at 9 am today.

Experts at home and abroad, entrepreneurs and technicians participated in discussions on investment matters in respective sectors.

About 850 attendees from 35 countries are attending the forum.

The forum continues second-day session tomorrow.

MNA

Biography of His Excellency Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão
Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Security of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

His Excellency Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was born on 20 June 1946 in Manatuto, Timor-Leste. On 25 April 1974, he joined the newly formed Social Democrat Association which was later transformed into the Revolutionary Front for an Independent Timor-Leste (FRETILIN) and took on the party’s job of Deputy Director of the Department of Information.

Having served under various capacities in his career, the First National Congress of National Council of Timorese Resistance (CNRT) elected Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão as the President of the CNRT/National Congress for the Reconstruction of Timor-Leste, the newly established political party formed in April 2000. From November 2000 to April 2001, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão served as the Speaker of the National Council.

On 14 April 2002, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was elected as the President of Timor-Leste and served as the President until May 2007. After leaving the Presidency, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was elected as the President of the CNRT-National Congress for the Reconstruction of Timor-Leste, the newly established political party formed in April 2000. And from 2007 to 2012, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão served as the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence and Security.

On 22 October 2012, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was also sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was also sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term.

Mr. Xanana Gusmão was elected as the President of the CNRT/National Congress in August 2000. From November 2000 to April 2001, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão served as the Speaker of the National Council.

On 14 April 2002, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was elected as the President of Timor-Leste and served as the President until May 2007. After leaving the Presidency, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was elected as the President of the CNRT-National Congress for the Reconstruction of Timor-Leste, the newly established political party formed in April 2000. And from 2007 to 2012, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão served as the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence and Security.

On 22 October 2012, Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was also sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was also sworn-in as the Prime Minister for a second five-year term.

His Excellency Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão

Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Security of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão was born in Manatuto, Timor-Leste, on 20 June 1946. He earned a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree majoring in Indonesian and Italian languages, and a Diploma of Education from Melbourne University. From 1992 to 1996, she lived in Jakarta, Indonesia and worked as a teacher and human rights campaigner. She married Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão in July, 2000. She is the founder and chairwoman of the Alola Foundation which she established in 2001 to address the needs of East Timorese women and their families. In October 2007, Former President, Dr Jose Ramos Horta appointed Mrs. Kirsty as Goodwill Ambassador for Education. Mrs. Kirsty has tirelessly worked, addressing educational priorities of Timor-Leste.

Biography of Mrs. Kirsty Sword Gusmão, wife of the Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and Security of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste

Mrs. Kirsty Sword Gusmão was born in Melbourne, Australia in 1966. She earned a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree majoring in Indonesian and Italian languages, and a Diploma of Education from Melbourne University. From 1992 to 1996, she worked as a teacher and human rights campaigner. She married Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão in July, 2000. She is the founder and chairwoman of the Alola Foundation which she established in 2001 to address the needs of East Timorese women and their families. In October 2007, Former President, Dr Jose Ramos Horta appointed Mrs. Kirsty as Goodwill Ambassador for Education. Mrs. Kirsty has tirelessly worked, addressing educational priorities of Timor-Leste.
**Construction**

Thinyang RC diversion weir benefits over 850 acres of farmland

**LOCAL NEWS**

**New Light of Myanmar**

10 Sept—A spoken English course conducted to bus Township of Mon State on 8 September.

Township Police Forces, State, Thaton District and Township Police Forces, cars without licences were seized.

Workers of Irrigation Department are building the diversion weir with the use of heavy machinery day and night.

Spoken English course conducted to bus workers in Kyaitko

Kyaiktiyo Pagoda, the most famous religious edifice in Mon State.

The course was aimed at enabling the bus workers in order to smoothly communicate with the tourists on their visits to

**Crime**

Action taken against undisciplined vehicles in Kyaukse Township

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Sept—Action was taken against those who broke traffic rules in Kyaukse Township under Section 91 of the Development Law in Mandalay Region.

In August, files were opened against 907 vehicles including 885 motorcycles, nine tuk-tuks and 13 tawlelgy. The traffic rules enforcement teams were formed with officials of No 58 Traffic Police Crops Section, local policemen, Transport Department, General Administration Department, Development Affairs Committee, Vehicles Supervisory Committee, Fire Services Department and ward administrators.

**Livestock Breeding**

Development of breeding farms emphasized in Mandalay

Mandalay, 10 Sept—A team comprising Head of Mandalay District Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department Dr Aung Kyi and Staff Officer Dr Daw Mya Hnin Htwe of Aungmyethazan Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department made field trips to the breeding farms in townships of Mandalay District on 7 September morning.

They met milch cow breeders in Nyauangwwe and Pyigyiyanlon Wards of Aungmyethazan Township and gave talks on systematic breeding of milch cows and systematic use of cow waste.

In Pathingyi Township, they met cow breeders at their farms in Kyangin Ward of Aungmyethazan Township from the original places that were eroded by Ayeyawady River. They offered breeders for vaccination to the cows in Patheingyi and Aungmyethazan townships.

The team also met breeders of cows in Shangale and Shwekyetyet Villages in Amarapura Township and gave talks on development of breeding.

**Transport**

Private hovercrafts reduce transport charges along Yangon-Ayeyawady route

Yangon, 10 Sept—Double-dekker hovercrafts reduce their charges from K 2500 to K 1500. Private passenger/commodity double-dekker watercrafts also reduce their transport charge from K 2000 to K 1500. New transport rates are announced at the jetties with vinyl boards.

Although the charge rate is fixed at K 1000 per passenger, the passengers are to take a seat downstairs. Those taking a seat upstairs to pay K 1500 per seat, said a passenger.

Transport charge of inland water transport has been changed thrice within two years.

In the past, transport charge increased to K 2000 from K 500 per passenger.

Now, the charge was reduced from K 2000 to K 1500, said a local of Mawlamyinegyun Township.

It is competitiveness in market economic system in reducing the transport charge of hovercrafts along Yangon-Mawgyun route. In addition, watercrafts give incentive of reducing transport fare for commodities, said a goods transporter.

Various ships large and small are running along Yangon-Mawgyun route with a great number of ships plying from Yangon to Deltac region.

The merchants are allowed to sell their bags of rice on board the private ships during three days while the ships are docking at the Yangon Port.

That is why the merchants can manage their transport of rice by private ship.

**Police Affairs**

Police stations installed with CCTVs in Mawlamyine Township

Mawlamyine, 10 Sept—CCTVs have been installed at Myoma police station in Mawlamyine Township of Mon State for ensuring transparency of police duties.

The record tapes on cases can be reviewed anytime from CCTVs, according to Mawlamyine Myoma Police Station Officer in Charge, Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Nyo Hla. "Police stations are being installed at Mupon, Myainghaya and Zeyathiri police stations in Mawlamyine Township, said Commander of Township Police Station Police Major Nyo Hla."

At present, CCTVs are being installed at Mupon, Myainghaya and Zeyathiri police stations in Mawlamyine Township, said Commander of Township Police Station Police Major Nyo Hla."

**Beware of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever.**

A team led by Chairperson Daw Ohnmya Tin of Yangon South District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee and District Women’s Affairs Organization made a field trip to Ngabyayma Village of Thanlyin Township on 8 September. The chairperson and party are carrying out rural people-centred health care services for the local people in the village.—Kyemon-Than Win (Tanvinlay)
Conservative leader Solberg sweeps into power in Norwegian election

Oslo, 10 Sept—Norway’s opposition Conservatives, promising tax cuts and better healthcare, won elections in a landslide on Monday but faced tough coalition talks with a populist party that wants to spend more of the accumulated oil riches and curb immigration. Led by Erna Solberg, a former girl scout leader who has overcome dyslexia, the Conservatives promise to diversify the economy away from oil, cut state firms, and reduce some of the world’s highest taxes to give the private sector more breathing room.

Solberg, 52, will become Norway’s second female prime minister, as well as its first Conservative prime minister since 1909. At least the top two cabinet posts — and possibly the top three — are likely to be filled by women.

“Today voters have given us a historically strong victory for the centre-right,” said a tearful Solberg, nicknamed “Iron Erna” for her tough stances when she served in cabinet between 2001 and 2005. “We will give this country a new government.”

Norway has enjoyed rare economic success during the past decade, escaping Europe’s economic crisis with little more than a scratch, as its booming offshore oil sector lifted per capita GDP to $100,000 and a huge public sector insulated the economy.

But growth is now slowing, competitiveness is stagnating, and the government’s record on critical social services is mixed. Voters have accused outgoing Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg of wasting a once-in-a-lifetime economic boom.

With 76 percent of the vote counted, the Conservatives, the populist right-wing Progress Party and two centrist parties that came together to ousted Stoltenberg were set to collect 96 seats in parliament, 11 more than needed for the majority.

Stoltenberg has his allies collected just 72 seats and the prime minister announced he would step down after eight years and two straight terms in office.

“I have waited for a long time to say this: Good bye Jens!” Progress leader Siv Jensen screamed to cheering supporters. “We will sit down and negotiate a common government platform.”

Two Koreas begin 2nd round of committee meeting to reopen

SEOUL, 10 Sept—North and South Korea began on Tuesday the second round of a joint committee meeting to work out details on resuming operations at a shuttered joint industrial zone in the North’s border city of Kaesong, according to South Korea’s Unification Ministry.

The committee meeting is being held at the Kaesong industrial complex and is to follow up on an agreement reached on 14 Aug to normalize operations that came to a halt in early April amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The Unification Ministry, handling inter-Korean ties, said more talks need to be held to work out details on a wide range of issues, including communication, customs, travel anddispute arbitration.

Pyongyang has sought the immediate resumption of operations at the industrial zone, which combines South Korean capital and expertise with cheap North Korean labour, but Seoul has said safeguards should be put in place to prevent another disruption.

UN chief may propose plan to destroy Syrian chemical weapons

NEW YORK, 10 Sept—UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Monday said he is considering asking the Security Council to back a possible proposal to demand that Syria destroy its stockpile of chemical weapons.

“I am considering urging the Security Council to demand the immediate transfer of Syria’s chemical weapons and chemical precursor stocks to places inside Syria where they can be safely stored and destroyed,” Ban told reporters at a Press conference, his first in New York since returning from the Group of 20 summit in Russia where the subject of Syria took centre stage.

This comes on the heels of an earlier announcement that Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov proposed putting Syria’s chemical weapons arsenal under international control, according to a Reuters report.

Ban also expressed his frustration at the two and a half year crisis as the Security Council has been too divided to take united action, especially as Russia, a Syrian ally, along with China, has vetoed three resolutions. So far more than 110,000 have been killed.

“Two and a half years of conflict in Syria have produced only embarrassing paralysis in the Security Council,” he explained.

Meanwhile, the world awaits the results of a UN chemical weapons inspection team, which collected samples from the country after being dispatched to gather evidence from the suspected on 21 August chemical weapons attack in a Damascus suburb that the United States said killed more than 1,420 people.

If Syria did so, that would “absolutely” put any US military strike on pause, Obama told ABC News. Obama gave six television interviews on Monday to press his case that Congress should grant him authority to take action against Syria in response to an alleged 21August chemical weapons attack that killed more than 1,400 people.

Obama says Russian proposal on Syria a potential ‘breakthrough’

WASHINGTON, 10 Sept — President Barack Obama, seeking to boost support for military action against Syria, said on Monday that Russia’s offer to work with Damascus to put its chemical weapons under international control could be a big deal — if it is serious.

“This could potentially be a significant breakthrough,” Obama told NBC News in an interview. “But we have to be skeptical because this is not how we’ve seen them operate over the last couple of years.”

The president said he had explored the possibility of a proposal for Syria to cede control of its chemical weapons stockpile to international authorities with Russian President Vladimir Putin at a meeting last week in Russia.

Obama’s comments come as the US and allies consider possible military strikes on Syria in response to an alleged chemical weapons attack last week that killed at least 132 people, according to a Syrian opposition group.

The US military strike on pause, according to Syria’s state news agency SANA, would have a significant impact on US relations with Russia, one of Syria’s largest trading partners.

Some analysts have said the US cannot afford to ignore the report of the chemical weapons attack, and that economic and diplomatic sanctions on Russia could be an effective response.

If the US were to be able to establish a direct link to Damascus, it could use that channel to negotiate with Syria about the chemical weapons stockpile.

Obama’s statement comes as Russia has been urging the US to work with Syria to address the chemical weapons issue.

The US has been working with the European Union and other countries to build a coalition for a military strike on Syria.

Russia’s involvement in the conflict has been limited to air strikes on rebel targets and providing support to the Syrian government.

Syria has been accused of using chemical weapons against its own people, including in the Damascus suburb of Ghouta.

The US has been in talks with Russia about the possibility of a joint statement on the chemical weapons issue.

The US has been working with the EU to impose sanctions on Syria, and has been in talks with other countries about potential military strikes.

The US and its allies have been building a coalition of countries in support of military strikes on Syria, and have been in talks with Russia about the possibility of a joint statement on the chemical weapons issue.

Japan sees Russian proposal over Syrian chemical weapons as positive

Tokyo, 10 Sept—Japan considers Russia’s proposal for Syria to place its chemical weapons under international control to avert a US military strike a “positive development,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a Press conference.

“Although we need to closely look at the proposal made by Russia, we also believe it is a positive development,” Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga told a Press conference. “On Monday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov promised to push Syria’s ally, to place its chemical weapons under international control and then dismantle them quickly to avert a US attack as punishment for the alleged chemical attack on Syrian people last month by President Bashar al-Assad’s regime.”

Suga said Japan will seek conditions under which chemical weapons would never be used again. Tokyo is “closely watching whether the Syrian government will make a sincere response” to the Russian proposal, he said.

Although the UN Security Council has failed to agree on a resolution to address the chemical weapons issue, Japan has been working with Russia and the US on a possible solution.

Japan has been urging Russia to work with Syria to address the chemical weapons issue, and has been in talks with the US about potential military strikes.

Japan has been in talks with Russia about the possibility of a joint statement on the chemical weapons issue.

Syria has been accused of using chemical weapons against its own people, including in the Damascus suburb of Ghouta.

The US has been in talks with Russia about the possibility of a joint statement on the chemical weapons issue.

Syria has been accused of using chemical weapons against its own people, including in the Damascus suburb of Ghouta.

The US has been in talks with Russia about the possibility of a joint statement on the chemical weapons issue.
Microsoft urged to put Mulally, Lawrie on CEO shortlist

NEW YORK, 10 Sept—

At least three of the top 20 investors in Microsoft Corp want a turnaround expert to succeed Steve Ballmer as chief executive and have urged the technology giant’s board to consider Ford Motor Co CEO Alan Mulally and Computer Sciences Corp CEO Mike Lawrie for the job, several sources familiar with the matter said.

The special committee of the board, which is conducting the CEO search, and its advisers have been meeting with shareholders after Ballmer’s surprise decision late last month to retire within a year, the sources said. It could name a CEO as soon as the end of this year, the sources said. In one such meeting, Microsoft said it started with a list of about 40 people, including internal and external candidates, and has been narrowing it down, one of the sources said.

It wasn’t clear whether the Microsoft board had reached out to any of the potential candidates suggested by investors or whether it was even considering them.

The names of other candidates in the mix could not be learned. Microsoft declined comment on Monday. Lawrie and Mulally could not be reached for comment. But last week, Mulally told Reuters that he was “absolutely focused on serving our Ford.”

The sources requested their identity as well as those of the investors be kept anonymous because the discussions were private. The search for a new chief executive of the world’s largest software maker is one of the most closely watched developments in the technology sector this year. Microsoft remains highly profitable, but it has struggled to gain traction in the mobile device business, according to a sells such as Apple Inc and Google Inc.

Icahn ends battle for control of Dell; vote due on Thursday

NEW YORK, 10 Sept—

Carl Icahn on Monday ended his months-long effort to block Michael Dell’s $25 billion offer to take Dell Inc private, smoothing the way for the largest buyout since the financial crisis.

The activist investor, the company’s second-largest shareholder, said he would no longer try to head off the deal, and that a war with the billionaire founder and the company’s board “would be almost impossible to win.” His withdrawal significantly improved the odds that the company would finally muster enough votes at a shareholder meeting slated for Thursday to clinch the deal. But Icahn, known for aggressive tactics when going after corporations, could not resist a parting shot.

“The Dell board, like so many boards in this country, reminds me of Clark Gable’s last words in ‘Gone with the Wind,’” they simply ‘don’t give a damn,’” Icahn wrote in a letter to shareholders on Monday. Dell declined to comment. Icahn’s move ended a battle that had raged since March, pitting Michael Dell and private equity firm Silver Lake Partners against Icahn and money manager Southeastern Asset Management. The founder has sought to take the company private to transform it—away from public scrutiny—into a provider of enterprise computing services, from a maker of personal computers. Icahn argued that Michael Dell’s offer undervalued the company’s shares.

Icahn’s capitulation follows a number of setbacks to his opposition campaign. In August, a judge refused to fast-track a lawsuit Icahn filed against the company, blunting an integral part of his opposition campaign.

Microsoft, Facebook battle for BlackBerry's founder

WASHINGTON, 10 Sept—

The US Defense Department and NASA expect to spend about $44 billion to launch government satellites and other spacecraft over the next five years, including $28 billion in procurement funding, the Government Accountability Office said on Monday. The GAO, a congressional watchdog agency, said it was difficult to determine exact funding plans because both agencies used different accounting methods, but it arrived at the combined total by analyzing Pentagon and NASA budget documents, and looking at funding from other government agencies.

The sources requested their identity as well as those of the investors be kept anonymous because the discussions were private. The search for a new chief executive of the world’s largest software maker is one of the most closely watched developments in the technology sector this year. Microsoft remains highly profitable, but it has struggled to gain traction in the mobile device business, according to a sells such as Apple Inc and Google Inc.

Icahn’s capitulation follows a number of setbacks to his opposition campaign. In August, a judge refused to fast-track a lawsuit Icahn filed against the company, blunting an integral part of his opposition campaign.

The sources requested their identity as well as those of the investors be kept anonymous because the discussions were private. The search for a new chief executive of the world’s largest software maker is one of the most closely watched developments in the technology sector this year. Microsoft remains highly profitable, but it has struggled to gain traction in the mobile device business, according to a sells such as Apple Inc and Google Inc.
Research renaissance offers new ways out of depression

WASHINGTON, 10 Sept—About 5 percent of children and teens in the United States are now classified as “severely obese,” and the prevalence is increasing, according to a scientific report from the American Heart Association. Despite recent data suggesting that childhood obesity rates are starting to level off across the country, “a worrisome trend has emerged in the form of severe pediatric obesity,” researchers wrote in their paper published on Monday in the journal Circulation.

“Severe obesity in young people has grave health consequences,” lead author Aaron Kety of the University of Minnesota Medical School said in a statement. “It’s a much more serious childhood disease than obesity.” The researchers define children over age 2 as severely obese if they either have a body mass index (BMI) that’s at least 20 percent higher than 95 percent of other children of the same age and gender, or a BMI score of 35 or higher. BMI is a measurement based on weight and height. Age- and gender-specific growth charts are used to calculate BMI for children. Children at the 95th BMI percentile or higher are obese, and those between the 85th and 95th percentiles are overweight.

For example, a 7-year-old girl of average height weighing 75 pounds (34 kilograms), or a 13-year-old boy of average height weighing 160 pounds (73 kilograms), would be defined as severely obese.

Xinhua

US study urges more breast cancer screenings in younger women

WASHINGTON, 10 Sept—More than two-thirds of breast cancer deaths occurred in younger women who do not have regular mammograms, a US study said on Monday, defying a 2009 recommendation that discouraged routine screenings for women under 50 and recommends only biennial screenings of those aged between 50 and 74.

Harvard Medical School Professor of Surgery Blake Cady and his colleagues identified 7,301 breast cancer cases between 1990 and 1999 and followed their outcomes through 2009. Of the 609 women who died from breast cancer, 71 percent were women who had not undergone regular breast cancer screenings, or were never screened prior to diagnosis, the researchers said. Moreover, 50 percent of the breast cancer deaths occurred in women under the age of 50, while only 13 percent were in women aged 70 years or older. For women who died of breast cancer, the median age at diagnosis was 49; for those dying of any other cause, the median age at diagnosis was 72.

The findings indicated that women under 50 are a primary group in which greater screening compliance would provide the greatest benefit, the researchers said in the journal Cancer. “These findings should quiet those who argue that women age 40 to 49 do not need regular mammography screening. In fact, these women need annual screening — as do all women 40 and older,” Barbara Monsees, chair of the American College of Radiology Breast Imaging Commission, said in a statement.

Reuters

Foreign firms turn to FX swaps to fund Chinese operations

HONG KONG, 10 Sept—Foreign companies are increasingly using cross currency swaps to fund offshore operations in China rather than raising money via the Dim Sum bond market in Hong Kong. Multinational companies said that they could raise more money, more quickly and more cheaply by borrowing in dollars and swapping the money into yuan than if they borrowed directly in yuan through the offshore yuan-denominated bond (Dim Sum) market in Hong Kong.

“We swap from euros into renminbi for the maturity we want, which is a very straightforward treasury technique and that means we can have a fixed rate interest loan in China,” said a regional treasury head in Asia at a multinational firm who declined to be named as he was not authorized to speak to media. Companies’ growing use of currency swaps comes means less issuance in the $80 billion Dim Sum market, especially as the cost of issuing Dim Sum bonds has risen to become no cheaper than borrowing in China.

Rohit Srivastava, a New York-based executive director at JP Morgan, said it was easier for multinational companies to lend to their Chinese subsidiaries in yuan than in US dollars because it was time consuming for subsidiaries to get approval to borrow in dollars.”—Reuters

EU regulators tell Samsung to offer more to end antitrust case

BRUSSELS, 10 Sept—European Union regulators have told Samsung Electronics to offer more concessions to settle EU charges that its use of patents against rival Apple breached antitrust rules after a first offer fell short.

If Samsung fails to lay the European Commission’s concerns, it could face a fine of as much as $18.3 billion or 10 percent of its 2012 revenues. Samsung and Apple, the world’s top two smartphone makers by volume and sales, are locked in patent disputes in at least 10 countries as they vie for control of the lucrative and fast-growing mobile market.

Samsung declined to comment. The company dropped its injunction requests against Apple in Europe after the Commission filed charges against it last year, saying such actions against companies willing to pay the fees were anti-competitive.”—Reuters

News Light of Myanmar

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Prozac medicine is seen at a pharmacy in Los Angeles, California, in this 18 Oct, 2010 file photo. REUTERS

LONDON , 10 Sept—As Susan sits chatting to a nurse in a London clinic, a light tapping sound by her head signals that parts of her brain are being zapped by thousands of tiny electric-magnetic pulses from a machine plugged into the wall. The 50-year-old doctor is among growing ranks of people with so-called treatment-resistant depression, and after 21 years fighting a disorder that destroyed her ability to work and at times made her want to “opt out of life”, this is a last resort.

To work and at times made her think to try and reset this——to try and reset this life,“ this is a last resort. Her brain are being zapped with Prozac medicine is seen at a pharmacy in Los Angeles, California, in this 18 Oct, 2010 file photo. Reuters. R euteRs

An employee carries bundles of 100 yuan Chinese bank notes to store after counting at a bank in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province on 4 July, 2013. Reuters

An employee carries bundles of 100 yuan Chinese bank notes to store after counting at a bank in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province on 4 July, 2013. Reuters

Shin Jong-kyun, President and CEO, head of IT and Mobile Communication division of Samsung presents the Samsung Galaxy Note 3 during its launch at the ‘Samsung UNPACKED 2013 Episode 2’ at the IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin, on 4 Sept, 2013. Reuters

Samsung to offer more to end antitrust case

“ enclosure disease than obesity is a common problem among young people. The findings indicated that women under 50 are a primary group in which greater screening compliance would provide the greatest benefit, the researchers said in the journal Cancer. “These findings should quiet those who argue that women age 40 to 49 do not need regular mammography screening. In fact, these women need annual screening — as do all women 40 and older.”

Barbara Monsees, chair of the American College of Radiology Breast Imaging Commission, said in a statement.

Doctors have told Samsung Electronics to offer more concessions to settle EU charges that its use of patents against rival Apple breached antitrust rules after a first offer fell short.

If Samsung fails to lay the European Commission’s concerns, it could face a fine of as much as $18.3 billion or 10 percent of its 2012 revenues. Samsung and Apple, the world’s top two smartphone makers by volume and sales, are locked in patent disputes in at least 10 countries as they vie for control of the lucrative and fast-growing mobile market.

Samsung declined to comment. The company dropped its injunction requests against Apple in Europe after the Commission filed charges against it last year, saying such actions against companies willing to pay the fees were anti-competitive.”—Reuters

Shin Jong-kyun, President and CEO, head of IT and Mobile Communication division of Samsung presents the Samsung Galaxy Note 3 during its launch at the ‘Samsung UNPACKED 2013 Episode 2’ at the IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin, on 4 Sept, 2013. Reuters
Egypt tightens Sinai security, assesses militant threat

CAIRO, 10 Sept—Egypt has tightened control of crossings from the Sinai peninsula and continued assaults on militants after an Islamist group based there said it tried to kill the interior minister in Cairo last week, the state news agency reported on Monday.

The group Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis claimed responsibility on Sunday for Thursday’s suicide bombing aimed at Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim. It promised more attacks in revenge for a crackdown on Egypt’s Islamists, raising fears that for a broad security campaign in Sinai to other Egyptian regions in conjunction with a deep security campaign in the peninsula. Earlier, state television said one supporter of deposed Islamist President Mohamed Morsi’s Muslim Brotherhood was killed and 10 people were injured in clashes between soldiers and supporters of the group in North Sinai on Monday.

Security sources later said two people were killed in the clashes. In two separate incidents in central Sinai, three soldiers were injured when a gunman opened fire, according to MENA, while security sources said two soldiers were killed in attacks by gunmen in Sinai.

An Islamist militancy has risen sharply in the often lawless region adjoining Israel and the Gaza Strip, and elsewhere in Egypt, since the army deposed Mursi two months ago following mass protests against him.

Thursday’s daylight attack was the most spectacular so far. A suicide car bomber blew himself up next to Ibrahim’s convoy as he left his Cairo home for work in an armoured limousine. The bomber, a pasabeyry and an unidentified person were killed and more than 20 were wounded. Security officials said they were assessing the threat posed by Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which is said to have 700 to 1,000 members and is considered the second-largest Islamist militant group in Sinai behind Salafiya Jihadiya, which has an estimated following of around 5,000 members.

Multinational naval exercises underway in Colombia

BOGOTA, 10 Sept—A multinational naval drill, codenamed Unidas Naval Operation, kicked off in the Colombian Caribbean on Monday, Colombia’s navy said.

In a statement issued by the navy, Colombian Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon said the exercises involved regional naval commanders seek to bolster maritime security, safeguard waters from drug trafficking, and prepare naval personnel for search and rescue operations, emergencies and natural disasters, among other events. It was accompanied by the head of the US Southern Command John Kelly, Pinzon and his Peruvian counterpart Pedro Cateriano Bellado launched the maritime maneuvers in the northern Colombian city of Cartagena.

“We will see this large multinational fleet deployed in the Caribbean Sea, and witness how sailors from 16 countries will be training professionally, working on humanitarian operations, maritime intervention against transnational crimes and efforts to defend sovereignty when necessary,” Pinzon said.

The 16 Participating countries are Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Germany, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Britain and the United States, according to the navy.

Held each year since 1959, Unitas Naval Operation includes traditional antisEA exercises and in-port training activities. This year’s naval exercises last till 15 September.

Left’s backing boosts Mexico tax plan chances, right skeptical

MEXICO CITY, 10 Sept—The Mexican government’s long-awaited tax reform won support from the leftist opposition on Monday, boosting its chances of passing Congress, but the centre-right was more skeptical about a plan that foreshadows running up a budget deficit.

Comprising a mix of higher taxes on the wealthy, a new charge on stock market gains and scrapping two-thirds of Mexico’s tax breaks and exemptions, the plan was less aggressive than many had expected before its unveiling on Sunday.

Business groups and economists expressed disappointment that President Enrique Pena Nieto had not opted for a deeper reform, but the bill put forward appears designed to chart a middle course through Congress, where the government lacks a majority.

“Fundamentally, I’d say that there are sufficient grounds for us to vote in favour of this,” Jesus Zambrano, leader of Mexico’s main leftist political grouping, the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), told Reuters.

The fiscal reform had been expected to include measures to apply sales tax to food and medicine for the first time, but Pena Nieto ultimately backed away from this following a surprise contraction in the economy and growing protests on the left.

Mexico’s President Enrique Pena Nieto looks on during his speech in the presentation of the fiscal reform at Los Pinos presidential residence in Mexico City, on 8 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

Congress, where the government lacks a majority. “Fundamentally, I’d say that there are sufficient grounds for us to vote in favour of this,” Jesus Zambrano, leader of Mexico’s main leftist political grouping, the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), told Reuters.

The fiscal reform had been expected to include measures to apply sales tax to food and medicine for the first time, but Pena Nieto ultimately backed away from this following a surprise contraction in the economy and growing protests on the left.

“We will see this large multinational fleet deployed in the Caribbean Sea, and witness how sailors from 16 countries will be training professionally, working on humanitarian operations, maritime intervention against transnational crimes and efforts to defend sovereignty when necessary,” Pinzon said.

The 16 Participating countries are Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Germany, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Britain and the United States, according to the navy.

Held each year since 1959, Unitas Naval Operation includes traditional antisEA exercises and in-port training activities. This year’s naval exercises last till 15 September.

Mexico’s President Enrique Pena Nieto looks on during his speech in the presentation of the fiscal reform at Los Pinos presidential residence in Mexico City, on 8 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

Congress, where the government lacks a majority. “Fundamentally, I’d say that there are sufficient grounds for us to vote in favour of this,” Jesus Zambrano, leader of Mexico’s main leftist political grouping, the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD), told Reuters.

The fiscal reform had been expected to include measures to apply sales tax to food and medicine for the first time, but Pena Nieto ultimately backed away from this following a surprise contraction in the economy and growing protests on the left.

“We will see this large multinational fleet deployed in the Caribbean Sea, and witness how sailors from 16 countries will be training professionally, working on humanitarian operations, maritime intervention against transnational crimes and efforts to defend sovereignty when necessary,” Pinzon said.

The 16 Participating countries are Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Germany, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Britain and the United States, according to the navy.

Held each year since 1959, Unitas Naval Operation includes traditional antisEA exercises and in-port training activities. This year’s naval exercises last till 15 September.

Mexico’s President Enrique Pena Nieto looks on during his speech in the presentation of the fiscal reform at Los Pinos presidential residence in Mexico City, on 8 Sept, 2013.—Reuters
Training Program on Management Improvement for Executives in Myanmar launched

The Training Program on Management Improvement for Executives in Myanmar-2013 was opened at Myat Taw Win Hotel, here, yesterday morning.

Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win of Pakokku District and officials inspected progress of construction tasks. The supervisory committee urged officials to ensure timely completion of construction tasks.

Col Zaw Min Oo and Commander of Mawlamyine District Police Force Police Major Nyo Hla gave lectures to the attendees.

Col Zaw Min Oo and Commander of Mawlamyine District Police Force Police Major Nyo Hla gave lectures to the attendees.

MMAL-107

HRD

International Literacy Day-2013 marked in Yangon

A ceremony to mark the International Literacy Day-2013 was held at ThiriYadana Hall of No. 4 Basic Education High School in Ahlon Township, here, on 8 September morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe delivered an address on the occasion. He said that the world countries are striving for reducing their illiterate population. In this knowledge age, everyone needs to become literate. Only then, will they be able to keep abreast of changes and developments. He continued that authorities concerned, teachers and parents are duty-bound to ensure enrollment of school-age children, make them finish at least their basic education and reduce in adult illiteracy rate in the country.

Next, the chief minister awarded the prize winners of the International Literacy Day Essay Contest.

Afterwards, the chief minister, Region Minister for Development Affairs Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dp Pwint Hsan, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan, Chairman of Myanmar-China Friendship Association U Sein Win Aung and officials attended the seventh overseas Chinese workers’ get-together held at MCC on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this morning. —MNA

Haul of heroin powder seized in Phakant

They seized 72 grams of heroin powder worth K 6.84 million in his motorcycle toolbox.

He was charged under section 15/19/a)(21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law at Phakant Myoma Police Station.

Police Information

Commerce Ministry eases restrictions on exportation and importation

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Sept—Ministry of Commerce is giving priority to trade promotion thereby easing restrictions on exportation and importation, said Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint in meeting with departmental officials, local merchants and townsenders at the office of Kyunhla Township General Administration Department on 8 September morning.

Departmental personnel are to make the merchants and farmers know market information at home and abroad, he added. He stressed the need for the local people to produce main products on a commercial scale through One Village, One Product for regional development. He called on the entrepreneurs to establish SMEs and merchants to join brokerages to get market information.

The Union minister donated cash to the fund for construction of Sitagoo Eye Free Sangha Hospital in Kyunhla. So far, the Union minister and wellwishers have donated over K 140 million to the fund of the hospital.

Construction

Hostel for nurses completed by 75 per cent

Pakokku, 10 Sept—A three-storey building, 126 feet long, 30 feet wide and 36 feet high, is under construction in the compound of Pakokku Township General Hospital of Magway Region in Ward 7 of the township as of February 2013 with the aim of giving secure and smooth transport services to the trainees of nursing course.

Medical Science Department spent over K 240 million on the construction of RC building, and it is expected to complete the construction tasks in September.

On 5 September, District Deputy Commissioner U Tin Maung Win of Pakokku District and officials inspected progress of construction tasks. An official reported on 75 per cent completion of the building. The supervisory committee urged officials to ensure timely completion of construction tasks.

MMAL-Aung (Mann Tekkatho)

Knowledge about security measures, danger of landmines shared

Mawlamyine, 10 Sept—The talks on security measure and danger of landmines were held at the platforms of Kyakhtihanland Pagoda and U Zina Pagoda in Mawlamyine of Mon State on 4 September.

The talks were attended by members of the Pagoda Boards of Trustees, members of security troops and sanitation workers.

Officials have informed them of installation of eight CCTVs and stressed the need to focus on security measures.

Commander of Mawlamyine District Police Force Police Li-Tay gave lectures to the attendees.

MMAL-107

Poppy seeds handed over to authorities in Tangyan

Tangyan Anti-Drug Special Squad Police Captain Khin Maung Aye, danger of narcotic drugs and penalties, alternative development, drug elimination and implementation of eradication plan in cooperation with the people.

Next, the people from 19 village-tracts handed over 433.25 kilos of poppy seeds at the ceremony. It was also attended by ward/village administrators and clerks totalizing 103. —MMAL-Ko Ye

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

Stationery donated to students in Kalay Tsp

Kalay, 10 Sept—A wellwishers’ group of Cetana Lankara Association and Pyinnya Parami Donors Association led by Member of State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Puññaseththa donated books to students of Basic Education Primary School No (2) in Aung Thitser Ward in Kalay on 31 August.

The purpose of donation is to fight against illiteracy and ensuring schooling of school age children in Kalay Township.

Books worth K 320,000 have been donated to 165 students of the BEPS (2) and of Aung Chantha Monastic Education School.

A total of 90 dozens of exercise books, 40 dozens of pencils and 20 dozens of ball pens were donated by the association in the second donation, according to the chairman of Cetana Lankara Association.

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

Haul of heroin powder seized in Phakant

Yango, 10 Sept—A ceremony to hand over poppy seeds was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Tanyang of Shan State on 30 August afternoon, with an address by Base Tactical Operations Commander Col Tun Tun Nyi of Tanyang.

On the occasion, Commander of Tanyang Township Police Force Police Major Zaw Win gave talks on opium eradication and Supervisor officer of Tangyan Anti-Drug Special Squad Police Captain Khin Maung Aye, danger of narcotic drugs and penalties, alternative development, drug elimination and implementation of eradication plan in cooperation with the people.

Next, the people from 19 village-tracts handed over 433.25 kilos of poppy seeds at the ceremony. It was also attended by ward/village administrators and clerks totalizing 103. —MMAL-Ko Ye

MMAL-Shin Nay Min

International Literacy Day-2013 marked in Yangon

Yangon, 10 Sept—A ceremony to mark the International Literacy Day-2013 was held at ThiriYadana Hall of No. 4 Basic Education High School in Ahlon Township, here, on 8 September morning.

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe delivered an address on the occasion. He said that the world countries are striving for reducing their illiterate population. In this knowledge age, everyone needs to become literate. Only then, will they be able to keep abreast of changes and developments. He continued that authorities concerned, teachers and parents are duty-bound to ensure enrollment of school-age children, make them finish at least their basic education and reduce in adult illiteracy rate in the country.

Next, the chief minister awarded the prize winners of the International Literacy Day Essay Contest.

Afterwards, the chief minister, Region Minister for Development Affairs Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint, Deputy Minister for Commerce Dp Pwint Hsan, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Yang Houlan, Chairman of Myanmar-China Friendship Association U Sein Win Aung and officials attended the seventh overseas Chinese workers’ get-together held at MCC on Mindhamma Road in Mayangon Township this morning. —MNA

MMAL-107

Haul of heroin powder seized in Phakant

They seized 72 grams of heroin powder worth K 6.84 million in his motorcycle toolbox.

He was charged under section 15/19/a)(21 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law at Phakant Myoma Police Station.

Police Information
**New Light of Myanmar**

**NATIONAL**

**A&I Ministry, IRRI ink MoU for development of Myanmar rice**

**Dy Education Minister to attend Asia-Pacific Regional Policy Forum**

**Sports graduates, new generations in sports arena of Myanmar**

**Myanmar hockey team clinch silver medal in Pre-SEA Games Hockey Tourney**

---

**FIGHT AGAINST ELEPHANTIASIS**

Elephantiasis is characterized by the gross enlargement of a limb or areas of the trunk and head. It is a crippling condition in which the limbs often are grotesquely swollen or enlarged. There is an abnormal accumulation of watery fluid in the tissue (edema) causing several swelling.

Elephantiasis occurs in the presence of microscopic, thread-like parasitic worms such as Wuchereria bancrofti, Brugia malayi and B-timori, all of which are transmitted by mosquitoes. It is common in tropical regions and Africa. It is a highly infectious disease. Without medical intervention, the affected area is grotesquely enlarged, resulting in the obstruction of the lymph flow and possibly of blood circulation.

The Ministry of Health is working hard as part of its fight against elephantiasis the length and breadth of the nation. Towards this end, the ministry from 9 to 15 September launched a nationwide campaign of giving anti-elephantiasis medicines to all the people with the exception of children under two, pregnant women and those living with chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, renal and liver diseases and asthma.

To ensure the full coverage of the campaign, personnel from the Ministry of Health and those from different social organizations are providing domiciliary services in the areas where elephantiasis is common. Under the campaign, anti-elephantiasis medicines will be given twice in the affected areas five years in a row and for the first time in the areas where elephantiasis is not common. Therefore, we would like to encourage anyone who needs medical help to take such medicines without fail in order to be free from the risk of developing elephantiasis.

---

**Fight against elephantiasis**

Elephantiasis is characterized by the gross enlargement of a limb or areas of the trunk and head. It is a crippling condition in which the limbs often are grotesquely swollen or enlarged. There is an abnormal accumulation of watery fluid in the tissue (edema) causing several swelling.

Elephantiasis occurs in the presence of microscopic, thread-like parasitic worms such as Wuchereria bancrofti, Brugia malayi and B-timori, all of which are transmitted by mosquitoes. It is common in tropical regions and Africa. It is a highly infectious disease. Without medical intervention, the affected area is grotesquely enlarged, resulting in the obstruction of the lymph flow and possibly of blood circulation.

The Ministry of Health is working hard as part of its fight against elephantiasis the length and breadth of the nation. Towards this end, the ministry from 9 to 15 September launched a nationwide campaign of giving anti-elephantiasis medicines to all the people with the exception of children under two, pregnant women and those living with chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, renal and liver diseases and asthma.

To ensure the full coverage of the campaign, personnel from the Ministry of Health and those from different social organizations are providing domiciliary services in the areas where elephantiasis is common. Under the campaign, anti-elephantiasis medicines will be given twice in the affected areas five years in a row and for the first time in the areas where elephantiasis is not common. Therefore, we would like to encourage anyone who needs medical help to take such medicines without fail in order to be free from the risk of developing elephantiasis.

---

**Myanmar hockey team clinch silver medal in Pre-SEA Games Hockey Tourney**

**YANGON, 10 Sept—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaining and International Rice Research Institute Director-General Dr Robert S Zeigler exchange an MoU on Myanmar Rice Sector Development.—MNA**

**Union Minister U Myint Hlaining and IRRI Director-General Dr Robert S Zeigler exchange an MoU on Myanmar Rice Sector Development.**

**Yangon, 10 Sept—A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Education Dr San Lwin left here for the Republic of Korea yesterday to attend the Asia-Pacific Regional Policy Forum on Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to be organized in Seoul, Republic of Korea.**

**Higher sports standard serves as the engine for uplifting prestige of the country. Achievement in sports can create the glittering future of the State. Only when the athletes have good health, fitness, high moral and fighting spirit, will they secure victory in the competitions. Uplifting the sports standard of the nation needs to turn out qualified outstanding new generation athletes. Thus, the Ministry of Sports and Ministry of Education jointly organized the coordination meeting on curriculum of B.Sc (Sports) and B.A (Sports) to be conducted in 2013-2014 academic year, at the hall of Sports and Physical Education Department in Kyaukkasen Sports Grounds in Yangon recently.**

“Sports plus education training course commenced at Sports and Physical Education Institute in Yangon in 1997-98 academic year. As of this academic year, SPEI in Mandalay conducts the sports plus education course. Under the guidance of the Union Ministers, the curriculum is being compiled in time through coordination between the departments concerned,” said Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win.

The deputy minister disclosed that fifty trainees each will be admitted to the two institutes in Yangon and Mandalay for undergraduate courses B.Sc (Sports) and B.A (Sports).

The subjects to be tough for fourth year students including those of second and third years’ are Health and Fitness, Sports Biology, Sports Psychology, Sports Medicine, Sports Biochemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, Sports Biomechanics, Sports Leadership, Administration and Management of Sports Training. Students will be accommodated at the hostels at two institutes. The students will be transported from the hostels to the universities by ferry in the morning of schooling days.

**The Ministry of Education will choose qualified students for the undergraduate courses for 2013-14 academic year, and the right persons will be admitted at Yangon and Mandalay SPEIs. As part of efforts to uplift sports standard of the nation, new generation sports graduates will emerge from the institutes in the near future.**

**Byline: Maung Maung Myint Swe; Photo: Tin Soe (Myanma Alinn)**
**LOCAL NEWS**

**New Light of Myanmar**

Wednesday, 11 September, 2013

**Anti-Narcotic Drives**

**Knowledge about menace of narcotic drugs shared in Insein**

**INSEIN, 10 Sept—** An educative talks on danger of narcotic drugs was organized at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Insein Township of Yangon North District on 8 September.

Chairman of Township Committee for Drug Abuse Control Township Administrator U Kyaw Tint made a speech.

Police Captain Khin Maung Thein of Yangon West District Drug Abuse Control Committee gave talks on mass participation in narcotic drug elimination.

The talks was attended by officials of Township General Administration Department, members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Township Women’s Affairs Organization, ward administrators, membersof supporting committees, members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade.

Kyemon-684

**HRD**

**Legal affairs course conducted in Myeik**

**MYEIK, 10 Sept—** The legal affair course was conducted at the hall of Myeik Township Immigration and National Registration Department in Taninthayi Region on 6 September.

Assistant Director U Aung Tun Baw of the district department gave lectuews on legal affairs after making an opening address.

Altogether 18 trainees from townsups and sub-township in Myeik District are attending course that ran two days up to 7 September.

Head of Myeik District INRD U Aung Tun Baw, Deputy District Judge U Tin Htoo, Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Than Oo and Township Law Officer Daw Astar Taw gave lectures on matters related to Myanmar Police Force, legal affairs, judicial matters and immigration subjects to the trainees.

**Kyemon-Moe Hein (Myeik)**

**Environment**

**Stake driven for market in Taninthayi**

**TANINHTAYI, 10 Sept—** As part of efforts to implement rural development and poverty alleviation, a ceremony to drive stake for construction of Aungmingala Market was held in Chaung U Ward of Taninthayi Township of Taninthayi Region on 7 September. Officials participated in the ceremony.

The market collapsed at 4.30 pm on 4 August due to floods of Taninthayi River.

With K 21.5 million assistance of the Taninthayi Region Government, the market will be built in the designated site.

The market will be 90 feet long, 45 feet wide and 12 feet high.

A plan is underway to complete the construction task by November 2013. The market complex will comprise 50 shops.

**Polyethylene bags gathered in ChaungU for environmental conservation**

**CHAUNGU, 10 Sept—** Talks on environmental conservation was given at the hallof Basic Education High School in ChaungU yesterday afternoon, attended by Deputy Township Administrator U Soe Myint Hlaing, Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Kyaw Myint Thein, ward administrators, Saya U Wunna Tun, U Kyaw Zaw (Hla Theikpan-Shwebo) and members of w.com northan youths.

Saya U Wunna Tunmade a speech and Saya U Kyaw Zawexplained disadvantages of polyethylene bags.

Those present gathered polyethylene bags inside and outside development market in ChaungU.

Member of the youth team Daw Kyi Kyi said that the polyethylene bags cannot be decayed in the grounds for thousands of years. Burning the bags can hazard the environment.

Hot foods in polyethylene bags can cause cancer to the consumers and cause abortion to expectant mothers. Therefore, the people should minimize use of polyethylene bags as much as they can, she said.

**Kyemon-Township IPRD**

**Construction**

**60 kilos of Ice worth K 1500 million seized**

**NAY PYI TAW, 10 Sept—** Members of Kengtung Anti-Drug Special Squad searched the vehicle driven by Sai Yi, 43 of Hsanhsai Ward the vehicle driven by Sai Y in Tachilek in Shan State, Yi, 43 of Hsanhsai Ward the vehicle driven by Sai Yi under sections 15/19(a)/20(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

They seized 60 kilos of Ice worth K 1500 million seized in narcotic drug elimination.

Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Sai Yi under Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

**Kyemon-Police Information**

**HRD**

**Knowledge about menace of narcotic drugs shared in Insein**

**INSEIN, 10 Sept—** An educative talks on danger of narcotic drugs was organized at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Insein Township of Yangon North District on 8 September.

Chairman of Township Committee for Drug Abuse Control Township Administrator U Kyaw Tint made a speech.

Police Captain Khin Maung Thein of Yangon West District Drug Abuse Control Committee gave talks on mass participation in narcotic drug elimination.

The talks was attended by officials of Township General Administration Department, members of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Township Women’s Affairs Organization, ward administrators, membersof supporting committees, members of Auxiliary Fire Brigade and Red Cross Brigade.

**Kyemon-684**
Syria’s Assad regime likely responsible for chemical attack

DAMASCUS, 10 Sept—Evidence strongly suggests Syrian government forces were responsible for a poison gas attack that killed more than 1,400 people, Human Rights Watch said on Tuesday, contradicting repeated denials by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

The US-based rights group in a report issued in New York, said it had reached its conclusion after analyzing witness accounts, information of the likely source of the attacks, remnants of the weapons used and medical records of victims.

“The evidence concerning the type of rockets and launchers used in these attacks strongly suggests that these are weapon systems known and documented to be only in the possession of, and used by, Syrian government armed forces,” Human Rights Watch said.

“Human Rights Watch and arms experts monitoring the use of weaponry in Syria have not documented Syrian opposition forces to be in possession of the 140mm and 330mm rockets used in the attack, or their associated launchers.”

The chemical weapons attack near Damascus on 21 August killed more than 1,400 people. Syria has been torn by a bitter civil conflict between Assad’s troops and rebel forces who want to end the Assad family’s four-decade rule.

The Human Rights Watch report comes as the United States pushes for congressional approval for military strikes on Syria and as US President Barack Obama explores a Russian proposal to put Syria’s chemical weapons under international control.

Obama has argued that Assad must be punished for the use of poison gas on rebel areas, but his plan faces significant resistance from US lawmakers who are worried that a strike could draw the US into the conflict and spark wider conflicts in the Middle East.

Francesco Hollande has taken a slowly-slowly approach to reform, increasing only slightly the size and duration of pension contributions as he sought a smoother passage through parliament, and less rage in the street.

"Why strike tomorrow?" Laurent Berger, head of the moderate CFDT trade union, told Tele news television. “Any amendments we are seeking, we can obtain them in parliament.”

The draft pension law, to be presented to cabinet on 18 September and sent to parliament shortly thereafter, aims to wipe out an annual deficit that will otherwise hit 20 billion euros ($26.5 billion) in 2010. Its main effect is to extend the pay-in period for pension contributions to 43 years from 35 years now.—Xinhua

Chinese Premier stresses education equality

DALIAN, (Liaoning Province), 10 Sept—Chinese Premier Li Keqiang stressed raising education quality in underdeveloped regions while visiting teachers in Dalian on Monday ahead of Teachers’ Day on 10 Sept.

Li visited Dalian No 20 High School, a school that has pioneered the enrolment of students from the Xinjiang Uygar Autonomous Region. Schools in China’s prosperous towns host Xinjiang students in order to give them better education opportunities.

While talking with teachers at the school, Li extended festive greetings to all teachers in China and called teaching the most venerable profession.

Li also encouraged more people to teach in less developed regions in West China, and advocated more opportunities for teachers from western regions to receive training in the east so that education quality in the west improves and poverty-stricken areas can see hope in pursuing education.

Li said education equality is the key to narrowing gaps between urban and rural areas and among different regions, and urged favouring remote, rural and poverty-stricken areas when distributing educational resources.

New Yorkers vote on Tuesday in uprowarious mayoral primary elections

NEW YORK, 10 Sept—New York City Democrats on Tuesday will chose their candidate to succeed Mayor Michael Bloomberg, ending a primary campaign that has featured a scandal over lewd pictures, an accusation of racism, a council leader vying to be the city’s first female, openly gay mayor and a see-sawing list of front runners.

Bill de Blasio, the city’s public advocate, has taken the lead, but he may not have the 40 percent needed to avoid a run-off. His rivals City Council Speaker Christine Quinn and Bill Thompson are competing for second place. Two polls on Monday showed De Blasio with a comfortable lead. A Quinnipiac poll put his support at 39 percent, while an NBC 4 New York/Wall Street Journal/Marist poll found him the choice of 36 percent of likely voters.

“Remember that there are no undecided voters on Election Day. If de Blasio picks up just a few of those undecided voters, he’s over the top,” said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute. In the same arena, former Congressman Anthony Weiner is fighting for his political life.

When he announced his candidacy for mayor, he asked voters to give him a second chance and he quickly moved to the top of polls. But campaign issues like police tactics and housing were overshadowed by another scandal involving lewd photographs he sent online, and his campaign began to sputter. As the clock ticked down to Tuesday’s primary election, New York magazine published an interview with the city’s current mayor, Michael Bloomberg, in which he effectively threw his support behind his close ally Quinn.—Reuters

French unions march in protests against pension reform

PARIS, 10 Sept—French unions take to the streets on Tuesday in protest against a reform of the country’s indebted pension system, with some disruption in transport expected but no mass upheaval against an overhaul seen as moderate in scope.

The hardline CGT union has called for protests in 180 locations across France, joined by students union and far-left groups that denounce a reform they say will penalize workers and make youths pay an unfair share of the burden. But moderate unions did not join the calls, suggesting that reaction to oppose the reform is unlikely to resemble the uproar that former President Nicolas Sarkozy faced three years ago when he hiked the retirement age to 62 to 60.

Socialist President Francois Hollande has taken a slowly-slowly approach to reform, increasing only slightly the size and duration of pension contributions as he sought a smoother passage through parliament, and less rage in the street.

“Why strike tomorrow?” Laurent Berger, head of the moderate CFDT trade union, told Tele news television. “Any amendments we are seeking, we can obtain them in parliament.”

The draft pension law, to be presented to cabinet on 18 September and sent to parliament shortly thereafter, aims to wipe out an annual deficit that will otherwise hit 20 billion euros ($26.5 billion) in 2010. Its main effect is to extend the pay-in period for pension contributions to 43 years from 35 years now.—Xinhua

US adoptive mother guilty of homicide in death of Ethiopian girl

OLYMPIA, (Washington), 10 Sept—A US adoptive mother accused of starving her 13-year-old Ethiopian-born daughter and locking her outside in the cold, where she died from exposure, was found guilty of homicide on Monday in Washington state.

Hana Williams, adopted from Ethiopia in 2008, died of hypothermia in May 2011 after she was found unconscious outside shortly after midnight in temperatures hovering around 40 degrees Fahrenheit (4 degrees Celsius), authorities said.

The girl’s mother, Carrit Williams, was convicted of homicide by abuse and of manslaughter linked to the girl’s death, while the father, Larry Williams, was convicted of first-degree manslaughter, a representative of the Skagit County Prosecutor’s Office said.

“It was a very sad, very sad story,” Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney Rich Weyrich told Reuters. “It was something that shouldn’t have happened. Fortunately, we were able to prove the charges, so we were able to hold them accountable.”

The case is among several in recent years that have drawn attention to the vulnerability of children from overseas adopted by US families, among them the death in January of 3-year-old Russian adoptee Max Shatto.

New York City mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio (R), his wife Chirlane McCray (2nd R), daughter Chiara (2nd L) and son Dante pose for a picture as they arrive to speak with supporters at an event in Manhattan, New York, in this 18 Aug, 2013 file photo.—Reuters
**NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

**REGIONAL**

**Mamnoon Hussain sworn in as Pakistan's new president**

**ISLAMABAD, 10 Sept—** Mamnoon Hussain was sworn in as the 12th president of Pakistan for next five years on Monday at the president house in federal capital of Islamabad, local media reported.

Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Pakistan Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry administered oath to the new president at a ceremony held in presidency in Islamabad.

The event was attended by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, members of the federal cabinet, chief ministers of four provinces, former presidents including Asif Ali Zardari, former prime ministers, judges, the Services Chiefs, diplomats and senior officials.

Hussain assumed the office of the head of state after former president Zardari stepped down on Sunday after completing his five year term as the elected president of the country.

Hussain, a candidate of ruling party PML-N, won the Presidential polls held on 30 July by an electoral college comprising members of the Parliament, the Senate and the four provincial assemblies.

The 73-year-old Hussain, who is the close ally of Nawaz Sharif, defeated Justice (Retd) Wajiuddin Ahmed of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf, as the former ruling party PPP boycotted the Presidential elections.

Hussain, a business graduate, born in 1940 in India migrated to Pakistan in 1947 along with his family at the time of partition. He also served as governor of southern Province of Sindh from June to October 1999, till he was ousted along with the PML-N government of Nawaz Sharif by the then army chief General Pervez Musharraf.

*Xinhua*

**Philippine Moro rebels warn standoff in Zamboanga might escalate**

**COTABATO, (Philippines), 10 Sept—** Philippine Moro rebel group on Tuesday warned the violence in Zamboanga City that left six dead while more than 200 people held hostage might escalate in other areas of Mindanao.

“It’s been 24 hours now and the government is doing nothing but sending more troops. We are on a defensive posture, however, even if under attack we will respond,” Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) spokesman Atty. Emmanuell Fontanilla told a local radio station.

Fontanilla said before the incident on Monday, they have movements in preparation for their caravans in the city of Zamboanga.

“We did not carry out attacks. We have movements to secure our chairmanship for a peace rally. Our plan is to coordinate with authorities but they attacked us instead,” he added.

With the current situation on the ground, he accused the administration of President Aquino of using the situation to cover up pork barrel scandal involving politicians.

“Don’t expect the situation to die down. This will escalate as the government prefer to solve the crisis in Zamboanga City to alert in their respective homes, after the on-going violence in Zamboanga. I got a message from our comrades involved in the crisis. There were no plans to attack Zamboanga. Those men involved were supposed to return to their respective homes, after instigating their independence declaration last 12 August,” he said.—*Xinhua*

**Leaked toxic water found at another site at Fukushima plant**

**Tokyo, 10 Sept—** Tokyo Electric Power Co said on Monday it has detected 3,200 becquerels per litre of radioactive substances in a well near a leaky water storage tank at its crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

The radioactive substances emitting strontium and other beta rays were detected inside a well 20 metres north of the wastewater tank in the H4 area where toxic water had leaked.

On Thursday, TEPCO said it had detected 650 becquerels per litre of such radioactive substances in another well located about 20 south of the storage tank.

The latest finding raises the possibility that leaked toxic water has reached groundwater at the power plant which was devastated by the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

To prevent groundwater from being contaminated at the reactors, TEPCO plans to use wells to pump up the groundwater before it flows into the reactor buildings and is discharged into the sea.

But the latest finding could affect the utility’s plan as the nearest well to be used to pump up groundwater is only 130 metres away from the monitoring well where highly radioactive contamination was found in samples on Sunday.

*Kyodo News*

**Cambodian king to call 1st parliamentary session on 23 September**

**PHNOM PENH, 10 Sept—** Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk will convene the first National Assembly session on 23 September after the official election results were confirmed on Sunday that Prime Minister Hun Sen’s ruling party won an absolute majority of vote.

“I will invite all elected lawmakers in the fifth legislature of the National Assembly for the first session on 23 Sept at the National Assembly Palace,” the King said in a royal message to Im Suosdey, president of the National Election Committee (NEC), on Monday.

Sihanouk has been in Beijing since 12 Aug for a routine medical checkup and is scheduled to return on Wednesday.

The NEC released the final election results on Sunday, showing that the Cambodian People’s Party (CPP) of Prime Minister Hun Sen got 68 seats and the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) of long-time opposition leader Sam Rainsy took the remaining 55 seats.

But the opposition rejected the results, claiming that its party should win 63 seats, with the CPP receiving 60 seats if alleged irregularities during the poll were fairly resolved.

*Xinhua*

**NHK expands 24-hour English broadcast in Australia, Israel**

**TOKYO, 10 Sept—** Japan’s public broadcaster NHK has expanded round-the-clock broadcasting of its English-language channel NHK World TV in Australia and Israel through contracts with local broadcasters, it said on Tuesday.

The channel, which screens news and lifestyle programming from Japan, began broadcasting on Australia’s largest satellite television provider Fozex on 3 September, and Israel’s cable television provider Hot on 1 September.

Since the start of April, NHK World TV has started broadcasting in Britain, Los Angeles, Tanzania and regions in the Middle East and North Africa.

With the addition of 1.6 million households in Australia and 600,000 in Israel, NHK World TV is now available to about 265 million households worldwide, NHK said.

*Kyodo News*
**Egyptian Jihadists claim responsibility for attacking minister, vow for more attacks**

**CARO, 9 Sept—A Sinai-based Islamist Jihadist group claimed responsibility on Sunday for the recent bomb attack targeting Egypt’s interior minister, as the army pressed security operations in the peninsula for the second consecutive day.**

The Ansar Beit al-Maqdis (supporters of Jerusalem) group said in a statement that it was behind the failed suicide attack against Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim.

On Thursday, Ibrahim survived an assassination attempt when a bomb exploded near his convoy, but one recruit was killed and 24 other people were injured. The Jihadist group, which had claimed responsibility for rocket attacks launched from Sinai on Israel last year, vowed further attacks against the interior minister and Defence Minister Abdel Fattah Sisi.

The group blamed Sisi and Ibrahim for killing hundreds in the dispersed operation against the supporters of ousted president Mohamed Morsi on 14 August.

The group’s statement, which came three days after the bomb attack, raised doubts about its credibility, official news agency MENA quoted a military source as saying. The statement may be an attempt to mislead the police from arresting the real perpetrators, according to the source.

“It may be also a reply to the successful security operation carried out in Sinai by the army and police in order to seize terrorists and outlaws in the peninsula,” he added.

Some 80 persons, who are suspected in the failed attempt to assassinate Ibrahim, have been arrested, said the source.

In the largest operation in Sinai to eradicate the terrorists’ hideouts, the armed forces for the second day poured more troops and armours “to purge Sinai of terrorism,” the armed forces said.

Apache helicopters have hit targets in northern Sinai near Rafah border crossing, the only terminal to the outside world for the Gaza Strip ruled by Islamist Hamas movement, the security source told Xinhua.

Saturday, the army said “nine people were killed, nine other militants were arrested, and three weapon cases were destroyed.”

The military operation on Sunday left 11 killed or injured, MENA quoted a security source as saying, adding that 10 militants were arrested.

Ahmed Aly, armed forces spokesman, said the troops surrounded villages where militants had taken haven, and the operation would last several days to regain security and stability.”

The police and the army have destroyed 118 focal points of the militants, as well as 33 vehicles used in stormsing the army and police check points, Aly said in a statement posted on the armed forces Facebook page.

Security situation in Sinai has deteriorated since the ouster of Morsi in July, as militants launched almost daily attacks against security forces in recent weeks. The army then intensified operations to uproot terrorists and hardline Jihadist movements in the peninsula.

Moustafa Hegazi, presidential political advisor, said in televised statement on Sunday that the number of terrorists in Sinai has increased from 1,000 to 12,000 during the one-year rule of Morsi.

---

**Sultan of Brunei congratulates newly-elected Australia PM**

**BANDAR SERI BERIWAN, 9 Sept—Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah has sent a congratulatory message to Tony Abbott following his victory in Australia’s national elections recently.**

In the message released on Monday, the Sultan expressed hope that Tony Abbott would achieve success in his new post and also looked forward to working with him in further enhancing the good relations and cooperation enjoyed by the two countries.

---

**Four dead after bus, car fall into river in SW China**

**KUNMING, 9 Sept—At least four people died and several others were missing after a bus and a car fell into a river in southwest China late Sunday, local authorities said on Monday.**

The bus and car fell into a river in Yunlong County, Dali Bai Autonomous Prefecture at around 10 pm on Sunday after a bridge collapsed due to flash floods and mud flow, according to the prefectural authorities.

The bus, which belonged to a transport company, had 35 people aboard when it left the bus station in Fugong County. It was bound for Kunming, the provincial capital.

The car had three aboard. Its driver has been rescued. Five from the bus and two from the car were missing. As of 6 am Monday, rescuers have retrieved four bodies from the scene. Twenty-six others, who were passengers from the bus, were rescued and sent to a local hospital.

The rescue operation is underway. Authorities are still checking the exact number of people on the two vehicles.

---

**Soyland Cub Pezzo is seen at a local aquarium in Yunlin, east China’s Shandong Province, on 6 Sept, 2013. Pezzo, born at the Polar Sea World in northeast China’s Tianjin, arrived at the aquarium on Friday for a three-month sojourn.**

---
Naomi Watts: Playing Princess Diana reduced me to tears

LONDON, 10 Sept—King Kong actress Naomi Watts reveals that she regularly wept while filming the biopic Diana because the royal’s life seemed very tragic. The 44-year-old actress, who plays Diana in the movie, constantly felt emotional on the sets, reported Daily Star.

“IT was an emotional one to do, definitely. There were loads of tears on set, tons of them, because it’s a tragic story,” Watts said. “It’s hard for anyone to come out of a divorce well, particularly when you’re under such scrutiny. And then she was sadly gone,” she added.

Watts initially refused to do the role over concerns that the biopic would upset the royal family. Diana shows the last two years of the princess’ life before she was killed in a car crash in 1997. It also follows her relationship with surgeon Hasnat Khan, played by Naveen Andrews.

Hidden for a century, ‘fake’ is actually a Van Gogh

AMSTERDAM, 10 Sept—A French landscape painting stored in an attic for a century because it was considered a fake is the work of Dutch master Vincent Van Gogh, a museum said on Monday citing new research. “Sunset at Montmajour”, which shows twisted holly oaks and a distant ruin bathed in the light of the setting sun, was painted in 1888 when Van Gogh was living in Arles, in the south of France.

The work, owned by a private collector, will go on show at the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam later this month for a year. Museum director Axel Rueger described the discovery of a new work by Van Gogh as “a once in a lifetime experience” as the painting was unveiled at a Press conference on Monday. “What makes this even more exceptional is that this is a transition work in his oeuvre, and moreover, a large painting from a period that is considered by many to be the culmination of his artistic achievement, his period in Arles,” Rueger said.

As recently as 1991 the Van Gogh Museum had concluded that the painting was not by the Dutch artist when contacted by the owners of the work for an opinion. But thanks to new research, including analysis of the pigments in the paint used and their discolouration, as well as letters from Van Gogh himself, the museum has changed its view.

In a letter to his brother Theo dated on 5 July, 1888, Vincent described the scene he had painted the previous day, but expressed his disappointment at the end result, writing: “I brought back a study of it too, but it was well below what I’d wished to do.”

The work was later listed in one of Theo’s catalogues, and then reappeared in 1970 in the estate of a Norwegian industrialist, Christian Nicolai Mustad, who had collected the works of Edvard Munch. The Mustad family believed the painting had been bought by Mustad in 1908 but that he was advised later on that it was a fake or wrongly attributed, and banished it to the attic.

PTI

Why Shah Rukh Khan loves travelling by plane

NEW DELHI, 10 Sept—Superstar Shah Rukh Khan loves the calm and ‘alone-ness’ that he gets to experience while flying.

“Love the solitude in a plane cabin. Makes me feel extremely cozy and restful. Need to catch up on some much needed sleep. Love you all,” SRK posted on Twitter. However, he was later surprised when his Happy New Year co-star Boman Irani disappeared on the plane.

“My extremely distinguished friend Boman is a class act. It’s the first time I have lost someone on a plane. Nobody could find him!!! How?” he posted on the micro-blogging site. Shah Rukh did not elaborate where Boman had disappeared. Directed by Farah Khan, Happy New Year also stars Deepika Padukone and Abhishek Bachchan.

James Bond’s ‘Spy Who Loved me’ submarine car sold in London

LONDON, 10 Sept—The “submarine car” used in the James Bond film “The Spy Who Loved Me” sold for $505,000 pounds ($864,600) at auction on Monday, less than had been expected.

The white Lotus Esprit, which transformed into a submarine during a sequence in the 1977 movie starring Roger Moore as 007, had been expected to sell for between 650,000 and 950,000 pounds, according to RM Auctions. Bidding started at 100,000 pounds and ended at 601,000 pounds.

The car, known as “Wet Nellie”, was built for the 1977 film The Spy Who Loved Me, which was followed by For Your Eyes Only and The Living Daylights.

The car was bought by Austrian businessman Hans Braun in 1987 and was later sold to Spanish collector Daniel Alberola. It was bought by an anonymous bidder, who did not want to be identified, at RM Auctions at Battersea Park in London.

The 007 Lotus Esprit ‘Submarine Car’, used in the James Bond movie “The Spy Who Loved Me” is pictured in this undated handout photo.

PTI

James Bond's 'Spy Who Loved me' submarine car sold in London

The 007 Lotus Esprit 'Submarine Car', used in the James Bond movie "The Spy Who Loved Me" is pictured in this undated handout photo.
Nadal crowns brilliant year with US Open title

NEW YORK, 10 Sept—Raфа Nadal crowned his brilliant year by defeating world number one Novak Djokovic to win the US Open title at Arthur Ashe Stadium on Monday and earn his 13th grand slam singles crown. The Spaniard earned his second major championship this season following his French Open triumph, sealing the 6-2, 6-4, 6-1 win when Djokovic dumped a forehand into the net, sending Nadal down onto his back before rolling face down and sobbing in joy.

Nadal’s career total of 13 grand slam wins moves him one ahead of Australian Roy Emerson and into third on the all-time list behind Roger Federer (17) and Pete Sampras (14). Nadal, who won the 2010 US Open in a final against Djokovic and then lost their finals rematch in 2011, improved his hard court record to a spotless 22-0 this year and his overall match record to a sensational 60-3. “I never thought something like this could happen,” said the 27-year-old, who watched last year’s U.S. Open on television at home during a seven-month absence from the Tour due to a knee injury.

“I feel very lucky about what happened since I came back.” Luck has accounted for a very small sliver of his remarkable season. Since rejoining the Tour in February, Nadal has reached the finals in 12 of his 13 tournaments, winning 10 of them. The Spaniard said beating Djokovic made this victory even more meaningful. “Playing against Novak is a very special feeling,” he said at the trophy ceremony.
Singapore's NUS ranked top university in Asia

SINGAPORE, 10 Sept—The National University of Singapore was ranked the No 1 university in Asia for the first time, overtaking the University of Hong Kong, according to the World University Rankings by London-based education consultancy Quacquarelli Symonds. The rankings released on Tuesday saw the university moving up to 24th on the global list. Another Singapore university, the Nanyang Technological University, also jumped six spots in the global ranking to 41st in the world.

“HKU feels like a British university with large numbers of British faculty who have been there a long time and a more relaxed atmosphere. By contrast, NUS seems to be running faster than others. My suspicion is that at some point in the next 10 years, NUS will enter the top 20,” the Straits Times quoted Ben Sower, head of research at Quacquarelli Symonds, as saying.

Tan Chor Chuan, president of the National University of Singapore, said that the university was “pleased” with its performance, and that it was a reflection of Singapore’s strong support for higher education.

“We will continue to keep a sharp focus on nurturing and recruiting talented academics, staff and students,” he said.

Bertil Andersson, president of the Nanyang Technological University, said the ranking was “incredible” for the 22-year-old university.

“Recruiting top professors from all over the world boosts our reputation. These professors and researchers have also started to publish. Their research is recognized globally,” he said.

On the global list, American universities took seven of the top ten places. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology maintained its top spot, followed by Harvard University, the University of Cambridge, University College London and Imperial College London.

25 militants killed in Afghan raid in 24 hours

KABUL, 10 Sept—Twenty-five militants were killed and eight others were wounded in a series of military operations across Afghanistan since Monday morning, said the country’s Interior Ministry on Tuesday.

“In the past 24 hours, Afghan National Police (ANP) conducted several joint clearances operations with the cooperation of Afghan army, National Security Directorate and Coalition Forces in Badakhshan, Kapisa, Kandahar and Helmand Provinces. As a result 25 armed Taliban were killed, eight wounded and eight others were arrested,” the ministry said in a statement providing operational updates.

The joint forces also found and seized weapons besides defusing several landmines and improvised explosive devices (IEDs), it said.

The Taliban insurgent group, which has been waging an insurgency of more than one decade, has yet to make comments.

Swimmer Nyad to meet skeptics of her record

MIAMI, 10 Sept — US long-distance swimmer Diana Nyad plans to meet a group of fellow endurance swimmers to answer skeptics about her record-breaking crossing of the Florida Straits last week. Some long-distance swimmers have taken to social media and blogs to discuss how Nyad, 64, was able to dramatically accelerate her pace during one of the most challenging parts of the 110 mile swim from Cuba to Key West, Florida. They asked whether or not she received help by holding onto one of five support vessels that accompanied her.

Nyad’s team said in a statement on Monday that she planned to meet on Tuesday on “with her peers in the swimming community... to answer all their questions directly.” The statement said, “Diana is proud of what she and her team accomplished last week, and she is committed to completing transparency.” Nyad completed the 53-hour swim without a shark cage. Some skeptics have questioned her use of a customized body suit and face mask to protect her from potentially deadly box jellyfish stings, in contravention of the so-called English Channel rules for swimmers who attempt the crossing between France and Britain.

Australian Chloe McCardel followed English Channel rules in her attempt to swim the Florida Straits in June but was forced to give up after 11 hours after being stung by jellyfish. Defenders of Nyad point out that while the body suit and face mask protected her from jellyfish it actually hindered her swimming, weighing her down and restricting her arm and leg movement. The face mask also caused greater water resistance and led to her swallowing sea water, causing repeated vomiting.

Nyad’s team say she used the body suit and face mask as little as possible because it slowed her down. After the swim, Nyad told reporters that she benefited from a favorable current into the Gulf Stream during the second half of the crossing, allowing her to move more than double her pace. Most of the social media chatter stops short of accusing her of cheating, and rather seeks full disclosure of swim data to prove how she achieved the feat, her fifth attempt at the crossing. “In reading through Diana’s crew’s live-blog, trying to suss out how this incredible swim happened, I was struck by how little information there actually was,” wrote California-based long-distance swimmer Evan Morris on the online Marathon Swimmers Forum. “These details matter because Ms. Nyad is claiming — and the media reporting without fact-checking — a new world record for longest-distance nonstop, unassisted ocean swim,” he said. Morrison, 33, a statistician and corporate data analyst, said he was one of a dozen established marathon swimmers from around the world invited to participate in a panel discussion via Skype on Tuesday evening with Nyad and her team. “I anticipate it will be an extremely interesting and valuable discussion for everyone,” he said. “It will shed a lot of light where there’s been none so far.” The record was previously held by Australian Penny Palfrey, who set the crossing from Cuba without a shark cage in June 2012, aged 49, and covered 80 miles before she was forced to give up after 41 hours in the water due to adverse currents.
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker calls for covering accurate and reliable news in accord with media ethics

Dawei, 10 Sept—
Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met with Regional Hluttaw representatives, departmental officials, town elders and responsible persons from the town development supporting committee, at City Hall in Dawei. —MNA

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw receives First Secretary of British Embassy

Yangon, 10 Sept—
Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received First Secretary Mr Wayne Ives of the British Embassy to Myanmar at the Hluttaw Office (Branch) on Inya Road in Kamayut Township, here, this afternoon. They discussed matters related to the constitution. Also present at the call were member of Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission, U Aung Myint and officials. —MNA

Houses on fire as fighting erupts in southern Philippines

Zamboanga City, 10 Sept—Houses were set ablaze on Tuesday as fighting erupted between Philippine security forces and rebels occupying five districts of the southern Philippine city of Zamboanga, witnesses said. Fire fighters were prevented from getting to the houses by sniper fire, a Reuters witness said. On Monday, hundreds of heavily armed gunmen landed in coastal districts of Zamboanga, took 30 hostages and had planned to march to the city hall to raise their flag and declare an independent state. But security forces stopped them from reaching the city center and a naval blockade prevented hundreds of gunmen from neighboring Basilan and Jolo from reinforcing their comrades, setting off a sea battle that killed seven rebels, a navy spokesman said.

JICA trains Myanmar officials on ODA loan disbursements

Tokyo, 10 Sept—
The Japan International Cooperation Agency is seeking to ensure smooth disbursement of its aid to Myanmar and raise the level of expertise in receiving assistance by holding a seminar specifically for Myanmar officials. JICA, which is preparing nearly 10 percent of its development funds for Myanmar this year, began a seminar for Myanmar officials for the first time Monday at its training facility in Tokyo. “This is the very first time for Myanmar officials, numbering 41, to receive a training program in how JICA has been providing ODA loans to developing countries and will focus on enabling trainees to implement the projects effectively and efficiently,” Takeharu Kojima, a JICA advisor, told NLM reporters. And Japan first began assistance to Myanmar in 1954, building the Baluahaud Hydropower Plant in Kayah State.