Myanmar hopes continuous support from dialogue partners as ASEAN chair

Bandar Seri Begawan, 10 Oct—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended the 16th ASEAN plus Three Summit, the 8th East Asia Summit, the 11th ASEAN-India Summit and 5th ASEAN-UN Summit held at International Convention Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam today.

In his speech at the 16th ASEAN plus Three Summit, the President called for further cooperation in financial matters, highlighting cooperation among ASEAN plus three countries is crucial for security and sustainable development of East Asia and Myanmar’s willingness to take an active role in financial and monetary matters as relations between Myanmar and World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Asia Development Bank have been normalized. He added Myanmar has potentials for implementation of the three special economic zones—Kyaukpyu, Thilawa and Dawei—in linking ASEAN countries with plus three countries. He called on plus three countries to actively participate in holding discussions for the establishment of regional comprehensive economic partnership.

He added that there has been a rising challenge to food security of the countries in the region as the world has experienced an unprecedented increase in population, underlying the importance of ASEAN plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve, APTERR and successful realization of the program. He expressed thanks for support of ASEAN plus three nations in the matters of environmental conservation and risk management.

UPWC, KIO build understanding, trust, reach agreement

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Oct—Union Peace-Making Work Committee and Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) signed an agreement on working together towards Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement and lay foundation for political dialogue.

The two sides held talks over progress in degradation of conflict since the May-30 Agreement, matters on the NCA, political dialogue, troops, both sides, commitment to end all fighting, said U Aung Min, Vice-Chairman of the Union Peace-Making Work Committee.

A document signed today at Majwe Hall, Manaw Ground, Myitkyina, Kachin State, also includes establishment of a Joint Monitoring Committee in principle and development of a plan for resettlement of internally displaced peoples IDPs.

Afterwards, U Sumlut Gam of KIO also said the two sides could negotiat to reach agreement on most of topics at the negotiation table.

The two sides signed the agreement in the presence of the observers of the peace talks and those present at the peace talks.

After the peace talks, press conference was held at the hall.

Also present were Union Ministers U Ohn Myint, U Win Tun and U Khin Maung Soe, Lt-Gen Myint Soe, the chief minister, representatives of Hluttaw, Commander Maj-Gen Aung Soe, Deputy Minister Maj-Gen Maung Maung Ohn, Deputy Attorney-General U Tun Tun Oo, region ministers, representatives of KNLA, RCSS/SSA, UWSA, ABSDF, MNSP, PLNO, SSPP, PSLF/TNLA, CNF and NDAA, UN Special Envoy Mr. Vijay Nambiar and the Chinese Special Envoy and members, representatives of political parties in Myitkyina, representatives from Shan and Kachin cultural troops and townsenders.

In the evening, they had a dinner together at Majwe Hall.

The President praised East Asia Forum (EAF), EAST Asia Vision Group (EAVG) and Network of ASEAN Think-Thanks (NEAT) for their activities being implemented in the framework of ASEAN plus three cooperation. He also spoke words of thanks for the support of ASEAN plus three countries to Myanmar’s bid for the chairmanship of ASEAN in 2014, saying that Myanmar hopes.

Upcoming, KIO sign new agreement

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Oct—The following is the full-context of the agreement signed between Union Peace-making Work Committee and Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) before the observers.

The agreement between Union Peace-making Work Committee and KIO delegation October 10 2013

1. The government peace negotiation team led by Vice-Chairman of Union Peace-making Work Committee Union Minister U Aung Min and KIO peace delegation headed by U Sumlut Gam held peace talks at Majwe Hall in Manaw Ground in Myitkyina, Kachin State from 8 to 10 October. Present at the peace talks as observers were Special Adviser to UNSG on Myanmar Mr Vijay Nambiar, Chinese Special Envoy on Asia Mr Wang Ying Fan, reps from 10 ethnic armed groups, four Kachin Hluttaw representatives, representatives from official political parties in Kachin State such as Union Solidarity and Development Party, National League for Democracy, Unity and Democracy Party, National Democratic Force, Tailai (Shanm) National Development Party and Shan Nationalities Democratic Party, Kachin National Traditional Culture Central Committee and Kachin State Shan Ethnic Literature and Culture Committee, members of Peace-talk Creation Group and ten invited community elders.

2. The two sides agreed on the following points in front of the observers with a view to laying down sound foundation for political dialogue for lasting peace.

(See page 7)
Thriving maize plantation creates emerald land

Magyigon Village is located near Lewe Township. The is accessible village via the modern motorway and an old bridge. Before arrival at the village, maize plantations can be seen. The local people are engaged in all agricultural tasks as well as livestock breeding ones. Over 200 households are focusing on agriculture.

They grow maize, cauliflower, cabbages and so on.

Of them, they rely on cultivation and production of Than Padamya maize strain. Its cultivation starts in July. After two months, they pluck the maize to be sold. The thriving maize plantation will be seen in Magyigon Village. They grow maize, they could not fetch good price. The growers must always nurture the plants, said farmer Ko Zaw Lwin of the village.

The farms get water from Chaungmange Dam. They use water from it, said Ko Kyaw Nyunt of Magyigon Village. In the cultivation season, they are busy with cultivation and water supply tasks.

They grow maize, chilli, cauliflower and other vegetables on a commercial scale.

They are engaged in cultivation of season crops all the year round.
Now, they have agricultural experience to some extent. Their village is near Nay Pyi Taw. Their businesses are gradually booming.

They possess mobile phones. The villagers are working together in unity. They coordinate works of economic, religious and social affairs one another. The village can be dubbed the Pleasant Village.

Kyemon-Kyaw Myint Than (Lamnadalod)

Leak of gas pipe causes smoke

YANGON, 10 Oct.—A bus of No 45th line caused suffocation with smoke due to leak of gas pipe on board.

At 1.30 pm on 6 October, the bus leaked its gas pipe near Hledan Bus Stop.

“Suddenly, smoke covered the bus. Passengers run away they thought it broke out the fire. They immediately did not go out from west door, so they shouted noisily,” recounted a passenger.

The leaked pipe was near the exhaust, so the bus was filled with smoke. There was no flame. Fortunately, water was ready to be used due to the fact that the bus stopped near the bus stop,” said a passenger.

Most of the passengers remarked that the buses should be kept safety for passengers due to using natural gas.

Kyemon-Ko Tun-IT

Rare minerals found in Maungtaw District

MAUNGTAW, 10 Oct.—Rare minerals were found along Maungwung Beach and Alethankyaw Coast in Maungtaw District of Rakhine State, and it plans to export the minerals.

After receiving the official mining permit, Gold Finder Co will commence its tasks soon, said General Manager U Maung Maung of Gold Finder Co.

The union government laid down three points. The State government replied that there it has no objection to the points and agreed it. The points were whether there is project area, farmland or security. So, we will launch the tasks soon,” he said.

Permission has been given to work 10 blocks of mining comprising 49 acres of land each as test plots in Angumaw beach.

The village can be dubbed the Pleasant Village.

Kyemon-Kyaw Myint Than (Lamnadaw)

Bagan-Yangon train in derailment near Yangon

YANGON, 10 Oct.—Bagan-Yangon 62-down train caused derailment between Shan Street Station and Pyay Road Station in Yangon at 12.35 pm on 8 October.

There was no injury in the incident. It caused at the guard coach. U Min Zaw, Deputy Supervisor of Railway Division 6 said that now officials are seeking the weak point whether it depends on coach or rail tracks.

“The train derailment did not cause any blockade. There are two railways as dual. The derailment happened on the down way, the trains can drive along the up way regularly. The passengers from the express train were transported to Yangon Railways Station by circular train,” he said.

The train took 17.5 hours for the trip. It drives 35 miles per hour outside the bank 4000 feet long.

A traffic accident occurred between the vehicle from Mandalay and a motorcycle from Pyin Oo Lwin at mile post 401 near Pyin Oo Lwin Township on Mandalay-Lashio Highway at 1.30 pm on 6 October. Motorcyclist and a woman from the back seat were injured and the motorbike plunged into the road side.

Photo shows derailment of coach.

Mawlamyine-Chaungzon Bridge to be built soon

MAWLAMYINE, 10 Oct.—Permission has been sought for construction of Mawlamyine-Chaungzon (Bilukyun) Bridge.

Public Works of Ministry of Construction will take responsibility for construction of the bridge as of 2014-2015 fiscal year. The bridge will be of reinforced concrete type. It will be 4400 feet long and 45 feet high. The approach road on Mawlamyine bank will be 700 feet long and Chaungzon bank 4000 feet long.

After conducting feasibility study for the bridge, the site was chosen for construction of the bridge on Mapun ward jetty in Mawlamyine and on the bank of Kanyaw Village jetty in Chaungzon. Upon completion, the bridge will contribute to smooth transportation of the local people from Chaungzon Township of Mon State all the year round.

Kyemon-694

Business

in Yathedaung Township and Alethankyaw beach in Maungtaw Township.

The company will invite machinery and experts from abroad. The local people will be given priority for worksite. As power consumption will be heavy for smelting minerals, a plan is underway to build the plants in Yangon and Kyaukpyu and raw materials will be exported as first priority.

Kyemon-333

Photo shows derailment of coach.
Republicans consider short-term US debt ceiling increase

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — US Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) gathers with other Democratic Party senate members on the steps of the US Capitol in Washington, on 9 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

How long the increase might suffice — a few weeks or a few months — was unclear. But agreement by Republicans and Democrats to raise the debt ceiling would at least stave off a possible default after 17 October, when Treasury Secretary Jack Lew has determined the government will no longer be able to borrow.

President Barack Obama has said he would accept a debt ceiling increase of limited duration as long as no strings were attached, except perhaps a non-binding agreement to discuss policy issues.

It was unclear Wednesday night how far Republicans might be prepared to go to meet Obama’s conditions. Republicans in the House have been demanding a variety of conditions — including changes to Obama’s healthcare law — in return for cooperating on the debt ceiling and on a funding measure that might reopen the government, which has been partly shut down since 1 October.

In recent days, however, Republican emphasis has shifted more toward deficit reduction measures and less to Obamacare, the health care law.—Reuters

Mursi faces trial as US reviews aid to Egypt

CAIRO, 10 Oct — Egypt’s ousted President Mohamed Mursi will stand trial on 4 November on charges of inciting the killing of protesters, a prospect sure to raise concern in Washington, already considering cutting aid as a way to urge Cairo to restore democracy. Mursi has been held in a secret location since his overthrow on 3 July. If he is brought before the court, it would be the Islamist leader’s first public appearance since then.

The trial could further inflame tensions between the Muslim Brotherhood and the army-backed government and deepen the political instability that has decimated tourism and investment in the most populous Arab state. The upheaval worries Cairo’s Western allies, who were hoping the uprising that ended Hosni Mubarak’s 30-year rule would turn the region’s biggest country into a democratic success story.

The United States and the European Union had wanted an inclusive political process in Egypt, which has a peace treaty with Israel and controls the Suez Canal waterway between Europe and Asia. Mursi, Egypt’s first freely elected president, and other Brotherhood leaders accuse the army of staging a coup that reversed the gains of the 2011 revolt against Mubarak.

The army says it was carrying out the people’s will and has presented a plan it says will lead to free and fair elections. Judge Nabil Salib has said Mursi and other Brotherhood members had been charged with “inciting the killing and torture of protesters in front of the Elhadeya (presidential) palace”. The charges relate to the deaths of about a dozen people in clashes outside the presidential palace in December after Mursi enraged protestors with a decree expanding his powers.—Reuters

Li raises seven-pronged proposal on promoting China-ASEAN cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 10 Oct — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang put forward a seven-point proposal on further broadening and deepening cooperation between his country and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

The China-ASEAN relations have grown to maturity and the bilateral cooperation has got on the fast track, Li said at the 16th China-ASEAN leaders’ meeting in the Bruneian capital.

He pointed out that the basis for advancing cooperation is to strengthen strategic trust and consilidate good-neighbourliness, and the key to deepening cooperation is to focus on economic development and expand mutual benefit.

China and the 10-member bloc should seize opportunities and push forward their broad, deep, high-level and all-dimensional cooperation, said the Chinese premier, who also raised a seven-pronged proposal on the framework of bilateral cooperation in the coming 10 years.

First, the two sides should discuss the signing of a treaty on good-neighbourliness, friendship and cooperation to provide legal and institutional safeguards for bilateral strategic cooperation to move further forward, he said.—Xinhua

North Korea ready to suspend nuclear, missile tests if 6-way talks resume

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — North Korea has expressed an intention to suspend testing of nuclear devices and long-range missiles if six-nation talks on its denuclearization resume, a former US State Department official said on Wednesday.

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North Korea is still committed to past agreements reached in the multilateral dialogue to dismantle its nuclear programmes.—Kyodo News

Members of the presidium pose for a photo before the 2nd Presidium Meeting of the World Media Summit (WMS) in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 10 Oct, 2013.—Xinhua

TASS, Kyodo News, BBC, Turner Broadcasting System Inc and Google Inc. The second summit was held in Moscow last year.—Xinhua

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (front) attends the 16th China-ASEAN leaders’ meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, on 9 Oct, 2013.—Xinhua

The first WMS, held in 2009, was co-organized by Xinhua and eight other media organizations including News Corporation, AP, Thomson Reuters, ITAR-TASS, Kyodo News, BBC, Turner Broadcasting System Inc and Google Inc.

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An extraordinary meeting of the 14th Brunei-ASEAN Dialogue Group was held in Brunei Darussalam on Wednesday. Following the meeting, Li and ASEAN leaders signed their joint statement and the 7th China-ASEAN Cooperation Declaration.

Chinese media said that the WMS will create a new platform for the media leaders from China and the ASEAN members to share their views and cooperate in promoting China-ASEAN cooperation.

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Canada’s Rogers Communications suffers countrywide wireless outage

BANGALORE, 10 Oct.—Rogers Communications Inc, Canada’s largest wire- less phone company, said it is experiencing a wireless outage affecting voice and some messaging services across the country.

Rogers, also a major cable-TV operator, said data services are not af- fected. The company said it is investigating the root cause of the outage and that services are gradually re- suming.

“We are still experi- encing service interruptions in some areas and we encourage customers to use a wireline telephone if they need to reach emergency services,” Rogers said.

WMO releases new update of El Nino/La Nina

BEIJING, 10 Oct.—WMO has released new El Ninola Nina update which introduced the current situa- tion and outlook of El Ninola La Nina.

According to the up- date, neutral conditions (neither El Nino nor La Nina) continue in the tropi- cal Pacific. Model forecasts and expert opinion sug- gest that neutral conditions are likely to be maintained through the boreal autumn of 2013 and winter 2013- 14. Two or more consecu- tive years of neutral condi- tions have been observed in the past and the situation is not unusual. National Me- teorological and Hydrological Services and other agencies will continue to monitor the conditions over the Pacific and provide outlooks to as- sess the most likely state of the climate through the remainder of 2013 and into early 2014.

Since the boreal spring of 2012, El Nin-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) indica- tors in the tropical Pa- cific (e.g., tropical Pacific sea surface temperatures, sea level pressure, cloud- lessness and trade winds) have generally been at neutral levels, indicating that nei- ther El Nino nor La Nina conditions have been pre- sent. Since May 2013, sea surface temperatures have been well below average in the far eastern tropi- cal Pacific, only recently returning toward normal. However, these cold sea surface temperatures have been positioned too far to the east to be considered in- dicative of a basewide La Nina episode, even though they caused some minor impacts over local climate conditions in western parts of South America.

The latest outlooks from international climate models and expert opinion suggest that sea surface temperatures and atmos- pheric anomalies associated with El Ninola La Nina are most likely to remain neu- tral through the end of 2013 and into early 2014. Less than one-fifth of the models surveyed predict weak El Nin conditions to develop during the October to De- cember period, and likewise less than one-fifth predict weak La Nina conditions to develop during that period and into the first quarter of 2014.

Scientists who took chemistry into cyberspace win Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM, 10 Oct.—Three US scientists won the Nobel chemistry prize on Wednesday for pioneer- ing work on computer pro- grams that simulate complex chemical processes and have revolutionized re- search in areas from drugs to solar energy. The Swedish Academy of Sci- ences, awarding the prize of 8 million crowns ($1.25 million) to Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt and Arieh Warshel, said their work had effectively taken chem- istry into cyberspace. Long gone were the days of mod- eling reactions using plastic balls and sticks.

“Today the computer is just as important a tool for chemists as the test tube,” the academy said in a state- ment. “Computer models mirroring real life have be- come crucial for most ad- vances made in chemistry today.”

Chemical reactions occur at lightning speed as electrons jump between atomic nuclei, making it virtually impossible to map every separate step in chemical processes involv- ing large molecules like proteins. Powerful comput- er models, first developed by the three scientists in the 1970s, offer a new window onto such reactions and have become a mainstay for researchers in thousands of academic and industrial laboratories around the world.

In drug design, for ex- ample, scientists can now use computers to calculate how an experimental medi- cine will react with a par- ticular target protein in the body by working out the in- terplay of atoms. “The field of computational modeling has revolutionized how we design new medicines by allowing us to accu- rately predict the behavior of proteins,” said Dominic Tildesley, president-elect of Britain’s Royal Society of Chemistry. Today, all pharmaceutical companies use computational chemis- try to screen experimental compounds for potential as medicines before further testing them on animals or people.

The ability to model chemical reactions has also grown as computers have become more powerful, while progress in biotechnol- ogy has produced ever more complex large mol- ecules for use in treating diseases like cancer and rheumatoid arthritis. “It has revolutionized chemistry,” Kersti Hermansson, profes- sor in organic chemistry at Uppsala University, said of the computer modeling. “When you solve equations on the computer, you obtain information that is at such detail it is almost impossi- ble to get it from any other method.”

“You can really follow like a movie, in time and space. This is fantastic detail...” Karplus, a US and Austrian citizen, carries out research at the University of Strasbourg and Harvard University.

Lenovo tops PC makers, industry sales decline in quarter

NEW YORK, 10 Oct.—Lenovo Group held on to its position as the world’s largest PC maker in the latest quarter despite a drastic dip in its core average China market, according to figures published by tech research firm Gartner on Wednesday. Overall, the latest numbers showed an 8.6 percent decline in PC sales, fol- lowed by sales in the third quarter of the year, confirming a worldwide trend towards tablets that has benefited Apple Inc and Google Inc but hurt tradi- tional PC stalwarts Micro- soft Corp and Intel Corp.

Worldwide PC ship- ments totaled 80.3 million units, the lowest level since 2008, Gartner said, despite the “back to school” season when sales traditionally spike. Europe, Middle East and Africa was the worst hit region, with a 13.7 percent decline in PC sales, fol- lowed by Asia Pacific with an 11.2 percent decline. The US market increased 3.5 percent, helped by low in- ventories being re-stocked and the popularity of mod- els featuring the latest Intel chips, Gartner said.

GE partners with AT&T, Cisco, Intel for ‘Industrial Internet’

BANGALORE, 10 Oct.—General Electric Co an- nounced partnerships with AT&T Inc, Cisco Systems Inc and Intel Corp to ex- pand its “Industrial Inter- net” service that allows its customers to analyze data and predict outcomes. The service helps custom- ers analyze industrial big data—data so large that it is difficult to process us- ing traditional database and software. This would help customers minimize down- time, increase productivity, lower fuel costs and reduce emissions.

By connecting ma- chines to the network and the cloud, workers can track, monitor, and operate GE’s machinery wirelessly from anywhere through secure and machine-to-ma- chine communications. GE Software’s Corporate Of- ficer Bill Rah said GE has existing partnerships with Amazon’s Amazon Web Services, Accenture PLC, and Pivotal to support the service. GE said the ten “pre- dictivity” products it launched last year have contributed revenue of $290 million so far this year. The company said it has 14 new customers for the 14 products launched on Wednesday. Accord- ing to technology research group Wikibon, industrial data is expected to grow at two times the rate of any other big data segment over the next decade.
IMF warns major transitions in global financial system

WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — The global financial system faces several major transitions accompanied by substantial risks, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Wednesday.

“The first one is the transition in the United States from a prolonged period of monetary accommodation towards a normalization of monetary conditions,” Jose Vinals, head of the IMF’s Monetary and Capital Markets Department, said at a Press conference to unveil its Global Financial Stability Report.

UN sued in US court over Haiti’s cholera epidemic

New York, 10 Oct — A pivotal trial of Gilead Sciences Inc’s drugidelalisib has been stopped early after independent monitors determined that the drug was shown to be effective against leukemia, sending shares of the company up more than 3 percent. The Phase 3 trial compared treatment withidelalisib and another drug, Rituxan, to treatment with Rituxan alone in patients with chronic lymphocytic leukemia who were not eligible for treatment with chemotherapy.

Gilead drug works against leukemia, trial stopped early

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IMF’s Global Financial Stability Report estimates that a 100 basis point increase in interest rates from current levels could generate 2.3 trillion US dollars losses on global bond portfolios “Engineering a smooth transition to monetary normalization will require a clear and well-timed communication strategy by the Federal Reserve to minimize interest rate volatility, as well as effective execution in line with economic developments,” Vinals said.

Toilet glitch forces JAL to turn around Dreamliner flight

Tokyo, 10 Oct — Japan Airlines Co (9201.T) was forced to turn around its Tokyo-bound flight from Moscow on Thursday due to a problem in the Boeing (BA,N) 787 jet’s lavatory, a spokesman for the Japanese carrier said.

The incident on the 787 Dreamliner follows a spate of problems since its first flight in December 2009, including a battery fire that temporarily forced the grounding worldwide of Boeing’s high-profile fleet. JAL spokesman Takuya Shimoguchi said the toilet malfunction on the flight from Moscow was likely caused by an electronic glitch. The airline was working on repairs on the ground, he added.

The flight, carrying 141 passengers, departed Moscow on Wednesday evening and was diverted after just five hours, he said. Shares in JAL, which made headlines this week by signing with Boeing rival Airbus (EAD.PA) for the next generation of long-haul jets, were up 2.1 percent on Thursday morning, outperforming the broader market.

‘Look ma, no hands’ on the car steering wheel still some way off

Detroit, 10 Oct — When General Motors Co Vice Chairman Steve Girsky slid into a Cadillac SRX luxury crossover vehicle specially equipped to drive itself, his reaction echoed that of many consumers: “It’s a little unsettling at first when you take your hands off the wheel and then it’s one of these ‘Oh wow’ moments,” Girsky said in a 27 September interview about the vehicle he test drove over a year ago.

While consumers may envision a George Jetson-like future where cars steer themselves as “drivers” read iPads, that reality is still years away for mass production cars.

What most automakers and suppliers see near term is cars equipped with “driver assistance” features that help in unsafe conditions, prevent accidents and take a lot of the stress out of driving. These features will be stepping stones towards a fully-driverless car. One of the first situations mass-production cars can handle without a driver is bumper-to-bumper traffic. Some cars are already equipped to steer themselves into a parking space. Others warn drivers if they are over the speed limit and brake the vehicle to avoid a collision.

Companies are spending hundreds of millions of dollars to keep up with consumer demand for such technology. Get it right and car buyers will pay thousands of dollars for the added features, analysts said. “If automakers build it and can explain the value proposition, consumers will come,” said Gary Silberg, national auto industry leader for consulting firm KPMG, which released a study Thursday about consumer attitudes toward self-driving cars. KPMG found most Americans surveyed were receptive to the idea of a driverless car.

The results raised red flags for the auto industry as consumers ranked Google, which has a self-driving car programme, and Apple as brands they would trust most for such vehicles. While that raises the question whether tech companies could become industry rivals, Girsky and other executives said automakers would be best as likely to partner with tech companies as compete with them.
Heavy rain causes flood to market, offices, about 500 houses in Singu

SINGU, 10 Oct—Due to heavy rain on 5 October night, clinic, some departmental offices and about 500 houses in Letpanha, Nyaungwun, Ywathitgyi and Gyo bin villages in Singu Township were flooded in 3-6 feet deep water.

The low-lying areas of the township face inundation yearly. The market and houses in Letpanha Village were flooded second time this year. The rural dispensary, Public Works office, the timber extraction office, eight staff quarters, village administrative office and about 500 houses in Yonbin Ward, Aungmingala Ward and YadanaU Ward were inundated in the heavy rain. Information on loss and damages is not immediately available.

Accident

NA Y PI TAW, 10 Oct—According to the information that two watercrafts collided headed on at the confluence of Uru Creek and Chindwin River in Homalin Township of Sagaing Region on 3 October, the police from Homalin Myoma Police Station together with witnesses rushed to the scene.

In the incident, Ngwah passenger boat driven by Maung Cho, 37 of Katha Village in Homalin Township heading for Homalin from Naungpoaung hit Hsan Myint Aung cargo speed boat steered by Kyaw Thu, 35 of Aingtaung Village in Homalin Township leading to Monywa from Homalin. Ngwah boat capsized in the incident due to broken bow. In the case, U Shy Latt, 60 of Naungpoaung Village fell into the water.

Lamp-posts along Strand road in Mawlamyinegyun illuminated

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 10 Oct—Under the arrangements of Township General Administration Department, Township Development Supportive Committee and Township Development Affairs Committee jointly implemented the electrification along the strand road in Mawlamyinegyun as of 4 October.

Prizes presented to winners in Performing Arts Competitions in Muse

MUSE, 10 Oct—The prize presentation for the 20th Myanmar National Races’ Performing Arts Competition of Muse District was held at the lawn in Muse of Shan State on 4 October morning.

World First-Aid Day observed in Shwegu

SHWEGU, 10 Oct—Shwegu Township Health Department of Bhamo District held the ceremony to mark the World First-Aid Day.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi delivered a speech, Commanding Officer of Township Red Cross Battalion Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Aye Maung and Chairman of Township Red Cross Society Dr Thura Zaw explained the aim of the ceremony.

Red Cross member Ma Kay Zin gave talks on matters related to the Red Cross Brigade and read the message.—MMAL-Labaun Aung (Kachin Land)

Miss Universe Myanmar 2013 Moe Set Waing wins K 10 million

She is taking health and physical exercises and learning knowledge. The Myanmar Miss Universe will leave here on 16 October for Moscow of Russia.

She will try to her best for presenting wonderful matters of Myanmar to candidates of other countries. At present, she will not accept the telecasting of commercials, focus on competitions.

Moe Set Waing won K 10 million for the Miss Universe Myanmar 2013 from Hello Madam Media Group, K 1 million for Miss Famous, K 600,000 for Miss Health Skin and cosmetics.

Likewise, first runner-up Aye Chan Moe won K 5 million in the contest.}

Image
Myanmar hopes continuous support from dialogue ...  

(from page 1) 
to gain further support when Myanmar chaired ASEAN. 
Also present at the Summit were heads of ASEAN state/government, 
Chinese Premier Mr. Li Keqiang, Japanese Prime 
Minister Mr. Shinzo Abe, 
and the ASEAN Secretary-General. 

In his speech at the 8th East Asia Summit, the Presi- 
dent emphasized the im- 
portance of the summit as a 
forum to hold comprehen- 
sive discussions on politi- 
cal, security and economic matters which are strate- 
gically important for the 
countries in the region. He 
expressed the need for timely 
establishment of ASEAN Economic Community by 
2015. 
Myanmar is ready to co- 
operate with develop- 
ment partnership for suc- 
cessful realization of electri- 
city-generating projects and 
electrification process as 
energy sufficiency is set 
as a national priority, he 
added. Cooperation of 
international community in 
development of agri- 
culture sector in which 
Myanmar needs agricultur- 
al methods which suit cli- 
mate change is also neces- 
sary. He thanked member 
countries for their support 
for Myanmar’s reform pro- 
cesses and democratization, 
expressing his hope that 
there will be multilateral cooperation with member 
countries of East Asia Sum- 
mit when Myanmar took 
ASEAN chairmanship. 

In his address at the ASEAN-India Summit at- 
tended by ASEAN leaders 
and Indian Prime Minister 
Mr. Manmohan Singh, the 
President said he was very 
pleased to see ASEAN and 
India turned their relations 
to into strategic dialogue part- 
ership at the Summit to 
mark the 20th anniversary of 
ASEAN-India dialogue partnership in New Delhi. He 
added ASEAN-India Trade in Service and In- 
vestment Agreement will be signed and wel- 
comed the trade target of 
US 100 billion between 
ASEAN and India by 2015. 
It is expected to start 
the highway project that 
will connect India to Laos, 
Cambodia, Cambodia, Vietnam and 
Thailand via Myanmar as 
soon as possible. Kaladan 
multi-model Motor Trans- 
port Project will contribute 
ot only to smooth and se- 
cure trade and transport but also to better communica- 
tions among regional coun- 
tries. 

The establishment 
of ASEAN-India Centre 
would spur the improve- 
ment of sectors in trade, 
investment and tourism 
sectors. He thanked India 
for its continuous support to the Initiative for ASEAN Inte- 
\negration, IAI as well as My- 
\nnanmar’s reform processes. 

At the 5th ASEAN- 
UN Summit attended by heads of state/government 
of ASEAN countries and 
UN Secretary-General 
Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Pres- 
ident thanked the UN for its 
humanitarian assistance to 
Myanmar in the aftermath of 
severe cyclonic storm, Nargis and its resump- 
tion of Normal Country 
Programme of the UNDP 

He added cooperation 
with the United Nations is an 
important foundation of Myanmar’s foreign policy. 

2014 nationwide census- 
program is a signifi- 
cant cooperation between 
Myanmar and the UN. He 
expressed his belief that 
indeed cooperation in the 
areas of food and energy 
security, peace and sta- 
bility, climate change and 
risk management between 
ASEAN and UN agen- 
cies successful realization of ASEAN Community 
would contribute towards 
better ASEAN-UN part- 
nership. 

Myanmar, Lithuania 
established diplomatic ties 

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct.—The Republic of the Union of 
Myanmar and the Republic of Lithuania, desirous of 
establishing friendly relations and mutually beneficial 
cooperation on the basis of the principles of the Char- 
ter of the United Nations and the norms of International 
Law in accordance with the Vienna Conventions on 
Diplomatic Relations and on Consular Relations, estab- 
lished diplomatic relations at Ambassadorial level with 
effect from 8 October 2013. 

The Joint Communique on the establishment of dip- 
lomatic relations was signed by the Permanent Repre- 
sentative of the Republic of Lithuania to the United 
Nations and the Permanent Representatives of the 
Republic of the Lithuania to the United Nations in 
New York on 8 October 2013. 

Myanmar has been making efforts to expand dip- 
lomatic relations with countries all over the world, and 
the Republic of Lithuania has become the 115th country 
with which Myanmar has established diplomatic rela- 
tions.—MNA

UPWC, KIO sign new ...  

(from page 1) 
The seven-point agree- 
ment is as follows— 
a) The two sides agreed to 
continue according to 
the following prelimi- 
nary procedure as the 
government has invited 
KIO to join nationwide 
cessefire signing into enter- 
to political dialogue. 
1) The Union government 
shall send and discuss the 
plans. 
2) The government agreed to 
hold Ethnic Armed 
Groups Conference as 
demanded by KIO del- 
egation 
b) The two sides acknowled- 
ed the de-escalation of the 
conflict since 
May 28-30 talks and 
attributed it to regular 
interaction between the 
technical teams and en- 
hanced communication between troops from 
both sides and agreed to 
continue coordinat- 
ing to avoid recurrence of 
crashes; 
(c) The two sides agreed that the technical teams of 
both sides and depart- 
ments concerned shall 
continue coordinating on 
adopting of basic 
principles and a plan 
for return and settle- 
ment of IDPs; the two 
sides also agreed to 
undertake in coordina- 
tion with each other the 
pilot project in four vil- 
lages; 
(d) The two sides agreed to 
form Joint Monitoring 
Committee based on an 
opportunistic structure 
that can cover all conflict 
regions to de-escalate the 
military tensions and 
avoid recurrence of 
crashes; the technical 
teams of two sides shall 
take further actions to 
adopt operational plan 
based on Joint Monitor- 
ing Committee Struc- 
ture (Attached-1) and 
terms of reference— 
five basic principles and 
18 rules (Attach- 
ment-2); 
(e) The two sides agreed to 
reopen through co- 
ordination as quickly 
as possible the public 
and arterial roads in 
Kachin State closed 
because of conflict; 
(f) KIO agreed to organ- 
ize public consultation 
through prior coordi- 
ation with authorities 
concerned; 
(g) The two sides agreed that the technical 
teams shall coordi- 
nate on future work 
programmes and co- 
ordinate on soonest 
holding of next peace 
talks.—MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker attends closing 
of 129th IPU Assembly 

PYIDAUNGSU HLUTTAW Speaker attends closing of 
129th IPU Assembly.—MNA
What Myanmar’s changing face earns

After years of economic sanctions, Myanmar has returned to the global stage with a series of political reforms. Myanmar has now become the darling of the world in international relations. The world powers have treated her with respect, providing economic and social aids. It is a pride for its citizens. With better international relations, the country has seen emerging economic opportunities.

China, Japan, the US and South Korea are the global technological and economic powers. President U Thein Sein met ASEAN leaders and leaders of these powers on the sidelines of ASEAN Summit in Brunei Darussalam. They discussed matters related to Myanmar and the world at ASEAN-Japan, ASEAN-Korea, ASEAN-China and ASEAN-US Summits. The meetings focused on the emerging economic opportunities of Myanmar. Myanmar will take ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014. It would create a great environment to develop closer connectivity, especially economic and trade opportunities. The country will also see larger amount of foreign investments.

The warmer international relations will bring good to the people. Increase in exports, new job opportunities, and greater number of social, cultural and economic exchanges are the profits. It would also create socio-economic status of the people.

While the government is working for changing the face of the country, the internal peace is a necessity. Stability is the dignity of the nation. It boosts the country’s reputation. In time of closer ties with world powers, the entire people should respect law and help ensure the stability.

President U Thein Sein meets Thai PM, US Secretary...

(from page 16) and exchanged views on bi-lateral relations and friendship and taking ASEAN Chairmanship by Myanmar.

At 6.10 am local time, President U Thein Sein met with New Zealand Prime Minister Mr John Key.

During the meeting, they discussed matters on promoting relations between governments, parliaments and peoples of the two countries, prospects for investment in agriculture, livestock breeding, mining and energy sectors by New Zealand companies, sending agriculturalists to New Zealand, English proficiency courses for teachers and becoming a member of East Asia Summit.

MNA

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with US Secretary of State Mr. John Kerry.—MNA

Tender winners announced for 10 onshore blocks

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Ministry of Energy today announced tender winners for the Myanmar Onshore Blocks Second Bidding Round 2013 to be carried out as JVs on 18 onshore blocks. It was attended by the chairman of the spokesperson and information team of the ministry, the director-general of Energy Planning Department, managing directors and officials.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives US ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham received US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Derek Mitchell at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace, here, this evening.

It was also attended by Union Ministers U Tin Naing Thein and U Khin Yi, Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and U Phone Swe and officials.

At the call, they discussed procedures for stability and development of Rakhine State, settlement of problems for peaceful coexistence between the two communities and support from international communities.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham on his part said that arrangements are being made to scrutinize illegal migrants to be able to address compatibility between the two communities in Rakhine State conflict resolution procedures, saying it needs assistance of third party to that end.

The US ambassador disclosed that he wishes to include a deadline in the procedures and more efforts for press release. He also pledged that he will strive for more participation of international organizations.

MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham poses for documentary photo with US Ambassador Mr. Derek Mitchell at Presidential Palace.—MNA

Press meet on opening and closing ceremonies of SEA Games, conveyance of torch on 12 Oct

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—A press meet will be held for entertainment programmes of opening and closing ceremonies of the XXVII SEA Games and conveyance of torch at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna, Yangon, at 3 pm on 12 October.

Reporters from media may attend the press meet organized by Ministry of Culture.—MNA

Auxiliary firefighters from Nay Pyi Taw Council area undergoing training

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Auxiliary firefighters from Nay Pyi Taw Council Area have received firefighting training in Pyinmana.

The training was opened at Pyinmana Township Fire Station on 7 October with an address by Director of the Fire Services Department U Thant Kyaw Kyaw. Auxiliary firefighters from Pyinmana, Lewe, Taikon, Zeyathiri, Pobbathiri, Ottarathira, Zabuthiri and Dakhinathiri townships are attending the four-week training course which runs up to 1 November.

Min Min Latt (Mann Tekkatho)
President U Thein Sein attends ...

(from page 16)

other countries as the ASEAN chairmanship and to maintain the ASEAN centrality as well, he added.

He said that he was pleased with the accepting of the ASEAN chairmanship from Brunei that was able to serve as role model in the march towards the ASEAN Community. Myanmar will take concrete steps to carry out the remaining tasks of the ASEAN Community Roadmap together with ASEAN member countries while striving for the emergence of a follow-up task further strengthening the ASEAN Community, he noted.

To ensure a peaceful and prosperous community and for the community to flourish all the member countries need to be united. Towards this end, Moving Forward in Unity, To a Peaceful and Prosperous Community was chosen as the motto of the ASEAN Chairmanship for 2014, he said. The ASEAN has constantly shown the unity and will continue to maintain the fine tradition. And Myanmar attached great importance to the chairmanship as it is the first time for it after it has become ASEAN members and pledged to successfully discharge that duty, he said. He continued that he thanked the Excellency and his people for treating Myanmar people as families since Myanmar has become ASEAN members as well as ASEAN and its partner countries that assisted in Myanmar’s nation-building endeavours. He said Myanmar as a responsible member nation will be working hard for success of the ASEAN and expressed his belief that he will be able to successfully take the chairmanship with the help of member countries.

Afterwards, on ASEAN cooperation of Myanmar that will take the chairmanship was shown.

Daw Khin Khin Win observes Royal Regalia Building in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei

Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, visits Royal Regalia Building in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Daw Khin Khin Win, wife of President U Thein Sein, visited the Royal Regalia Building in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei this morning. She looked round royal artefacts booth used in Brunei king’s coronation in 1968.

1010 doctors cancelled from blacklist

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Union government is placing emphasis on political and economic reforms while realizing the democracy in line with the Constitution.

Some companies and individuals from various arenas were put into the blacklist in the past due to various reasons so as to safeguard the national interest of the State. As restrictions are being relieved in line with the changes of the system, the cancellation of black lists is posted at the President Office Website.

Now, a total of 1010 doctors were cancelled of the black list from the Ministry of Health, and their list is posted at the President Office Website.

Yangon International Trade Exhibition kicks off

YANGON, 10 Oct—The Yangon International Trade Exhibition 2013, organized by Dagon Exhibition Ltd, was opened at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Dagon Township today, attended by Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe.

The Ministry of Energy has formed information team to release the news. The questions relating to the ministry sent to Public Service Capacity Assessment Committee are replied in real time, he added.

The meeting ended at 11:20 am and the 8th day session continues tomorrow.—MNA

Seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw .........

(from page 16)

able to fulfill oil and gas requirements. Plans are underway to cooperate with internationally experienced companies for exploration and production of oil and gas in some onshore and offshore blocks by inviting international tenders, the Union minister said.

The ministry has been generating 364.9 megawatts from 20 hydropower plants, 10 gas power plants and one coal-fired power plant. In mining sector, the Ministry of Mines is promoting the role of private sector for effective implementation of the tasks, he said.

The Ministry of Industry is striving for emergence of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Law. The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation is generating small-scale hydropower through canals of irrigation projects, the Union minister said.

Actions alone cannot eliminate …

(from page 16)

concerned will follow them willingly. Discrimination against students who cannot afford tuition fees should not be allowed in the today’s classrooms. Education Ministry is responsible to manage the academic system. Such kind of unwanted situation can be addressed by taking effective measures in the academic sector.

“The Speaker gave an answer which is agreed with my question. I have not fully satisfied with the reply of the ministry, I hope the ministry will be able to meet the public desire. The ministry should reconsider the ineffective order seriously,” U Nu expressed his view during an interview with him.—MNA

Opening of Yangon International Trade Exhibition 2013 in progress.

MNA
Mini book corners updated with new publications

DAWEI, 10 Oct—Dawei District Information and Public Relations Department has opened public libraries for raising reading habit of the people.

Moreover, the district office opened mini book corners for enabling the people to have reading opportunities at any time.

The District IPRD has opened wall mini book corners at busy places and public sites. In addition, with the assistance of seven well-wishers, the mini book corners will stretch its arms to the rural areas.

The District IPRD is taking action by State Government and Public Relations Department of Dawei District.

Red Cross members leave for Rakhine State

MAWLAMYINE, 10 Oct—Rakhine State faces not only impacts of natural disasters but also miseries of recent conflicts. Therefore, members of Red Cross are to take care of victims in line with the disciplines and oaths. The Red Cross members will not involve in the any affairs of national and religion, focusing on relief works with genuine goodwill, said Chief Minister U Ohn Myint in meet with the members of Red Cross Brigade at Aung San Hall of Mon State Government Office on 4 October.

Mon State Minister for Development Affairs Dr Toe Toe Aung handed over K 2.5 million provided by State Government and Commander of Mon State Police Force U Kywe Myint as quick support for Rakhine State to Staff Officer Grade I U Kyaw Myint of the State Red Cross Brigade.

They left for Gyan on 6 October and will discharge duties at the relief works in the recently conflict-hit areas of Rakhine State for one month.

Bus with break failure hits wall on opposition way

YANGON, 10 Oct—A bus from Than Myan Tha bus line driven by U Aung Myint, son of U Maung Nyunt of No. 1010, Aungtheikdi Street in Phawgan Ward in Insein Township heading for north from south along Strand Road run into the wall of Queen Star restaurant on the opposite way of road in front of Hisnim Market in Hisnim Ward of Ahlon Township due to break failure at 9.30 am on 9 October.

In the incident, a 14-foot pavement and 14 feet wide wall of the restaurant were damaged. The windscreen, banper and left tyre were damaged at the bus. There was no injury to passengers, driver and bus conductor.

A Hl o n T o w n s h i p P o l i c e F o r c e takes action against the driver.

Illegal timber without owner seized in Moeso timber extraction area in Gangaw

GANGAW, 10 Oct—Gangaw Township Forest Department is taking action against those who committed illegal timber extraction and transportation and giving educative talks on the illegal timber traffickers.

A team comprising Assistant Director U Kyaw Min Thein of Gangaw District Forest Department, Staff Officer U Than Kyaw of Gangaw Township Forest Department and Senior Forester U Than Htay seized 24 pieces of ironwood sawn timber weighing 5.10 tons and four logs of ironwood sawn timber weighing 2.34 tons on 3 October, one log of ironwood weighing 0.19 ton, one piece of gim-kino sawn timber weighing 0.18 ton, one log of gim-kino log weighing 0.49 ton, 54 pieces of sawn gim-kino timber weighing 1.82 tons on 4 October and nine pieces of ironwood sawn timber weighing 1.81 tons and three logs of teak weighing 0.11 ton in Moeso timber extraction area.

Arrangements are being made to hand over the seized timbers to Myanmar Timber Enterprise as quick as possible, said Staff Officer U Than Kyaw of Township Forest Department.

Comedians friendly football match for the first time on 22 Oct

YANGON, 10 Oct—Comedians from Yangon and Mandalay will meet in the friendly football match at Aung San Stadium on 22 October, said Chairman of Mandalay Comedians Philanthropic Association Comedian U Chit Sayar.

The football friendly will be the introduction between the comedian associations of Mandalay and Yangon.

Yangon comedians association will cost the transport and accommodation charges of those from Mandalay. Volunteer Lily Naing Kyaw will sponsor the sports suits of comedians. The association was formed with the aim of providing assistance to health and basic needs of older comedians and education of their children, said veteran comedian U Htin Kyaw.

Kyemon-Ba Oo (Mann)

Site donated for construction of sub-power station in Mottama

PAUNG, 10 Oct—Township Bus Line Supervisory Committee of Paung Township in Mon State donated to Mon State Electricity Supply Enterprise to build a 33/11 KV 5 MVA sub-power station.

The ceremony was held at the office of Paung Township General Administration Department on 5 October so as to supply electricity to Mottama and its surrounding villages.

The agreement was signed between the donor and receiver at the ceremony.

Mon State Minister for Electricity and Industry U Nai Lawi Aung explained tha the sub-power station will be built on the plot of the land will supply sufficient supply of electricity to the local people and it will be contribution to the rural development.

Next, chairman of the Township Bus Line Supervisory Committee handed over the documents related to the land plot to Mon State Electrical Engineer U Aung Kyaw Hein who spoke words of thanks.

Kyemon-Thet Oo (Thatton)

Voluntary Works

Red Cross members leave for Rakhine State

Red Cross members leave for Rakhine State

The land plot donation for construction of sub-power station in progress.

Population, census-taking talked

Nyaunglein, 10 Oct—Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Ni Ni Win gave talks on participation of people in taking national census to be held in March 2014 at Daw Moe Sanda Wai of the department prevention against trafficking in persons.

Next, staff of the department displayed publications as public service media to the people.

Crime

Illegal timber without owner seized in Moeso timber extraction area in Gangaw

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Crime

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The land plot donation for construction of sub-power station in progress.
Cooperation highlighted at 16th ASEAN Plus Three Summit

Leaders of the East Asia Summit pose for a group photo with their spouses before a gala dinner held by Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei, on 9 Oct, 2013. Chinese Premier Li Keqiang was present at the dinner here on Wednesday.—Xinhua

Floods kill 104, affect 1.5 million people in Cambodia

PHNOM PENH, 10 Oct—Floods from Mekong River and heavy rainfall have killed at least 104 people and affected about 1.5 million people in Cambodia in the last three weeks, a senior disaster control official said on Wednesday. “The latest figures showed that the floods have killed 104 people and affected around 1.5 million people in 20 flood-hit provinces,” Nhim Vanda, vice president of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM), told Xinhua over telephone.

He said that local authorities have been continuing to evacuate affected people to higher ground, as emergency relief teams from donors and the Cambodian Red Cross have been distributing to affected families.

Besides, some 250,000 hectares of rice paddy are inundated, he said, adding that more than 100 km of national roads and over 300 km of gravel roads have been damaged.—Xinhua

Wave of violence hits S Thailand

BANGKOK, 10 Oct—Multiple bombing, arson and gun attacks in the deep Southern Thailand on Wednesday left a female teacher and two rangers dead in one of the biggest coordinated waves of suspected insurgent violence in years.

Government sources said the attacks in Narathiwat, Yala, Pattani and Songkhla were intended to mark the founding anniversaries of the Barisan Revolusi Nasional (BRN) and Pattani United Liberation Organization (Pulo) rebel groups.

More than 40 attacks were reported across 17 districts of these four provinces.

Eleven attacks—six bombings, four arson incidents, and one tanker theft—were reported in five districts of Narathiwat. Pol Maj Gen Pattanawut Anghkanawin, chief of the Narathiwat provincial police said. In Yala, 11 ATM bomb attacks in Muang, Yaha and Bannang Sata districts were reported. Suspected insurgents stole an empty tanker usually used for carrying water from Narathiwat’s Rueso District and filled it with fuel.—Xinhua

Fresh vegetables keep Mos Burger a popular chain

Photo taken on 6 Sept, 2013, shows Hideyuki Sato, chief leader of the agribusiness group at Mos Food Services Inc, the operator of Mos Burger hamburger restaurants, Sato procures vegetables to be used for hamburgers directly from farmers across Japan.

Unlike many other fast food chains that prepare hamburgers beforehand, Mos Food Services starts making a hamburger with fresh vegetables after it receives an order.

The company, which runs about 1,400 shops across the country, sticks to a policy of not using vegetables that are produced abroad or preserved for long periods in refrigerators as it believes its customers favor its food because of freshness.

Sato and his colleagues go to see contract farmers many times a year to keep themselves updated on how they are growing vegetables and confirm whether they are not using pesticides or chemical fertilizers.

“The company is always looking to produce fresh vegetables as items such as tomatoes, lettuce and onions, each of which can make a difference on the table,” he said.

Sato’s firm, based in Tokyo, started a “mos Money Back Guarantee” program in March 2012 to give contract farmers a direct payment guarantee. The program provides farmers with a means to earn a higher income, but they need to team up with a larger farmer organization to take advantage of economies of scale.

Mos Burger restaurants are open at all times of the year and need to prepare fresh vegetables such as tomatoes, lettuce and onions, each of which can make a difference on the table. The Tokyo-based company has thus contracted with some 3,000 farmers from Hokkaido to Okinawa Prefecture, making it possible to use vegetables from northern Japan during the summer, while procuring those from southern Japan during the winter.

“Instead of going around to see those farmers in more than half a year, we don’t have to spend much time at home,” he said.

Sato, from Koshigaya, Saitama Prefecture, enjoyed climbing mountains in his childhood and developed a liking for trees, plants and flowers in due course.

Kyodo News

Collaborations on the APT emergency rice reserve, energy security and disaster management and connectivity should also be improved, according to the sultan, who added the APT should utilize the East Asia Forum and the network of East Asia think tanks for a better cooperation.

In an address to the summit, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang spoke highly of the ASEAN Plus Three cooperation, saying it has played an important role in stabilizing the region’s economy and made significant contributive to the economic growth of East Asia and the world at large. He said the countries should remain committed to maintaining peace and stability in the region, firmly adhere to the principles of mutually beneficial cooperation and common development, and give top priority to economic development and people’s well-being, so as to ensure the East Asia cooperation will stay on the track of sound growth.

South Korean President Park Geun-hye said at the summit that she hopes the APT will serve as an opportunity to make the vision of mechanism more concrete and actionable.

She said South Korea will take an active part in the process of building a peaceful and prosperous East Asia Community, adding it is critically important to fully utilize the specific plans into actions.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe reiterated his goal of creating an open, vigorous East Asia rich in innovation, saying innovative and concrete results have been achieved.

He added that the APT is an important regional cooperation framework, along with Japan-China-ROK trilateral cooperation and the East Asia Summit, and hopes for further development of regional cooperation. Inaugurated in 1997, the APT comprises all 10 ASEAN member states and China, South Korea and Japan with its main focus on economic cooperation.

As of now, the APT has become the major pillar of East Asia cooperation.

Xinhua

Tokyo, 10 Oct—Hideyuki Sato, 38, who has loved trees and flowers since his childhood, believes his current job is the most suitable one for him.

As chief leader of the agribusiness group at Mos Food Services Inc, the operator of Mos Burger hamburger restaurants, Sato procures vegetables to be used for hamburgers directly from farmers across Japan.

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“We always take care so customers can eat our food without any worries,” Sato said.

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“I travel around to see those farmers in more than half a year, and don’t have to spend much time at home,” he said.

Sato, from Koshigaya, Saitama Prefecture, enjoyed climbing mountains in his childhood and developed a liking for trees, plants and flowers in due course.

Kyodo News

Friday, 11 October, 2013

New Light of Myanmar

Regional
Jihadis claim attack on Cairo's satellite dish

CAIRO, 10 Oct.—A jihadi group dubbed “Al-Furqan”, claiming responsibility for an attack on a state satellite station in Cairo, a statement on the group’s official website said.

On Monday, masked gunmen fired rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) at the main premises of the communication satellite dish in Maadi District, injuring one person. One of the dishes used for international phone calls was damaged as the rockets left a 25-centimetre breach in a satellite dish. But the communications were not affected.

In a video posted online, the group said it hit the “infidel mouthpiece” of Egypt’s military-installed authorities. “Your brothers in al-Furqan announce the targeting of the headquarters and army patrol along with hitting the satellite in the capital and Sinai came one day after Egypt marked the 40th anniversary of on 6 Oct, 1973 war. Egyptians flooded the main squares for celebrations, and to renew their authorization for the army against terrorism.”

Over the past three months, after the armed forces topped Islamist President Mohamed Morsi, Egypt has witnessed a series of gunmen assaults on government institutions, especially police stations and army checkpoints.

1.2 tons of cocaine seized in Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, 10 Oct.—Authorities in the southern Dominican Republic seized more than a ton of cocaine and arrested three suspects, including two foreigners, on Tuesday.

Miguel Medina, spokesman for Drug Control (DNCD), told a Press conference that the operation took place offshore early Tuesday, some 65 km southwest of the capital Santo Domingo.

“He was necessary to neutralize the boat by shooting several times at the motors, since the vessel’s occupants tried to resist capture,” Medina said.

Canadian library waives fines on overdue materials to encourage returns

VANCOUVER, 10 Oct.—Canada’s Vancouver Public Library (VPL) announced on Tuesday it will waive fines on long overdue materials during its Welcome Back Week in a bid to engage patrons who may be reluctant to return the library owing to accumulated overdue fines.

The cache of drugs, a total of 1.200 kg packed into 1,000 packets, was hidden inside a boat intercepted by the DNCD with the help of boats from the Dominican navy and air force, and the US Drug Enforcement Agency and the US Coast Guard, he said. “It was necessary to neutralize the boat by shooting several times at the motors, since the vessel’s occupants tried to resist capture,” Medina said.

Canadian library waives fines on overdue materials to encourage returns
Jennifer Ehle to star in Fifty Shades of Grey movie adaptation

LOS ANGELES, 10 Oct—Actress Jennifer Ehle has been roped in to play Anastasia Steele’s mother in the big screen adaptation of the erotic novel Fifty Shades of Grey.

The 43-year-old actress is well known for her BAFTA winning role as Elizabeth Bennet in the successful 1995 miniseries Pride and Prejudice.

Ehle will play Carla, who is the mother of Anastasia Steele, the college student who falls for 27-year-old billionaire Christian Grey. Dakota Johnson is starring as Steele and Charlie Hunnam will play Grey, the Hollywood Reporter said.

Universal and Focus Features’ forthcoming adaptation, based on EL James’ racy and extremely popular novel, is being directed by Sam Taylor-Johnson and produced by Michael De Luca and Dana Brunetti alongside author James.

Ehle, who most recently shot the upcoming Robocop film, has previously appeared in Zero Dark Thirty and Contagion.

She was also tapped for a role in upcoming heist movie The Forger.—Reuters

 Shraddha Kapoor excited about working with Mohit Suri in The Villain

MUMBAI, 10 Oct—After working with Mohit Suri in Aashiqui 2, actress Shraddha Kapoor is working with the director in his next film, titled The Villain and is excited about it. The Villain, an Ekta Kapoor production, also features Siddharth Malhotra and Riteish Deshmukh.

“I am very happy that I am going to work with Mohit Suri again right after Aashiqui 2. So I am very excited about that,” Shraddha told reporters here on Monday during the unveiling of new collection of Titan Raga watches.

Aashiqui 2, a sequel to the 1990 hit Aashiqui featured Shraddha opposite Aditya Roy Kapur and was a superhit. It not only earned great reviews and entered Rs 100 crore club but also revived Shraddha’s career.

Shraddha has no complaints now.

“(I have) no complaints (now) and I feel very grateful. It is a good time (for me) so no complaints at all,” Shraddha, who began her career with a flop Teen Patti in 2010, said.

Reality TV stars Kris and Bruce Jenner say they have separated

LOS ANGELES, 10 Oct—Kardashian reality television family matriarch Kris Jenner and Olympic gold medal athlete Bruce Jenner have separated, the couple said in a joint statement to celebrity outlet E! News on Tuesday.

The couple were married in 1991 and have two teenage daughters, Kendall and Kylie, who appear on the Kardashian reality TV programmes.

“We are living separately and we are much happier this way,” the Jenners told E!’ in a statement.

Kris Jenner’s office did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

Kris Jenner, 57, whose Fox TV talk show “Kris” is awaiting word on its renewal after a six-week trial run in the summer, is the mother of Kourtney, Kim and Khloe Kardashian, the three sisters who lead the E! reality series “Keeping Up with the Kardashians,” and also star in spin-off shows.

Bruce Jenner, 63, won the gold medal in the decathlon at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal.

Kris Jenner was previously married to the late Robert Kardashian, a defence attorney for O.J. Simpson during the former football player’s sensation- al 1995 murder trial.

Miley Cyrus working on Bangerz follow up

LOS ANGELES, 10 Oct—Pop star Miley Cyrus is already planning the follow up to her latest album Bangerz, which has only just been released.

The We Can’t Stop singer’s latest album has only just come out, but she is already thinking about how to follow it up and writing new songs, reported AceShowbiz.

“Everyone thinks I’m crazy but that’s just because I have so much to say. I’m already at a different time than I was when I finished the record. Because I’m working so much I’m so disconnected, I feel like, from life. But then I wonder if it’s me that’s disconnect- ed,” a source said.

“Because when I go home I see non-productive people I’m like, ‘What are you doing?’ I need something to work for, and I think when you have the drive that’s why I’ve been able to be successful so that’s literally all I think about. But that’s fun for me. That makes me happy,” she added.

The Wrecking Ball star is also looking forward to going on tour and seeing how people react to her new songs live.
FA chairman wants change to rules after Torres escape

“As chairman of the FA, I just don’t like being in a position where I can’t explain why no action has been taken in cases which seem pretty obvious.”

Torres escaped punishment for his facial assault on the Belgian but was given a yellow card for a trip on the defender that preceded the altercation and was later sent off after picking up a second yellow for another challenge on Vertonghen.

Dyke told Reuters later: “Frankly, it makes us look old fashioned and out of touch not to act on this kind of thing, and I want to get it changed as soon as it is possible to do so.”

Torres was handed a one-match ban for his dismissal against Spurs but avoided a longer sanction when the FA met to review the incident a few days after the match. The Spanish international will, however, spend a little longer on the sidelines after picking up an injury in Chelsea’s Champions League match at Steaua Bucharest last week.—Reuters

US forward Landon Donovan (10) is mobbed by teammates after scoring against Guatemala on a penalty kick in the second half during their friendly soccer match in San Diego, California on 5 July, 2013.—Reuters

FIFA is reviewing whether to move the 2022 tournament to winter from its original summer slot because of the un forgiving heat in Qatar’s summer.

The governing body has been criticized for failing to take the heat into account when the tournament was awarded, raising broader concerns about a lack of transparency in the bidding process.

Officials involved in England’s failed bid for 2018 were also frustrated that they went through the whole bidding process only to be told after Russia got the nod that FIFA had wanted to take the tournament to a new region.

FIFA has said already said decisions on future World Cup hosts will be made by its full 200-plus national associations, rather than relying on the executive committee.—Reuters

Korean Choi eyes Asian Tour record

SINGAPORE, 10 Oct—South Korea’s KJ Choi is aiming to become the first player to win the same Asian Tour event for three straight years when he tees off at this week’s CJ Invitational.

“My eyeing a third win in this event but obviously it won’t be easy. No player has done it on the Asian Tour before and I hope to be the first,” the 43-year-old, who hosts the $750,000 event in the city of Yeou, said in an Asian Tour statement on Wednesday.

“But I’ll also be happy if a younger player wins this event as well.”

Choi fired a final round four-under-par 67 at the Haikou Bridges Golf Club course last year to win the event by two shots from compatriots Jang Dong-kyu and Bae Sang-moon, matching his margin of victory in the inaugural event in 2011.

An eight-times winner on the US PGA Tour, Choi is yet to claim a title this year but said he was in good form ahead of his own event, “I did not win this year but I made all the cuts in all the major tournaments so that’s a positive sign for me,” Choi said.

“Finished higher on the US PGA Tour rankings compared to last year so that’s another success for me.” Swede Rikard Karlberg

US long-distance swimmer Diana Nyad takes a break during her 48-hour swim at Herald Square in New York on 8 October, 2013.—Reuters

Diana Nyad plunges into 48-hour charity swim in NYC

NEW YORK, 10 Oct—A month after a record-setting swim from Cuba to Florida, Diana Nyad has moved on from the real sharks of the Florida Straits to the metaphorical ones of New York City.

Nyad, who last year covered the 110 miles of open ocean in 53 hours on Tuesday set off on a 48-hour swim to nowhere in a pool in New York’s Herald Square, in a charity event to raise money to help the 25,000 people who are still displaced from their homes a year after Superstorm Sandy hammered the New York and New Jersey coastlines.

The challenges are different in the 120-foot-long (37-meter) two-lane pool set up by sponsor Procter & Gamble for her attempt near a busy Manhattan intersection. “In Cuba there was this huge emotional pressure,” Nyad told Reuters. “That was about setting a record. That was about ego. This is about other people.”

Nyad’s swim will attempt to raise money for disaster-relief organization Americares by encouraging people to make online donations. Reuters

Murray pulls out of ATP World Finals

LONDON, 10 Oct—Wimbledon champion Andy Murray has withdrawn from next month’s World Tour Finals in London as he continues his recovery from back surgery.

“I’m really disappointed not to be playing this year. I love playing in front of my home crowd, it’s a great atmosphere,” the British world number three said in a statement on Wednesday. Murray had surgery last month to clear up a long-standing back problem. Rafael Nadal, Novak Djokovic and David Ferrer have already secured spots at the season-ending event, which is fought out between the top eight qualified players. The tournament runs from 4-11 November.—Reuters
Somalia looks to rickety port to rebuild threatened state

The sorry state of a facility has no function out at sea. The dilapidated cargo on their backs to clear dishu’s port have to carry efforts to improve the port under threat from an Islamist insurgency. Government has,” said Abdirahman Omar Osman, an advisor to the Somalian presidency, told Reuters.

That threat was made clear again last month by the al Shabaab attack on a mall in Nairobi, Kenya, an incident which bored out international fears that chaotic Somalia provides a launch pad for militant Islam. Foreign governments and agencies have poured in aid to help rebuild Somalia after 20 years of war, while security still largely depends on African peacekeeping troops who drove al Shabaab from the capital two years ago.

In the wake of the federal government start to impose its own soldiers and introduce a new regime of financial management that will wean it off the donations. The UN Monitoring Group on Somalia said in a report in July that the central bank, received about $2.7 million each month from the port, but the monitors estimate at least a third of all revenue is unaccounted for. The government has questioned some of the report’s findings, saying they have “no basis in fact” but Osman conceded there are concerns with processing of port revenues.

Osman said income from the port in August was the highest in 20 years, heading towards $5 million. But that still finances only a modest part of the government’s budget that is meant to run security forces, pay civil service salaries, and fund other institutions across a nation of 10 million people. Diplomats estimate total aid to Somalia, which includes substantial military assistance, at “several hundred million dollars”—Reuters

DJOKOVIC CANTERS AS FEDERER MAKES WINNING RETURN

BEIJING, 10 October—Top seed Novak Djokovic launched his Shanghai Open title defence in fine style, breezing past Spain’s Marcel Granollers 6-2, 6-0 on Wednesday.

Later Roger Federer, playing his first singles match since a fourth-round exit at the US Open, made a brisk return to winning ways, beating Andreas Seppi 6-4, 6-3.

Djokovic, who lost his world number one ranking to Rafa Nadal on Monday, needed treatment on his right foot during the second set of his match but it did not stop him from breaking his opponent three times to win a canter.

“There’s several tournaments left for me, this included, where I will try to go as far as I can... eventually have an opportunity to get back to No 1 (but) it doesn’t depend only on me, it depends (on) Nadal,” said the Serb, who beat Nadal on Sunday in the China Open for his fourth title of the year.

“Now to build that confidence, try to (be) more aggressive on the court and get my game back to where it should be, that’s the primary focus.”

Federer, who is drawn to meet Djokovic in the quarter-finals, looked rusty at the start conceding a break in the fifth game against Seppi, who not beaten him in nine meetings.

But the Swiss, who is trying to garner enough points to book his place for next month’s ATP World final in London, got the break back in the next game to level the match at 3-3 and broke the Italian’s serve once more to take out the first set.

The second set was far more comfortable for the 17-times grand slam winner, who teamed up with little-known Chinese Zhang Ze for doubles action on Monday, as he held on to an early break without facing any problems on his service.

Sixth seed Juan Martin del Potro overcame a slow start to beat German Philipp Kohlschreiber 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(4). Kohlschreiber, ranked number 23 in the world, served 22 aces and hit 50 winners against a sluggish del Potro. But the Argentinian, who said he had been feeling ill, fought back to get an early break in the second set and get a grip on the match.—Reuters

Typhoon Fitow brings heavy downpours to E.China

BEIJING, 10 October—Tropical rains brought by typhoon Fitow have been lashing the city of Yuyao in east China’s Zhejiang Province, inundating roads, houses and causing breaches at river dikes. 70 percent of the downtown area has been submerged. By Tuesday, Fitow had affected some 800,000 people in Yuyao.

Yuyao is being overwhelmed with a record amount of rain. No one would have imagined that a typhoon landing in Fujian province would plunge the city into chaos. From Saturday to Tuesday, the city saw an average of 717 millimeters of rainfall. And the water level at the Yaoting River has exceeded 5.3 meters. The rain and rising river level has set new records. 75% of the city’s downtown core has been inundated, with the deepest point reaching 3 metres. Traffic is all but paralysed.

Life for hundreds of thousands has been turned upside down.

“I’m going back to the countryside. There is no water and power here,” local resident said.

Both my home and my car have been submerged,” Local resident said. There has been a stampede to buy up food and water, leaving local supermarkets with almost nothing. “All the roads are cut off. I can’t buy anything,” Local resident said.—Xinhua

Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts after winning a point during his men’s singles tennis match against Marcel Granollers of Spain at the Shanghai Masters tennis tournament in Shanghai on 9 Oct, 2013. —Reuters
President U Thein Sein attends closing of 23rd ASEAN Summit, handover of ASEAN Chairmanship to Myanmar

Bandar Seri Begawan, 10 Oct — President U Thein Sein attended the closing of the 23rd ASEAN Summit and the handover of the ASEAN Chairmanship to Myanmar held at the International Convention Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei at 4:30 pm LST today.

Also present on the occasion were heads of ASEAN State/Government, ministers, invited guests and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

At the ceremony, the King of Brunei Darussalam made a speech and handed over the ASEAN Chairmanship to President U Thein Sein.

Speaking on the occasion, President U Thein Sein praised His Excellency the King, the Brunei government and its people for its successful steering of the ASEAN during the period of 2013. Brunei has been able to do its best for the People-Centred ASEAN which is part of the ASEAN efforts. In the international arena also, it has been able to further cement friendly ties with (See page 9)

President U Thein Sein meets Thai PM, US Secretary of State, Brunei King, New Zealand PM

President U Thein Sein shakes hands with Brunei King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah.—MNA

President U Thein Sein holds talks with Thai Prime Minister Ms. Ying Luck Shinawatra.—MNA

Actions alone cannot eliminate private tuitions of teachers: Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker

Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Oct— An order of prohibiting basic education teachers from giving private tuitions had already been issued by the Ministry of Education and punitive actions ranging from giving a warning to terminating some teachers who are seeking high earnings from their private tuitions are being taken if the investigations revealed they violated the order, Deputy Minister for Education Dr San Lwin responded to the question raised by U Nu of Yangon Region Constituency No (10).

He added that no plan of sharing tuition fees on an appropriate basis is allowed to teachers to give tuitions to their students at schools, but supplementary classes are being provided free to students for ensuring improvement of their academic performance.

Private schools were allowed to establish starting since 2012-2013 academic year in accord with the law and bylaws and the recommendations of Region/State Education Officers. Now, the process of conducting Comprehensive Education Sector Review (CESR) is taking place and future plans based on the findings will be submitted to the government and the parliament, he replied.

Regarding the answer of the deputy minister, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker said actions alone cannot eliminate the tuitions being given by teachers. The drive to eliminate the tuition remains ineffective due to inadequate school lessons. Students from private schools take no tuition as they have received adequate academic activities at their classrooms. Orders should be lawful and practical so that those (See page 9)

Seventh day session of Pyithu Hluttaw continues to get the people know efforts for energy sector development carried out by respective ministries in real time.

Regarding the first question, the Union minister replied that Myanmar’s energy sector comprises oil and gas, electricity, coal, solar wind, small hydropower, bio-fuel, bio-gas, geothermal energy and nuclear power. National Energy Management Committee and Energy Development Committee were formed on 9 January 2013 for energy sector development in Myanmar, he said. Sector-wise tasks are undertaking to assist in drawing national energy policy and laws and rules by forming energy working committees, he added.

With regard to the second question, the Union minister said that the ministry has been carrying out the tasks for exploration of oil and gas and exploration through unconventional method in the oilfields to be (See page 9)

President U Thein Sein meet with Thai Prime Minister Ms. Ying Luck Shinawatra.—MNA

Prime Minister of Thailand Ms Ying Luck Shinawatra held talks today over implementation of Dawei Deep Seaport project and Dawei Special Economic Zone, construction of India-Myanmar-Thailand Highway and promoting border trade.

At the meeting in Bandar Seri Begawan, they discussed measures to be taken by both countries for the Dawei Deep Seaport and the special economic zone, India-Myanmar-Thailand Highway and promoting border trade to normal trade at Myawady and Tachilek.

President U Thein Sein also met with US Secretary of State Mr John Kerry at the International Convention Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan.

They discussed matters on promoting bilateral relations. The US Secretary of State recognized the progress of reforms in Myanmar and offered cooperation between the two countries on tackling challenges of Myanmar and on economic development and rural development.

They also exchanged views on ASEAN-US relations. At 4 pm local time, President U Thein Sein met with Brunei King Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Muizzaddin Waddaulah (See page 8)