CBM grants preliminary approval to nine foreign banks to operate in Myanmar

Yangon, 1 Oct — Nine foreign banks are granted preliminary approval by the Central Bank of Myanmar to operate in the country, according to the announcement of the CBM on Wednesday.

The bid-winning foreign banks are Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ), Bangkok Bank, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (BTMU), Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), Malayan Banking Berhad (Maybank), Mizuho Bank, Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC), Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) and United Overseas Bank (UOB).

According to the announcement, the preliminary approval to prepare for commencement of banking operations is valid for 12 months during which the banks are required to fulfill their commitments and pledges made to the central bank, take all necessary measures to ensure functional banking operation from day one of business and will have to comply with quantitative and qualitative criteria. After due consideration, the Licensing Committee has decided to grant preliminary approval to prepare for commencement of banking operations in Myanmar to nine foreign Banks.

The following Applicants (in alphabetical order) have received preliminary approval:

- Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ)
- Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ (BTMU)
- Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC)
- Malayan Banking Berhad (Maybank)
- Mizuho Bank
- Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation (OCBC)
- Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC)
- United Overseas Bank (UOB)

The preliminary approval is valid for 12 months during which the successful Applicants will have to fulfill the commitments made in their answer to the RFP (Application), take all necessary measures to ensure functional banking operation from day one of business and will have to comply with requirements laid down by the Central Bank of Myanmar.

Upon fulfillment of the above-stated, the Central Bank of Myanmar will grant the final License to operate in Myanmar.

The goodwill, patience, understanding, and focused efforts of all the political groups are essential now. At the same time, only when the nationwide ceasefire agreement is concluded successfully, can we start political dialogue to shape the country’s future. This dialogue will enable stability, successful holding of the 2015 general elections, and smooth continuation of political reforms. I especially urge that we set aside personal, party, and political differences and instead focus on sustaining the momentum of political reforms.

(See page 3)
**Pyithu Hluttaw**

**Nav Pyi Taw, 1 Oct** — Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw. — MNA

The Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) continued for the 13th day session on Wednesday with the Q&A session on maintenance of Sawbwa Lake, sufficient supply of water to village, construction of gravel road and town hall, and development of hotels and tourism sector.

Deputy Minister at the President Office U Aung Thein. MNA

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw. — MNA

**Nav Pyi Taw, 1 Oct** — The Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) opened the blue plaque at the Armenian Church on Wednesday morning and Wednesday evening with the Q&A session on maintenance of Sawbwa Lake, sufficient supply of water to village, construction of gravel road and town hall, and development of hotels and tourism sector.

Deputy Minister at the President Office U Aung Thein. MNA

Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said that over 147,000 acres of water of villages in 2015-16 fiscal year.

The Union government has provided necessary assistance for flood-hit farmlands in Bago Region and some regions and states due to heavy rains. Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said that over 147,000 acres of water of villages in 2015-16 fiscal year.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) said that it is necessary to provide aid to flood-hit farmlands in Bago Region and some regions and states due to heavy rains. Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw said that over 147,000 acres of water of villages in 2015-16 fiscal year.

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**Yangon chief minister and Armenian archbishop open blue plaque at Armenian Church**

**Yangon, 1 Oct** — Armenian Archbishop Karken II and party visited Yangon Heritage Trust on Wednesday morning and viewed the ancient buildings being preserved by Yangon Heritage Trust. In the afternoon, the archbishop and party attended the opening ceremony of the blue plaque at the Armenian Church of St John the Baptist at the corner of Merchant Street and Bo Aung不会再.

**Parliament**

**Nav Pyi Taw, 1 Oct** — Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Tin Aung Chit explained the strategic plan for stability and development of Rakhine State at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on Wednesday.

In order to restore stability and the rule of law in Rakhine State, a border guard police force has been formed with 3,600 personnel from Myanmar Police Force, Immigration and National Registration Department and Customs Department in addition to a naval police force for security in the sea, the deputy minister said.

In Rakhine State, the ratio of people and police reaches 1:500 while the ratio for the entire country is only 1:900, according to the deputy minister.

The deputy minister added that a total of 2,812 barracks and 1342 houses have been built so far for the resettlement of the victims while eight ministers are carrying out tasks for socioeconomic development of the locals with K 1.11 billion special reserve funds of the Union Government.

To patrol the waterways, authorities will prevent illegal immigrants from entering into the country and the naval police force will be provided with full weapons and equipment to respond to the activities of the illegal immigrants, the deputy minister said.

Police forces will also be trained and reinforced where necessary to prevent conflicts and to control riots more effectively.

In coordination with INGOs and NGOs, resettlement plans will be implemented in order to build houses for the victims in Sittway, Pauktaung, Myebon, Yanbye and Maungtaw, to provide fuels for cooking, transportation, communication and health-care services to them, to collect population statistics and to support the livelihood of the victims, the deputy minister said.

The resettlement plans were discussed with local communities from July to September in 2014 and infrastructure development projects including houses, roads, schools, clinics and shops will be built from October 2014 to March 2015, the deputy minister added.

The deputy minister believes that the internally displaced people can be relocated during the period of March 2014 to March 2015 if the plans are implemented with the agreement of the local people.

Assistance for socioeconomic development, food, shelter, tools will extend from July 2014 to December 2015, and roads for local transportation, industrial zones and hotel zones to create job opportunities will be built during the same period, the deputy minister concluded.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session put the discussions on the record.—MNA

**Strategic plan to be implemented for stability and development of violence-hit Rakhine State**

**Nav Pyi Taw, 1 Oct** — As pensions for retirees have been raised for only about one year, the government has no plan to increase them again, Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung said at the Amyotha Hluttaw on Wednesday.

He was responding to the question raised by a representative who asked whether the government has a plan to increase pensions for retirees.

Pensions for retirees at present for Agriculture and Irrigation U Khin Zaw responded to the question whether the government has plans to improve and carry out maintenance work at Kandaw Reservoir. He said his ministry will ask for the budget allocation in 2015-16 fiscal year to dredge and carry out maintenance tasks at the reservoir.

Afterwards, the representatives discussed the proposal to urge the union government to publish and enforce Myanmar National Building Code. Most representatives pointed out that it is important to abide by the code. Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint said that his ministry will take necessary measures to approve the draft code. The Amyotha Hluttaw Session approved the proposal.

MNA

4-percent interest rate for five years on 6 June, 2014. “Terms and conditions of the loan agreement are under discussion prior to seeking approval of the Central Bank of Myanmar, reaching a final stage”, said the managing director.

The BIDV, a large state-owned bank in Vietnam, rent a place in the Hoang Anh Gia Lai Myanmar Centre being built in downtown Yangon for its future plan in Myanmar, said Pham Minh Tuan, the deputy head of BIDV’s Representative Office which was established in Yangon in April, 2010.

MNA
Government, parliament, judiciary, Tatmadaw, Myanmar...
(from page 1)

At the end of September, I paid goodwill visits to Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. The reform process and our nation taking a respected place in the global community will require assistance from our international friends. I have been making these foreign trips in order to convey the progress of the reforms, democratic transition and peace building efforts.

As Myanmar’s international image improves, commerce and trade will increase, promoting the economic development of the country. While economic development is vital for the nation’s stability, stability is an essential component in strengthening our society’s democratic transition.

The countries I visited have advanced economies, technologies and human development. I was able to gain some valuable insight into their federal systems of government, education systems, institutions, efforts improving human development, and economic strategies. I also took note of potential areas of cooperation.

During the visit, we exchanged ideas on transitioning Myanmar’s economy from resource extraction to one based on skills, manufacturing, research and tourism. We also discussed capacity building of the workforce by providing more training.

Trade and investment will follow improving international relations, and Myanmar citizens must prepare to seize opportunities available to them in the various economic sectors.

On September 23rd, I met with ministers attending the 36th ASEAN Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry, hosted by Myanmar in Nay Pyi Taw. I urged ASEAN nations to put more efforts for sustainable agricultural development and food production. Additionally, I challenged ASEAN member states to double their efforts to conserve natural resources including water and forest resources, and to protect the ecological system.

Our country’s water and land are nature’s valuable contributions to the agriculture sector. Transitioning from traditional farming to modern efficient methods is crucial for rural development and poverty reduction. Therefore, the development of the agriculture sector is a strategic focus of my government.

There are currently two areas of concern for Myanmar and other ASEAN members. The first concern is the threat of fast-spreading viruses. Although viruses are not new, increased international travel and rise in population accelerate their spread. While we empathize with the people in West Africa, where theEbola virus originates, we must also be concerned about the spread of the virus in our region. Adding to these worries are dangers of chemical and biological attacks. Therefore, ASEAN members must cooperatively deal with these dangers.

The second challenge that the ASEAN region faces is the threat of rising sea levels due to climate change. Some of our cities are already experiencing this phenomenon. We will continue to face increasing weather-related issues due to climate change. Indeed, our country experienced a cyclone that claimed over one hundred thousand lives. Although recovery and rehabilitation work was undertaken, the task of restoring the psychological damage to those affected continues today.

Therefore, in learning from these experiences, our region must develop long-term strategies to face the dangers of climate change. Since climate change is also a global concern, ASEAN must speak with a collective voice, vision and position.

Currently, violent beliefs are threatening human rights and peace around the world. Although there is no need for alarm at the recent threats made against Myanmar, we should nevertheless be alert and take necessary precautions. As a result of political reforms, we are certain to encounter issues and threats from those taking advantage of our liberalized and freer society for personal gain. These bad actors were responsible for the ethnic and religious conflicts our country experienced recently.

Now that the groups who are intent on obstructing the development of the country are able to spread their incitement, citizens must show their awareness and respond decisively. Indeed, our society has a long history of living harmoniously despite our differences.

In spite of differences in ethnicity and race, we all live, work and thrive side by side on Myanmar soil, and share a love of the Union. With these values as the foundation, we must all resist and not be deceived by the efforts of a few troublemakers to cause discord among our fellow citizens. I urge the government, parliament, judiciary, Tatmadaw, Myanmar Police Force, political parties, organizations and citizens to join hands, in patriotic spirit, to prevent violence and conflict.

In conclusion, I would like to inform you that I continue to strive for achieving internal peace, improving livelihoods, and ensuring a brighter future for our children.

I wish you all good health.

Commander-in-Chief enjoys Sepak Takraw event, meets Daewoo Co’s President

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyi Kyi Hla together with Korean Major General Kim Yong-woo and wife enjoyed a Myanmar Vs Laos Sepak Takraw event of the 27th Asian Games at Bucheon Stadium in Bucheon of the Republic of Korea on Wednesday morning

After the match, the Commander-in-Chief presented cash prizes to Myanmar athletes and gave encouragement to them.

At 10:30 am, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and party met the President of Daewoo International Co., Ltd at Samcheonggak Restaurant in Seoul to discuss the work progress of the company in Myanmar. After the meeting, the Myanmar delegation attended a luncheon hosted by the company’s President Mr Jeon Beyong II at there and exchanged their gifts.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets former Norwegian PM

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann cordially greets former Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Kjell Magne Bondevik.—MNA

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann met former Norwegian Prime Minister Mr Kjell Magne Bondevik, president of the Oslo Center for Peace and Human Rights, and party on Wednesday at Zabuthiri Hall of the Hluttaw Building.

Also present were Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

CBM grants preliminary approval...
(from page 1)

Each foreign bank would be allowed to open a branch at only one location, to operate wholesale banking and to lend money to foreign investment companies and local banks.

The foreign banks would also be allowed to lend money to local companies through local banks or to lend a syndicated loan to local companies in cooperation with local banks. They are not initially allowed to operate retail banking. Each foreign bank is required to invest minimum US$ 75 million capital and some percent of its capital will be locked-in and it is not allowed to take all $75 million capital out of the country, said U Set Aung, Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar.—GNLM
Lanterns, decoration lightings in various designs attract Mandalarians

Mandalay, 1 Oct—As Thadingyut festival is drawing near, sales of local made paper lanterns are on high demand in Mandalay.

Most of the paper lanterns are made in Yangon. The producers take care of customers’ favorite designs with water melons, cubic, flowers and so on in line with the Myanmar tradition. The products are sold at about K400 in maximum, so the people buy the paper lanterns.

This year, the colourful paper lanterns made in Myanmar have not flowed into the market in Mandalay yet. However, about 20 types of toys made in China have occupied the market shares for the Thadingyut festival, raising prices with 10 per cent more than that of the previous year, said Daw Saw Kaythi Nwe, a paper lantern shop owner.

“The toys made of disco lighting and songs are on high demand in the toy market. With regard to the lanterns, the lanterns made of textile are more favorite of the people than the paper lanterns. The paper lanterns are sold at K250 to K2,500 per product but the textile lanterns at K7,500 in maximum,” she said. This year, vendors sell glass lanterns made in China. The glass is decorated with paintings. A bulb has been installed in the lantern so it is easy to light the lantern with power line. It is sold at K9,000 per product and the best one at K20,000. The four-step lanterns are sold at K15,000-K25,000.

To decorate the housing, the series of bulbs in various designs are flowing into the market. The cables of bulb series are 12 feet to 35 feet, sold at K1,500 to K7,000. Significantly, the lighting trees are also fetching the high demand in the market this year. Lighting trees sold at K19,000 to K48,000 respectively.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay)

Trainees under book-keeping course for emerald green project

Launglon, 1 Oct—Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development conducted a training course for keeping accounts for tasks of emerald green project in 2014-15 fiscal year at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Launglon Township of Taninthayi Region on 29 September. Region, district and township departmental officials gave lectures on the methods of book-keeping and accountancy course to the trainees. A total of 20 trainees from 10 villages attended the course where the head of the Township Rural Development Department and staff gave lectures to them.—Launglon Township IPRD

Mandalay, 1 Oct—The workshop on Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative – MEITI took place at the hall of Hotel Mandalay at the corner of 78th and 38th streets in Mahaungmye Township of Mandalay on Tuesday.

Mandalay Region Minister for Forestry and Mining U Than Soe Myint made an opening address.

The deputy leader of the Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative explained arrangements of Myanmar for membership at the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative held in Mexico and facts about EITI and its standards.

The mining and geologists discussed financial transparency in mining works in Mandalay Region and the ways to overcome challenges.

It was attended by Mandalay Region Hluttaw representatives, officials of Ministry of Mines, General Administration Department and Myanmar Correctional Department, gold miners in Mandalay Region, miners and geologists.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)
Region Chief Minister attends opening of buildings in basic education schools

MONYWA, 1 Oct—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye and region authorities attended the opening of the new school building at No 8 Basic Education Post-Primary School in Kantahtay Ward of Monywa in Sagaing Region on 27 September.

Headmistress U Zaw Lwin reported on history of the school and handed over documents related to the school to officials.

The Chief Minister and officials presented one 22-inch TV, copy books, sports gear and periodicals to the school official.

The chief minister also attended the opening of the upgraded MEHS Branch in Nyaungbin Village. He donated one set of computer, copy books and publications to officials.

The first school building cost K20.6 million and the second one, K144 million.

Teak plantations thriving along NyaungU-Myingyan Road

NYAUNGU, 1 Oct—Forest Department under the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry has been growing teak plants on the vacant and virgin lands in Auknyint Village along NyaungU-Myingyan Road in NyaungU Township of Mandalay Region year by year.

At present, teak plantations are thriving beside Thagaungti river water pumping station in Auknyint Village and at Myayhne Village in NyaungU Township.

“In the past, the teak plantation was grown as rural plantation in Auknyint Village. We had taken care of the teak plantation. If Forest Department allows us to take care of teak plantation, we can do it. If not, the department should nurture the plantation as the State-owned one to have better improvement,” said a local.—Kyaw Htay (NyaungU)

Dawei University of Technology to get workshop building

DAWEI, 1 Oct—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of the workshop building was held at University of Technology in Dawei in Taninthay Region on 30 September.

Taninthayi Region Minister for Electric Power and Industry U Win Swe, Deputy Commissioner of Dawei District U Thein Aung, Principal of the university Dr Aung Naing Myint and BOD member of TM Engineering Co Ltd U Zaw Zaw Tun drove stakes for the workshop building.

The workshop building will be of RC type and it will be 125 feet long, 60 feet wide and 22 feet high. The region government funded K219 million for the building in 2014-15 fiscal year.

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Authorities of Myanaung Tsp arrange irrigation to farmlands

MYANNAUNG, 1 Oct—Township Agricultural Improvement Committee is striving for supply of water to irrigate the monsoon paddy plantations in Myanaung Township of Ayeyawady Region as the rainfall was lesser in September.

The committee arranged supply of water from Kazunkhon river water pumping station and Ngapiseik river water pumping station to the farmlands as of 4.30 p.m. on 30 September.

Myitkyo river water pumping station is being installed with machinery to irrigate the farmlands.

Ma Mya and Kunchaung Dams are now supplying water to the paddy fields as of 24 September, said Township Administrator U Min Min Tun.—Win Bo (Township IPRD)

People still hope for buying low-priced SIM cards in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 1 Oct—The local authorities and Myanma Posts and Telecommunications do not know the list of wholesale companies and retailer shops allowed to sell SIM cards of MPT to the people in Kachin State, said an official of Communications Station of Mohnyin Township in Kachin State recently.

The department stores in the urban area announced that MPT SIM cards are available at the shops but they sell the cards to the people at street prices. The local people hope for purchasing K1,500 per MPT SIM cards.—NLM-001

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Obama, Modi eye boosting naval cooperation, 3-way talks with Japan

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct—US President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday discussed the possibility of enhancing US technological assistance for the Indian Navy and agreed to hold trilateral foreign ministerial talks with Japan.

The US and Indian leaders, who met for the first time, shared concern about rising tensions over maritime territorial disputes in the Asia-Pacific region, especially the South China Sea, according to a joint statement released after their talks in the White House.

Obama and Modi, who took office in May, “agreed to intensify cooperation in maritime security to ensure freedom of navigation” in accordance with accepted principles of international law, it said.

“We will help prevent political crisis after elections in the country’s stuttering economy, especially the South China Sea,” CNRP lawmaker Kom Rathna, who agreed to end the op- position’s 10-month boycott of the parliament in exchange for an overhaul of the electoral system and a power sharing within par- liament. “I have strong confidence that this amendment to the Constitution will help NEC to work inde- pendently to ensure free and fair elections and it will help prevent political crisis after elections in the future.” CNRP lawmaker Eng Chhay Eang, chairman of the assembly’s commis- sion on human rights, complaints, and investigation, said at the assembly floor.

The leaders mentioned no specific country but China has been involved in territorial disputes and maritime clashes with other countries in the East China Sea and South China Sea.

The United States has proposed enhancing technological support for India’s ongoing construc- tion of the aircraft carrier Vikrant, according to a source in the Indian De- fense Ministry.

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Three killed by alleged leftist rebels in N Philippines

MANILA, 1 Oct—Two soldiers and a civilian were shot dead by alleged mem- bers of the leftist rebel group of New People’s Army (NPA) in north Phil- ippine province of Quezon, a military official said on Wednesday.

Two soldiers and their female civilian companion were gunned down at around 7:45 pm local time 1145 (GMT) on Tuesday by a group of men who lat- er identified themselves as NPA members, said Rhod- erick Parayno, commander of the Philippine Army’s 201st Brigade.

Parayno said the three were attending a friend’s birthday party in barangay San Vicente in Gumaca city. He described the incident as “brutal mur- ders,” noting that the sol- diers were wearing civil- ian clothes and were not armed. “The victims were shot at close range. But the rebels closed in and fired more rounds of AK47 ri- fles and cal 45 pistols at the soldiers, making them beyond recognition,” said Parayno.

The woman could have survived since she was able to run, but the NPA’s chased her, he add- ed.—Xinhua

Cambodian parliament makes NEC constitutionally independent

Pnom Penh, 1 Oct—The National Assembly of Cambodia on Wednesday amended the Constitution to make the National Elec- tion Committee (NEC) a constitutionally mandated and independent body.

About 120 of the 123 lawmakers, who attended the session, unanimously adopted the amendment to the Constitution.

The inclusion of the NEC into the Constitu- tion came after the 22 July agreement between Prime Minister Hun Sen and Sam Rainsy, President of the op- position Cambodia Nation- al Rescue Party (CNRP), who agreed to end the op- position’s 10-month boycot- t of the parliament in exchange for an overhaul of the electoral system and a power sharing within parli- ment.

“I have strong confidence that this amendment to the Constitution will help NEC to work inde- pendently to ensure free and fair elections and it will help prevent political crisis after elections in the future,” CNRP lawmaker Eng Chhay Eang, chairman of the assembly’s commis- sion on human rights, com- plaints, and investigation, said at the assembly floor.

Pen Panha, lawmak- er from ruling Cambodian People’s Party (CPP), also chairman of the assembly’s commis- sion on legislation and justice, said the amend- ment to the Constitution was made in conformity with the principles of democ- racy and the rule of law.

Obama and Modi committed to work more closely with other Asia-Pa- cific countries through dia- logues and joint exercises.

In that context the United States and India “underlined the importance of their trilateral dialogue with Japan and decided to explore holding this dia- logue among their foreign ministers,” the statement said. Modi agreed with Jap- anese Prime Minister Shin- zo Abe to hold a trilateral foreign ministerial meet- ing with the United States when they met in Tokyo on 1 September. Obama and Modi agreed to enhance cooper- ation to tackle challenges such as energy security and climate change and combat terrorism including inci- dents involving militants of the Islamic State in Iraq and Levant, according to the statement.

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Gasic says Serbia to remain military neutral

Belgrade, 1 Oct — Serbian Defence Minister Bratislav Gasic said on Tuesday that Serbia and its army will remain neutral in military terms.

"The ones who signed all contracts with NATO in 2006 are now criticizing our acts. Serbia, the Ministry of Defence, the Serbian Armed Forces and the Serbian government adhere to the contractual obligations imposed in the previous period when the Partnership for Peace Programme was signed with NATO," Gasic said.

He underlined that the Ministry of Defence and the Serbian Armed Forces are military neutral, and that they have friends both in the east and the west.

"We have a great number of joint actions with the Russian Federation, the United States of America and other partners. The Serbian Armed Forces is thus raising its operational capability, experience and knowledge to the highest level. This is not a silent accession or any other kind of accession," the Serbian parliament has made a decision that Serbia is neutral in military terms and end of story," Gasic said.

Serbian Defence Minister Bratislav Gasic said on Tuesday that preparations for the military parade marking the 70th anniversary since the liberation of Belgrade are well under way, and that it will be attended by all those who fought side by side with the Serbian soldiers to liberate the capital from occupying forces in both world wars.

The preparations started much earlier, but the information reached the media only now.

All the surveys have already been completed, as well as the plan. The work is carried out as planned, in cooperation with the City of Belgrade," Gasic told reporters.

Belgrade has not seen a military parade of such a grand scale as it is planned for October since 1985, he noted.

"The Serbian army is ready and eager to show what it has achieved in the previous period in terms of modernization and organization, by meeting certain standards after 2006," Gasic said.

When asked if invitations will be extended to guests from the former Yugoslavia republics, the defence minister replied that the parade will be attended by all who liberated the Serbian capital.

"All the flags under which the City of Belgrade was liberated in both First and Second World War will be there. We will invite all our friends who fought side by side with our soldiers, the army of Serbia and Yugoslavia, to liberate Belgrade," said Gasic.

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Russia forms 2 motor rifle brigades for Arctic army grouping — commander

Moscow, 1 Oct — Two separate motor rifle brigades will be included in Russian army grouping in the Arctic region in 2015-2016, Chief Commander of Russian Ground Troops Colonel-General Oleg Salyukov told reporters on Wednesday.

"A separate motor rifle brigade [in the Arctic region] is about to be formed in Murmansk region. A second motor rifle brigade will be set up in the course of 2016 in the Yamal-Nenets Autonomous Area," he said.

A northern separate strategic command will be formed in the Arctic region on the basis of the Northern Fleet by the end of this year, a high-ranking source in Russian Defence Ministry told TASS earlier.

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US, S Korea says differently on missile deployment in S Korea

Seoul, 1 Oct — The United States and South Korea showed different responses to the alleged US plan to deploy its advanced missile-defense battery to the Korean Peninsula as a second US defence official confirmed the two allies are in discussions on the deployment.

US Deputy Secretary of Defense Robert Work was quoted by Yonhap News Agency as saying on Wednesday that "We are working with the government of South Korea now to determine if that (the deployment) is the right thing to do.

Work said the United States is considering sending a Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile battery to South Korea, noting his country has already moved one THAAD battery to Guam "in response to provocations" from the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK).

His remark contrasted with what the South Korean Defence Ministry said that the United States neither has requested the THAAD deployment nor has the two countries held any discussions on the issue. Local newspaper Donga Ilbo reported on 5 September that talks about bringing a THAAD battery into South Korea “are at the final stage,” and the result could be officially announced as early as in October when defence chiefs of the two countries hold their annual Security Consultative Meeting in Washington.

"We are considering very carefully whether or not to put a THAAD in South Korea. We’re doing site surveys,” said Work.

Donga Ilbo reported that a THAAD missile battery was highly likely to be deployed to a US Forces Korea (USFK) base in Pyeongtaek, some 70 km south of Seoul.

The United States reportedly has been under internal review on whether to deploy the THAAD in South Korea since former USFK commander James Thurman proposed it in 2011. Current USFK commander Gen Curtis Scaparrotti said in early June that he called for Washington to bring the THAAD into the peninsula.

Former South Korean Defence Minister Kim Kwan-jin, who now serves as top national security adviser to President Park Geun-hye, told lawmakers in mid-June that it would be "no matter" if the United States forces deploy the THAAD. —Xinhua

Shinkansen bullet train marks 50 years of service

Tokyo, 1 Oct — Japan’s shinkansen bullet train, a symbol of the country’s postwar economic boom, marked 50 years of service on Wednesday, with the milestone celebrated in a ceremony at Tokyo Station.

A state-of-the-art N700A train left the station bound for Fukuoka, southwestern Japan, at 6 am, watched by officials of operator Central Japan Railway Co (JR Tokai) and invited to the ceremony born the same year as the super express. Similar ceremonies were held in Shizuoka and Nagoya in central Japan and Osaka, western Japan.

The Tokaido Shinkansen Line revolutionized the country’s transport network when it began service on 1 Oct, 1964, nine days before the opening of the Tokyo Olympics. It was at the time the world’s fastest train, with a top speed of 210 kilometres per hour, traveling the 315 km between Tokyo and Osaka in four hours.

Shinkansen lines now travel the route at up to 270 kph, taking just two hours and 25 minutes to connect the two Japanese metropolises, with the top speed set to be raised to 285 kph from next spring.

The line has carried a total of 5.6 billion passengers with trains traveling a cumulative 2 billion km, the equivalent of 50,000 trips around the Earth, through its history. An average of 242,000 passengers use it daily nowadays, compared with over 60,000 in its first year.

The shinkansen “is representative of Japanese technology and the embodiment of the powers of many companies,” said JR Tokai President Koei Tsuge at the ceremony. “We will continue to deliver safer, more comfortable and more precise-time transportation.”

Subsequent shinkansen lines have extended the network across Japan as far as Aomori Prefecture in the north and Kagoshima Prefecture in the southwest.

Kyodo News

A shinkansen bullet train departs JR Tokyo Station for Fukuoka on 1 Oct, 2014, in a ceremony to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the launch of Tokaido Shinkansen bullet train services connecting Tokyo with Osaka.

Kyodo News

"We have a great number of joint actions with the Russian Federation, the United States of America and other partners. The Serbian Armed Forces is thus raising its operational capability, experience and knowledge to the highest level. This is not a silent accession or any other kind of accession," the Serbian parliament has made a decision that Serbia is neutral in military terms and end of story," Gasic said.

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Kyodo News
Never tolerate hatred-instigators

By Myint Win Thein

Myanmar is experiencing unprecedented ethnic and religious conflicts at the most important time in the history of the country. People of Myanmar are trying to build a democratic society which they have desired for decades. Democratic transition of Myanmar will degenerate into anarchism if Myanmar people allow these conflicts to grow into full-blown violence. It is clear that these conflicts are being exploited by mischievous people.

As a result, peace in Myanmar is being threatened by extremes in religious beliefs at the moment because some people are taking advantages of freedom resulted from reforms in our society.

Despite the difference the race and religious belief, Myanmar people have had a tradition of living harmoniously with other races and religious. Myanmar kings donated land and cash for mosques and churches that were built at home and abroad. We should praise them for their farsightedness.

Truly patriot people of Myanmar should be aware of this and strongly oppose those groups who are inciting hatred among the citizens as the unscrupulous people will drag our country into an abyss.

For their own future, citizens of Myanmar must tolerate the followers of other faiths but must not tolerate those who are instigating hatred among fellow citizens regardless of who they are. The hatred among fellow citizens will lead to the disintegrations of the union.

Write for us

We appreciate your feedback and contributions. If you have any comments or would like to submit editorials, analyses or reports please email wallace.tun@gmail.com with your name and title.

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish “Letter to the Editor” that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your letter will be edited.

Iron Mind/Will : Very strong and determined mind.
Resilience : The ability of people or things to feel better quickly after something unpleasant, such as shock, injury etc.
Endurance : The ability to continue doing something painful or difficult for a long period of time without complaining.

EFFECTIVENESS

The capability to produce successfully the result that is wanted or intended. Effectiveness is doing the Right things which are essential to achieve the set goal.

EFFICIENCY

The quality of doing something well with no waste of time, money or energy. Efficiency is doing the things RIGHT, bringing about better productivity.

CONCLUSION

Living a sober, serene and successful life means living with purpose, progress, prosperity and peace. It means living life by understanding the purpose of life more clearly, living life appreciating the beauty of life more dearly and living life uplifting the human values more nearly.

U Kyi Mun residing in Yangon is a consultant of NAING Group Capital Co., Ltd.

Myanmar: ICRC expands dialogue on policing standards in Kachin State

YANGON, 1 Oct — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Myanmar Police Force launched a four-day seminar in Myitkyina, Kachin State, on Tuesday, dealing with international policing standards and the exercise of police powers. This is the first such seminar for police officers at Kachin State level.

Running until 3 October, the seminar brings together 32 police officers from the ranks of Lieutenant to Lieutenant-Colonel. John Erik Jensen, the ICRC’s regional police expert with more than 30 years of experience as a police officer, is running the seminar.

“We are delighted to continue expanding our dialogue with the Myanmar Police Force,” said Jürg Montani, the ICRC’s head of delegation in Myanmar. “Through its work with police forces around the world, the ICRC has gained expertise in addressing the challenges facing law-enforcement officers in a wide variety of situations. We look forward to fruitful exchanges of experience this week and in the future.”

The seminar in Myitkyina follows similar events held for senior Myanmar police officers in Nay Pyi Taw and Sittway in 2013.

“Through presentations, videos, case studies and practical exercises, the workshop focused on the discretionary use of police powers. As in previous seminars, topics covered included public-order management and riot control, the use of force and firearms, arrest and detention, and search practices. Participants were introduced to the ICRC’s role and activities in Myanmar and throughout the world.”

The ICRC opened its office in Kachin state in March 2013. In partnership with the Myanmar Red Cross Society, the ICRC also helps develop sources of income for conflict affected communities.

Vocational courses given to trainees in Dimawhso

DIMAWHSO, 1 Oct—United Nations Development Program and Small-scale Industries Department (SSID) jointly conducted the tailoring course, the motorcycle servicing course and carpenter course at the town hall in Dimawhso Township of Kayah State.

The concluding ceremony of the training courses was held at the same venue on Wednesday, with remarks by Chairman of the Township Development Supportive Committee U Myint Aung and Senior Engineer U Aung Thin of the SSID.

Officials presented certificates and prizes to the respective trainees. Area Coordinator U Tun Tun of UNDP spoke words of thanks.

Altogether 90 trainees from 20 villages in the township attended the courses.

Township IPRD
Myanmar Police Force celebrates golden jubilee

Ministry for Home Affairs Li-Gen Ko Ko with outstanding police at the ceremony to mark Golden Jubilee Anniversary of Myanmar Police Force Day.—MNA

Myanmar drafts ‘national energy efficiency policy’

Ministry of Industry, according to Union Minister U Maung Myint, Myanmar is making all-out efforts to make best use of energy without harming the environment, Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint told a workshop at Thingaung Hotel on Tuesday. He expressed his belief that the workshop would yield results which he said would lead to the emergence of green industries in the Asia-Pacific region as envisioned in the United Nations Millennium Goals.

Mass emission of green house gases triggers climate change, with the union minister saying that Myanmar has introduced a green economic development plan to ensure rural development, individual income growth, and creation of more jobs.

He also explained the previous activities to upgrade the MPF, thereby enabling the MPF not only to strengthen internal security during a period of democratic transition and in the future but also to actively participate in the global fight against crime. He stressed the need of crime prevention, rather than reactive, highlighting the objectives of democratic policing, the importance of police members’ commitment to the rule of law, policing ethics, and human right standards. During the ceremony, the Union minister and the MPF chief presented medals, certificates of honour and gifts to outstanding police officers and duty conscious persons.

Showcase Malaysia 2014 launched

YANGON, 1 Oct — The Showcase Malaysia 2014 kicked off at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road in Dagon Township on Wednesday. Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe and Deputy Executive Officer Mdm Susila Devi of Malaysia Trade Cooperation Department formally opened the Showcase Malaysia 2014.

A total of 89 Malaysian companies display automobiles, construction materials, electric and electronic, personal goods, health care and training equipment, cosmetics and furniture, education, information and communication technology and business services at 89 booths of the trade fair that will last up to 4 October.

Myanmar-Germany: Partners in Transition discussed at seminar

YANGON, 1 Oct — Mr Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortisch, German Ambassador to Myanmar, led a seminar on partners in transition of Myanmar and Germany organized by Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies on Tuesday at the latter’s office here. The ambassador said Germany is the second top partner of Myanmar which has been provided development assistance to the country, recognizing Myanmar’s political and economic reforms.

He also discussed Myanmar-Germany relations and measures for bilateral cooperation in political, economic, social and education sectors.

Mr Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortisch, German Ambassador to Myanmar talks partners in transition of Myanmar and Germany.—MNA

Plans to promote health care services through public-private partnership

NAVPYITAW, 1 Oct — Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security, said Wednesday that implementation of social security project plays a major role in reducing poverty alleviation of the country.

At the first meeting of the Medical Advisory Group to the Social Security Board in Nay Pyi Taw, U Aye Myint added the project is one of the country’s development tasks, which is also vital to provide better social protection to employees. He said the ministry is planning to promote health care services through public-private partnership (PPP) as well as to appoint health-care providers in three workers’ hospitals and 93 clinics to offer fully protection to social security card holders.

The Union Minister also explained the previous activities to upgrade three workers’ hospitals of Social Security Board and actions of mobile medical health services. Union Minister U Aye Myint invited suggestions of the members of medical advisory group to successfully implement the project under the current Social Security Law.

DICA adds its branch office in Mon State

NAVPYITAW, 1 Oct — Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development opened its branch office in Mawlamyine Township in Mon State on Wednesday, aimed at providing quick and easy business services to entrepreneurs from Mon State and Kayin State, and Thanlwin Region.

Those businesspersons can get easy access to link with the Myanmar Investment Commission to carry out their investment-related issues and company registration, source said. The Ministry has future plan to increase its branches in regions and states. In 2014, two DICA branch offices were added in Mandalay and Taunggyi.

The opening ceremony was attended by Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Union Minister for Energy U Zeyar Aung, Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint, officials and business owners.

MNA

7th Bali Democracy Forum to be held on 10-11 Oct

NAVPYITAW, 1 Oct — The Indonesian government will host its seventh Bali Democracy Forum (BDF) on 10th and 11th October at Bali of Indonesia, according to the embassy of the Republic of Indonesia.

The theme of the forum is “Evolving Regional Democratic Architecture: the Dynamics of Political Development, Socio-Economic Progress and Public Participation in the Democratic Process”. Media representatives may register online at http://bdf.kemlu.go.id not later than 5th October, source said.

For more information, those may contact (+62-21) 3813453, (+62-21) 3441508 ext; 4519, (+62) 85312719856 and media.reg@kemlu.go.id of Mr Irmam A Nasefton.
Australian aircraft to support US-led air strikes in Iraq

SYDNEY, 1 Oct — Australian aircraft will join the US-led coalition in air strikes against Islamic State insurgents in Iraq in an initial support role, Prime Minister Tony Abbott said on Wednesday, ahead of a final decision to undertake bombing missions.

The United States has been bombing Islamic State and other groups in Syria for a week with the help of Arab allies, and hitting targets in neighbouring Iraq since August. Europe's countries have joined the campaign in Iraq but not in Syria.

Last month, Abbott sent 10 aircraft and some 600 personnel to the United Arab Emirates in preparation for joining the coalition and has since said Australian involvement in air strikes was likely to combat the “murderous death cult”.

“We have not yet made a final decision to commit our forces to combat but Australian aircraft from today will start flying over Iraq in support of allied operations,” Abbott told parliament. “Australian air strikes await final clearances from the Iraqi Government and a further decision by our own.”

Australia is on high alert for attacks by radicalized Muslims or by home-grown militants returning from fighting in the Middle East, having raised its threat level to high and undertaken a series of high-profile raids in major cities.

Officials believe up to 160 Australians have either been involved in fighting in the Middle East or actively supporting it. At least 20 are believed to have returned to Australia and pose a security risk. One man was charged on Tuesday with funding a terrorist organization, while another was arrested last month after police said they thwarted a plot to behead a random member of the public.

The Australian contingent in the UAE is made up of eight Super Hornet fighter jets, an early warning and control aircraft, an aerial refuelling aircraft, along with 400 air force personnel and 200 special force soldiers.— Reuters

Kurds seize Iraq/Syria border post; Sunni tribe joins fight against Islamic State

ANSA (Iraq) , 1 Oct — Iraqi Kurdish troops drove Islamic State fighters from a strategic border crossing with Syria on Tuesday and won the support of members of a major Sunni tribe, in one of the biggest successes since US forces began bombing the Islamists.

The victory, which could make it harder for militants to operate on both sides of the frontier, was also achieved with help from Kurds from the Syrian side of the frontier, a new sign of cooperation across the border.

Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga fighters took control of the Rabia border crossing in a battle that began before dawn, an Iraqi Kurdish political source said.

“It’s the most important strategic point for crossing,” the source said.

The participation of Sunni tribal fighters in the battle against Islamic State could prove as important a development as the advance itself.

Members of the influential Shammar tribe, one of the largest in northwest- ern Iraq, joined the Kurds in the fighting, a tribal figure said.

“Rabia is completely liberated. All of the Sham- mar are with the Pesh- merga, and there is full cooperation between us,” Abdullah Yawar, a leading member of the tribe, told Reuters.

He said the cooperation was the result of an agreement with the president of Iraq’s Kurdish re-

gion after three months of negotiation to join forces against the “common ene-

emy”. Gaining support from Sunni tribes, many of which either supported or acquiesced in Islamic State’s June advance, would be a crucial object of the US government and its regional and Western allies in the fight against the insurgents.

Winning over Sunni tribes was a central part of the strategy that helped the US military defeat a pre-
cursor of Islamic State during the “surge” campaign of 2006-2007. Washington hopes the new Iraqi government can repeat it.

Rabia controls the main highway linking Syria to Mosul, the biggest city in northern Iraq, which Islamic State fighters cap-
tured in June at the start of a lightning advance through Iraq’s Sunni Muslim north that jolted the Middle East.

Twelve Islamic State fighters’ bodies lay on the border at the crossing after the battle, Hemin Hawrami, head of the foreign relations department of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, one of the main Ira-
qi Kurdish parties, said on Twitter.

Syrian Kurdish fighters said they had also joined the battle: “We are defending Rabia ... trying to co-
ordinate action with the Peshmerga against Islamic State,” said Saleh Muslim, head of the Syria-based Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD).— Reuters

Syrian minister says Syria coordinates air strikes with US via mediator

DAMAScus, 30 Sept, 2014. Haidar said Syria is coordinating with the United States “through a mediator” in conducting airstrikes against targets of the Islamic State militant group.

KyoDo News

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KyoDo News

Kurdish security forces, known as Peshmerga, clash with the Islamic State (IS) militants in some villages near Kirkuk, Iraq, on 30 Sept, 2014. Kurdish security forces on Tuesday retook control of a border town with Syria and several other villages from the hands of the Islamic State (IS) militants after heavy clashes in northern Iraq, security sources said.— Xinhua

Islamic State flags flutter on the Mullah Abdullah bridge in southern Kirkuk on 29 Sept, 2014.— Reuters
Sony launches $50,000 4K home projector in US

New York, 1 Oct — Sony Corp began selling on Tuesday in the United States a family-use “4K” projector capable of casting images up to 147 inches onto a wall.

The 4K Ultra Short Throw Projector, utilizing 4K technology which displays four times sharper than current high-definition resolutions, is priced at $50,000, or 5.48 million yen. The 2.7-metre wide, 26.5-centimetre tall set including a projector, speakers and cabinets replays videos from personal computer or other electronic devices.

Sony Electronics President Mike Fasulo said at an event in New York that consumers could enjoy viewing 4K movies and displaying favourite art at home. The company began sales in New York and will expand the market to Los Angeles in a few weeks, then to Europe by next summer. It is also considering sales in Japan.

Climate change blamed for more Australian bushfires

SYDNEY, 1 Oct — Climate change is making southern Australia more vulnerable to bushfires, a new report on Wednesday has revealed. "Hot, dry conditions have a major influence on bushfires. Climate change is making hot days hotter, and heatwaves longer and more frequent, with increasing drought conditions in Australia's southeast," the Climate Council report said.

The report said 2013 was Australia’s hottest year on record and in the summer of 2012/13, the region around Canberra, Australi’a’s capital, experienced 20 days of at least 35°C. “These conditions are driving up the likelihood of very high fire danger weather. Fire frequency and intensity is expected to increase substantially in coming decades,” the report said.

According to the study, by 2030, it has been estimated that the number of professional firefighters in Australia will need to approach double (compared to 2010) to keep pace with increased population, asset value and fire danger weather.

US charges four with stealing $100 million in software, data

WASHINGTON, 1 Oct — Four members of an alleged international computer hacking ring were charged with stealing more than $100 million worth of software and data — some of it used to train military pilots and some related to Microsoft Corp’s (MSFT.O) Xbox gaming console, the US Justice Department said on Wednesday.

Two of the four — a 28-year-old New Jersey man and a 22-year-old Canadian man — pleaded guilty to charges contained in an indictment unsealed earlier in the day, the agency said.

Prosecutors said the ring gained unauthorized access to the computer networks of Microsoft and some of its partners between January 2011 and March 2014 to steal source code, technical specifications and other information. Some of the penetrations were directed at the Xbox One gaming console before its November 2013 release. The hackers tried to build a counterfeiter version of the console, according to the indictment. The hackers also stole information about pre-release versions of the “Gears of War 3” and “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 3” video games, prosecutors said.

Microsoft names next operating system ‘Windows 10’

SAN FRANCISCO, 1 Oct — Microsoft Corp announced its “Windows 10” operating system on Tuesday to replace the largely unpopular Windows 8, skipping a number to mark a leap toward unifying the way people work on tablets, phones and traditional computers.

The next version of Microsoft’s flagship product, which still runs the large majority of personal computers and is used by 1.5 billion customers worldwide, is aimed at recapturing the lucrative business market, which generally ignored the new look Windows 8.

Windows 10 will be “our greatest enterprise platform ever,” said Terry Myerson, Microsoft’s head of operating systems, at an event in San Francisco. Only 20 percent of organizations migrated to Windows 8, which was released two years ago, according to tech research firm Forrest. Many PC users disliked the touch-optimized interface and bemoaned the loss of the traditional start-but ton pop-up menu.

He said Windows 10, long known by the project name “Threshold” internal, represented a new type of system for the company, as it seeks to unify computing as mobile devices proliferate. The name represented that leap, he said. “Windows 10 adapts to the devices customers are using, from Xbox to PCs and phones to tablets and tiny gadgets,” said Myerson.

Microsoft faces an uphill struggle in regaining excitement about Windows. With the release of Apple Inc’s iPhone and iPad, and Google Inc’s Android devices, Windows no longer plays a central role in many people’s on-screen lives.

From a virtual monopoly in personal computing 10 years ago, Windows now runs only about 14 percent of devices, according to research firm Gartner. Reaction to the news was cautious. Microsoft shares fell 8 cents to $46.36 on Nasdaq.

“It’s a bold statement for Microsoft to make,” said Daniel Ives, an analyst at FBR Capital Markets. “So far there’s not as much meat on the bone as we would have wanted, although it’s still very early days.” An early version of the software, demonstrated on stage by Microsoft executive Joe Belfiore, showed two modes, one optimized for touch-controlled tablets, and one for PCs using a mouse and keyboard. Users can switch between the two depending on the device.

Myerson did not say exactly how or when the new Windows would be rolled out, but other executives said Microsoft was aiming for a full release in spring 2015.

A technical preview can be downloaded from Microsoft’s website, starting on Wednesday, for users to try out and give the company feedback.

“They were trying to start the messaging for a product that won’t actually ship until sometime around the middle of next year,” said Gartner analyst Steve Kleynhans at the event.

“This was to tell the PC installed base that there is a future and it doesn’t have to be covered over in brightly colored tiles, or force them to abandon everything they’ve learned over the past 15 years.”

Tokyo, 1 Oct — Japan will launch its Hayabusa2 asteroid explorer into space on an H-2A rocket from the Tanegashima Space Centre in Kagoshima Prefecture in southwestern Japan on 30 November, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency said on Tuesday.

The liftoff is set for 1:24 pm. The asteroid explorer is a successor probe to Hayabusa, which returned to Earth in June 2010 after its unprecedented collection of asteroid surface samples.

In seeking to clarify the origin of the solar system, Hayabusa2 ita will target an asteroid named “1999 JU3,” which comes close to Earth’s orbit, and is about 900 meters in size and deemed to have rocks containing organic matter and water.

The roughly 600-kilogram space probe is expected to reach the asteroid in 2018 and return to Earth in 2020.

“It serves to enhance our international presence to conduct challenging space exploration by making use of our nation’s scientific and technological power,” said Hakubun Shimomura, minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology, at a news conference.

The H-2A rocket will be launched by contractor Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. Also included in the payloads are three small satellites, including one developed by the Kyushu Institute of Technology.

Japan to launch space probe Hayabusa2 on 30 November

Approval to launch the Hayabusa2 asteroid explorer project was obtained at the full meeting of the Cabinet, and the launch of the H-2A rocket was announced.

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A Spanish Games — blogger is silhouetted against the logo of Microsoft’s Xbox during the Xbox Play Day 2014, before the Gamescom 2014 fair in Cologne on 12 Aug, 2014. — Reuters

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“They were trying to start the messaging for a product that won’t actually ship until sometime around the middle of next year,” said Gartner analyst Steve Kleynhans at the event.

“This was to tell the PC installed base that there is a future and it doesn’t have to be covered over in brightly colored tiles, or force them to abandon everything they’ve learned over the past 15 years.”

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New Russian spotting system to detect rocket fragments in real-time mode

MOSCOW, 1 Oct — Russia’s Ministry of Defence will start operating the newest spotting system this year to detect falling rocket fragments. The system was developed at the Khramov research and production center to spot impact areas of parts of the carrier rocket Angara, the newspaper Izvestia writes. According to the newspaper’s source at the headquarters of the Air and Space Defence Forces, the possibility is considered to use the new spotting system at the Kamchatka rocket test site Kura during tests and training launchings of ballistic missiles.

The spotting station was devised in order to detect rocket fragments in a real-time mode. Termini allotted for rocket fragments impact areas in the Komi Republic and in Tomsk Region comprise mainly forests. In Komi, an impact area delves 40 km into the “Yugyt va” national park.

The spotting station was devised in order to detect rocket fragments in a real-time mode. The station will be able to detect those waves and determine rocket fragments impact areas within difference in time during which a sonic wave is recorded by modules. The spotting station will resume operations to find survivors and retrieve bodies at the 3,067-metre volcano erupted. The eruption has claimed dozens of victims. — KYODO NEWS

Japan ranks 9th in global pensioner survey

LONDON, 1 Oct — Pensioners in Japan enjoy some of the highest standards of living in the world, according to a global league table released on Wednesday. The Global AgeWatch Index ranks Japan ninth out of 96 countries when looking at a range of indicators including life expectancy, income, welfare and facilities available to those aged over 60.

Japan leads the way in Asia and the report notes that it “has recognized the scale of the challenges presented by its aging population and has begun to implement a broad range of policies in response, from employment to long-term care.”

The report shows Japan at the top in terms of life expectancy and psychological wellbeing. Japan also values elderly people in the workplace, but does not rank so high when considering pensioners’ income security.

The United States came first, followed by Sweden. The United States came in eighth and Britain 11th. Norway came in at the top of the index overall, followed by Sweden. Afghanistan came last.

Kyodo News

Search efforts resume in Mt Ontake eruption

Tokyo, 1 Oct — Police, firefighters and the Ground Self-Defence Force resumed operations to find survivors and retrieve bodies at the 3,067-metre volcano, after interruptions due to continued volcanic activity. The eruption has claimed dozens of victims.

Kyodo News

Belgrade Waterfront information should be released

BELGRADE, 1 Oct — Rodoljub Sabic, commissioner for information of public importance and personal data protection, urged the Belgrade City Administration to release within five days the documents that would specify the number and outcome of solved restitution cases at the locality of the Belgrade Waterfront project.

Sabic urged the Belgrade City Administration to inform the Network for Restitution in Serbia — the Citizens Association for the Restitution of Confiscated Properties Belgrade, whether it has this information, namely the documents, and if it does, to issue the copies. The City Administration ignored the request and thus committed an infringement, after which the Network for Restitution in Serbia appealed to the commissioner. The City Administration has not even tried to explain the reasons of its behaviour and to voice its stance in terms of the appeal, the statement reads.

Tanjug
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (078N)  
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (078N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (037W)  
Consignees of cargo carried on MV PACIFIC TRADER VOY NO (037W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 2.10.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.
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Weather report

BAY INFERIENCE: Weather is partly cloudy in the North Bay and monsoon is feeble in the Andaman Sea and elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 2nd October, 2014: Weather will be partly cloudy in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Tanintharyi Region, Scattered in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Chin, Kayin and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).
STATE OF THE SEA: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar weather.

Public Information

In India, by an Ancient rishi called Agasthiya Muni has written the future predictions of individuals detailly in the ancient Palm leaves. If you wish to see it here in Yangon, Myanmar.
All that you have to do is, firstly you have to give your thumb impression (right hand-male, left hand-female). For each thumb impression there are separate bundles and have to search leaf by leaf and in one particular leaf it will have your name, you father’s name, mother’s name and your date of birth and by that it will be confirmed as your leaf. Future predictions will be 100% Accurate and True.
For more details visit our website : www.divine-scripts.com
For appointment in English, Hindi and Tamil Agasthiya Mahasiva Nadi Astrology Centre
Mobile : +91 9994588888
Our Head Office : Sivasram H.No-643, Sector 31, Gurgaon, Harayana-122001, India.
Jessie J, Ariana Grande, Nicki Minaj top charts with Bang Bang

LONDON, 1 Oct—Singers Jessie J, Ariana Grande and Nicki Minaj have topped the Official UK Singles Chart with ‘Bang Bang’.

Having already enjoyed chart success in the US, Europe and Australia, the trio topped the UK chart after last week’s number one ‘Changing’ by Sigma and Paloma Faith, reported MTV online.

‘Bang Bang’ is Jessie J’s first number one since ‘Domino’ in 2011 and marks the first time Minaj has topped the chart in the UK. Taylor Swift’s ‘Shake it Off’ climbed to third, while Lil’ Kim dropped to fourth, with Lily Wood and Robin Schulz’s ‘Prayer in C’ charted at five. With 1.17 million streams, Meghan Trainor became the first act in history to enter the top 40 on streams alone with ‘All About That Bass’ at 33. The song made its full debut next week.

Elsewhere, Shift K3Y’s ‘I Know’ was at 25, above Hozier’s ‘Take Me To Church’, which climbed seven places to number 28. With Sheridan Smith’s Cilla Black biopic proving popular on ITV, the singer’s ‘Anyone Who Had a Heart’ narrowly missed out on a place in the Top 40, charting instead at 47. ‘Anyone Who Had a Heart’ previously topped the chart in 1964.—PTI

My children don’t care about me being Batman: Ben Affleck

LOS ANGELES, 1 Oct — Ben Affleck’s three young children don’t care much about him playing the role of Batman.

The actor joked that he would have done well in their eyes if he was a part of Disney’s fairytale ‘Frozen’.

“If I was doing the sequel to ‘Frozen’ I would be a hero,” Affleck told Jimmy Fallon on ‘The Tonight Show’.

The actor’s role as the Caped Crusader is generating a lot of buzz online after the initial resistance by fans in the upcoming ‘Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice’. But that has not touched his children as his two older daughters love ‘Frozen’. “The indignity is so great that they now passed that affection on to my two-and-a-half-year old son,” he said.—PTI

Tokyo Int’l Film Festival announces competition lineup, jury members

TOKYO, 1 Oct — The organizer of the 27th Tokyo International Film Festival (TIFF) on Tuesday announced its international competition lineup, with 15 films being enrolled, while the section’s jury that will be headed by US director James Gunn.

The 15 works in competition section are excellent works for cinematic crystallizations of our chaotic world in the TIFF Competition Section,” said TIFF Programming Director Yoshi Yatabe.

The international competition jury will be led by James Gunn, who has become one of the most sought-after directors in the world after writing and directing Guardians of the Galaxy, and the jury will also group other five members, namely John H Lee, Robert Luketic, Eric Khoo, Debbie Mcwilliams and Hiroshi Shinagawa.

Japanese director Takeshi Kitano and US director Tim Burton are the first recipients of a newly set award, Samurai Award, in the 27th TIFF with an aim to commend achievements of filmmaker who continues to carve out a path of a new era.

Opening screen of the 27th TIFF will be a US film named Big Hero 6 and the closing screen is Parasyte, a Japanese movie directed by Takashi Yamazaki. The 27th TIFF will be started on 23 October in Tokyo.—Xinhua

Amal Alamuddin enters fashion pantheon as Clooney’s bride

LOS ANGELES, 1 Oct — With the help of Oscar de la Renta, Stella McCartney, Giambattista Valli and Dolce & Gabbana, human rights lawyer Amal Alamuddin vaulted into the top echelons of Hollywood fashion with her stylish Italian wedding to actor George Clooney.

Alamuddin, 36, showcased several outfits during her whirlwind wedding weekend in Venice, picking British, American and Italian designers and channelling golden age Hollywood glamour.

The piece de resistance was an off-the-shoulder tulle and Chantilly lace gown she wore at the ceremony of her formal wedding ceremony on Saturday that was revealed on Tuesday by fashion magazine Vogue and custom-made by New York-based de la Renta.

The British-Lebanese bride told Vogue she and Clooney wanted a “romantic and elegant” wedding, and de la Renta’s romantic and feminine design was the right choice.

The magazine renowned for anointing fashion royalty and whose editor Anna Wintour attend the nuptials, noted “she stands resplendent in her dress.”

De la Renta also supplied Alamuddin’s post-wedding dress, which the magazine described as a “festive, Gatsby-style party frock.” Clooney wore a custom black tuxedo by Giorgio Armani.

Oscar-winning Clooney, 53, one of Hollywood’s most famous bachelors, and Alamuddin’s wedding was attended by celebrities such as Cindy Crawford, Bill Murray and Matt Damon. It has drawn comparisons to the nuptials of Kate Middleton and Britain’s Prince William in April 2011. Middleton, now the Duchess of Cambridge, has become a style icon for her chic ensembles that often incorporate high fashion and high street retail, earning a place in Vanity Fair’s annual best dressed lists over the past few years.—Reuters

Ben Affleck’s three young children don’t care much about him playing the role of Batman.
No Ibra? No problem for PSG as they topple Barca

Paris St Germain’s Thiago Motta (L), challenges Barcelona’s Lionel Messi during their Champions League Group E soccer match at the Parc des Princes Stadium in Paris, on 30 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

By losing their opening match 1-0 at Bayern Munich and failing to win on Tuesday, they are already five points behind Bayern, who top the group after two wins. In their three previous campaigns they have drawn at home with Napoli, Borussia Dortmund and lost to Bayern and only once, last season, have they got out of the group stages when they reached the round of 16 and were beaten by Barcelona. The slow start to those campaigns cost them dearly and this one is showing every sign of going the same way unless their form in Europe improves dramatically.

With two matches played, Bayern, who won 1-0 at CSKA Moscow on Tuesday, have six points, Roma have four, City three and CSKA Moscow none. Despite making a great start, City allowed Roma to dominate much of the first half and only some excellent goalkeeping from Hart kept them in the game, even though they played marginally better after half-time.—Reuters

Mueller’s penalty brings Bayern victory in Moscow

Moscow, 1 Oct —Bayern Munich carved out a 1-0 win at CSKA Moscow on Tuesday thanks to Thomas Muller’s first-half penalty in the strangely muted atmosphere of a cold, damp and deserted Khimki Arena. The Group E match was played in front of an empty house after a ban from European soccer’s governing body UEFA was imposed for the racist behaviour of CSKA’s fans.

The lack of atmosphere only made life more comfortable for the five-time champions as they dominated proceedings on the way to their second straight victory in this year’s competition. The German champions could have scored several against the injury-hit hosts but CSKA put up a spirited performance and could look back with dismay on their own missed opportunities.

CSKA’s Finland midfielder Roman Eremenko even hit the bar in the first half with one curling effort but the decisive moment proved to be Mueller’s 21st minute spot-kick.

After Germany team mate Mario Goetze was fouled in the area by Mario Fernandes, Muller notched his 22nd career goal in Europe’s elite competition with his expertly-taken strike. Goalkeeper Igor Akinfeev had conceded in his last 22 Champions League matches, dating back to 2006, and his expertly-taken strike.

Barca quickly recovered from the shock of conceding their second straight victory in Moscow, on 30 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

AS Roma’s Francesco Totti celebrates scoring a goal against Manchester City during their Champions League soccer match at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, northern England, on 30 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

City manager Manuel Pellegrini endured a frustrating night against the Italian team, and all aspects of their performance were below par as they were not able to make the most of the opportunities they had.

Despite the defeat, City appear not to have learned the lessons of their previous campaigns.

VETERAN TOTTI PUNISHES SLUGGISH CITY WITH LANDMARK GOAL

MANCHESTER, (England) 1 Oct — Manchester City face a hard battle to qualify for the last 16 of the Champions League after their sluggish start to yet another campaign continued with a 1-1 draw at home to AS Roma on Tuesday.

They were denied victory by Francesco Totti, aged 38 years and three days, equalising for Roma in the first half at Etihad Stadium to become the oldest scorer in European club football history.

Totti chipped the ball over goalkeeper Joe Hart for his landmark goal after they went ahead with a successive season — even though Manchester City had had woken up in the last 25 minutes.

“Even if some players played a great match, what I keep in mind is the collective performance of the team,” Barca coach Luis Enrique said. He added: “We are disappointed because we were going through a rough patch,” PSG coach Laurent Blanc told a news conference.

“We knew they could have scored several times over goalkeepers Joe Hart and Yann Sommer in the first half at the Etihad, but we managed to keep them out,” Blanc said.

Despite the slow start to those campaigns, City appear not to have learned the lessons of their previous campaigns. They went ahead with a goal but David Luiz, Marco Verrati and Blaise Matuidi all punctured their defence over Barcelona on Tuesday.

Barca had not conceded a goal this season but David Luiz, Marco Verratti and Blaise Matuidi all punctured their defence for their landmark goal after they went ahead with a successive season — even though they had have four, City three and CSKA Moscow none. Despite making a great start, City allowed Roma to dominate much of the first half and only some excellent goalkeeping from Hart kept them in the game, even though they played marginally better after half-time.—Reuters

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Peng Shuai out of China Open

BEIJING, 1 Oct — Chi na’s Peng Shuai was ousted by Petra Kvitova of Czech Republic 6-4, 6-2 at the second round of the China Open here on Wednesday.

Kvitova advanced in one hour and six minutes, despite the warm cheer-ups for Peng from the home fans. The tournament third seed will face Venus Williams in the next round, who defeated Caroline Garcia 6-4, 6-3 on Tuesday.

So far, all the Chinese players are out of the China Open women’s singles, but Peng Shuai still has a chance to move into the semifinals in the women’s doubles with her new partner An-drea Hlavackova. Kvitova, ranked third in the world, clinched her title at the Premier-level Wuhan Open last Saturday and became the fourth player to qualify for the championship.

Peng Shuai of China returns a hit to Petra Kvitova of Czech Republic during the women’s 2nd round match at the 2014 China Open in Beijing, capital of China, on 1 Oct, 2014. Kvitova won 2-0.—Xinhua

The WTA Finals Singapore slated for 17-26, October joining Serena Williams, Maria Sharapova and Simona Halep in the field.

Xinhua
Incheon, 1 Oct — Takayuki Tanii gave Japan its first athletics gold medal of the Asian Games on Wednesday, winning the men’s 50-kilometre walk in a meet record time.

Tanii registered a time of 3 hours, 40 minutes, 19 seconds to take the gold and secure a place on Japan’s team for next summer’s athletics world championships in the process.

South Korea’s Park Chil Sung finished a distant second in 3:49:15 to take the silver medal and Wang Zhendong of China was third in 3:50:52.

“I am happy and relieved,” said the 31-year-old Tanii. “I was able to up the pace when it mattered. I wanted to get the gold medal with a great performance.”

Japanese record holder Yuki Yamazaki was disqualified for a form violation. — Kyodo News

Takayuki Tanii of Japan crosses the finish line in the men’s 50-kilometre walk with a meet record time of 3 hours, 40 minutes, 19 seconds to win the country’s first athletics gold medal of the Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea on 1 Oct, 2014. — Kyodo News

### Medals table of the Asian Games

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