Hard work of students, standard curriculums, competency of teachers important for high education standards: Dr Sai Mauk Kham

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct — Teachers, who nurture youths to be outstanding citizens, are helmsmen of the future of a country, Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said in his speech at the ceremony to mark the World Teachers’ Day held at Myanmar International Convention Centre II in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

The vice president said sustainable development of a country depends on high standards of its education sector which contribute to sustainable development while a country with low education standards lags behind others in development.

The vice president pointed out that the shortage of teachers is a challenge as teachers play the major role in the education sector despite changes in a country’s educational concepts, objectives and process time by time.

Teachers are responsible for teaching children and required to serve as role models for students to behave ethically and morally as role models, the vice president added.

Hard work on the part of students as well as standard curriculums and competency of teachers are important for high education standards, according to the vice president.

The vice president pointed out that teachers are required to be competent in subject matter and to focus on teaching, saying that socioeconomic life of teachers must be stable to do so.

To nurture youth intellectuals of international standards, according to the vice president, teachers must be stable to do so.

New rule helpful in decreasing illegal Myanmar workers in S Korea

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 5 Oct — Some Myanmar workers from South Korea came back Myanmar without staying there as illegal workers after the new rule of sending workers to South Korea was imposed in April, 2014, decreasing the number of illegal Myanmar workers in the country.

Meanwhile, authorities in Myanmar are also working in accordance with the rules and regulations to bring some back to Myanmar.

According to the new rule which was imposed in April, 2014, a worker who will go to South Korea shall put K1.5 million in a bank as a guarantee before he leaves for South Korea, and two guarantors for him in Myanmar are liable to guarantee fee of K1.5 million within a month if the workers whom they guarantee runs away from his employee in South Korea.

According to the three-year contract signed between workers and employers, a worker is not allowed to move to another job without the permission of his employer.

The worker would not get back K1.5 million he put in bank as a guarantee if he runs away of his employer.

Before the new rule was set, it was found that some Myanmar overseas workers in South Korea ran away from their employers and lived as illegal workers there though they had to put K3 million in a bank in Myanmar as a guarantee.

Thai PM and wife to pay an official visit to Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Oct — At the invitation of His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, and wife Daw Khin Khin Win, His Excellency General Prayut Chan-o-cha (Ret.), Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, and wife Associate Professor Naraporn Chan-o-cha will pay an official visit to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in the near future. — MNA

INtERnAlTional new light of mYanmar
Local News

GAD staff carry out sanitation at pagodas in Myanaung

MYANMAR, 5 Oct — As a gesture of hailing the anniversary celebration of General Administration Department, staff of Myanaung Township GAD of Ayeyawady Region carried out sanitation at precinct of the pagodas in the urban area every Saturday.

On 4 October, they cleaned debris on the platform of Gukoelon Pagoda in Myanaung.

They plan to clean the platforms of Myanaung Bontha, Zeyathayi and Htauangpyae pagodas as of October.

Win Bo (Township IPRD)

Myanmar Sankyaw Golden Palace needs urgent maintenance

MANDALAY, 5 Oct — The Ministry of Culture handed over management and maintenance authority for Myan San Kyaw Golden Palace, the Royal Palace and the moats to Mandalay Region Government on 6 July 2013.

However, the hand-over did not comprise taxation and financial allotments for the ancient cultural heritage buildings.

In consequence, the region government cannot spend its fund on maintenance of the buildings at the Golden Palace for durability. Due to instructions, the region government arranges to hand over the cultural heritage buildings to the Ministry of Culture after submitting the report to the President Office on 22 September.

Soonest maintenance is to be carried out at the central drum and queen hall of the Golden Palace, decayed wooden structures, cracks of brick walls and damages of the tiered-roof buildings, said historical researchers.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

ISR Track & Field Contest wraps up in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 5 Oct— The Mandalay Region Chief Minister’s Trophy Inter-State/Region Track & Field Contest 2014 reached the final stage in all sports events on 3 October at Mandalar Thiri Stadium in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay.

In the final matches of men’s and women’s, senior and junior 100-m, 200-m, 400-m, 1500-m and relay events were held at the stadium. After the matches, Mandalay Region women’s team stood first with nine gold, seven silver and six bronze, followed by Yangon Region with four gold, nine silver and six bronze and Mon State with three gold, four silver and five bronze.

In the men’s event, Mon State secured the first prize with seven gold, five silver and four bronze with first runner-up Mandalay Region with four gold, four silver and six bronze and second runner-up Taninthayi Region with four gold, five silver and one bronze.

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Region Minister Dr Win Hlaing and Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaung Htike presented prizes to the winning teams. —Thitha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Yadanabon University, Comet (A) champion in Mdy Sepak Takraw Tournament

MANDALAY, 5 Oct—Yadanabon University beat Comet (B) 2-0 in the double regu event and Comet (A) won over Hsan Nyunt (B) in the regu event of the Mandalay Region Chief Minister’s Trophy Inter-club Sepak Takraw Tournament 2014 at Bahtoo Gymnasium in Mandalay on Saturday.

Deputy Commissioner of Mandalay District U Win Zaw Khang, Deputy Director U Wai Zin of Mandalay Region Sports and Physical Education Department and officials presented first, second and third prizes to winners in the double regu event and regu event.

President of Myanmar Sepak Takraw Federation U Soe Naing gave cash award to the prize winning teams.

On behalf of the region chief minister, Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing K300,000 each and championship trophies to first prize winning Yadanabon University and Comet (A). —Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Mandalay moats to be illuminated with LED lightings

MANDALAY, 5 Oct—Arrangements are being made to install LED lightings along the moats of Mandalay Royal Palace in Mandalay Region by the end of February 2015, sources said.

It is aimed at enabling not only globetrotters but also local visitors to enjoy night scenes of Mandalay, moats and walls of the Royal Palace. LED lights will be switched on in the evening automatically and switched off in the morning.

Installation of solar panel will cost three folds more than the LED facilities. Thanks to the lightings, locals hope for decline of crimes and malpractices around the moat tarnishing the images of Mandalay City. The authorities will spend over K388 million on installation of the LED lightings along the moats. —Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)
Hard work of students, standard . . .

(from page 1)

standards, the president’s scholarships are awarded to truly outstanding youth in order to provide them with educational opportunities to study graduate and post-graduate courses at international universities, said the vice president.

To improve the language skills of teachers, fifty English language experts have been teaching at 21 institutes of education and education colleges across the country since September 2014 under the 4.7 million-pound cooperation programme between the Ministry of Education and the British Council, the vice president said.

Then, the vice president urged teachers not to lose sight of changing technology and to exercise lifelong learning while teaching students.

In conclusion, the vice president, on behalf of the government, thanked all teachers who are teaching across the country amidst various difficulties out of their loving kindness.

After vice president’s speech, Union Ministers U Tin Naing Thein, U Kyaw Hsan, Dr Daw Khin San Yi, Dr Than Aung and officials presented prize to winners of article, essay, poetry competitions to the World’s Teachers’ Day.

Vice President Dr Sai Maik Kham also presented honorary awards to Dr Khin Zaw, Dr Daw than Nwet, U Win Maung, U Tin Nyio and U Ban Gyi and outstanding award for social affairs to U Shwe Ba, U Hla Nue and U Than Hlaing and posed for a documentary photos with guests before viewing round the exhibition to mark the World Teachers’ Day.—MNA

Union FM arrives back from UN General Assembly

YANGON, 5 Oct—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived back in Yangon on Sunday after attending the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York. The Union Minister has made a policy statement at the General Debate Session of the assembly on 29 September.


The Union minister held bilateral meetings with Minister of State of UAE Ms Reem Al Hashimi, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict Ms Leila Zerrougui, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy Mr Lapo Pistelli, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia Mrs Maria Angela Holguin Cuellar, Special Advocate of the United Nations Secretary General for Inclusive Finance for Development Her Majesty Queen Maxima of the Netherlands, Secretary-General of Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Mr Lyad Ameen Madani, Turkish Foreign Minister Mr Mevlut Cavusoglu, Executive Director of the South Centre Mr Martin Khor, and Under-Secretary-General of the UN Mr Gyan Acharya, and exchanged views on interested issues and discussed on promoting of bilateral cooperation.

U Wunna Maung Lwin met with Secretary of State Mr John Kerry on 30th September.

MNA

President Office Minister awards outstanding students in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 5 Oct — Matriculated students should follow their natural bent in choosing a major,” urged Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min at prize presentation ceremony at a High School in Toungoo on Sunday.

U Aung Min and his wife Daw Wai Wai Tha presented prizes to about 230 outstanding students in the region who passed the matriculation examination with flying colours.

The Union Minister donated more than 400 exercise books to monastic school as well as poor schools.—District IPRD

Myanmar and Israel sign Agreement for Reciprocal Promotion and Protecting of Investments

YANGON, 5 Oct—At a ceremony held yesterday in the Directorate of Investment and Companies Administration offices in Yangon, the Israeli Ambassador to Myanmar, Hagay M. BEHAR and DICA D.G., U Aung Naing Oo, sign an agreement for Reciprocal Promotion and Protecting of Investments, between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the State of Israel. The ceremony was honored by the presence of Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw, embassy officers, and representatives of the media.

In his speech, the Ambassador of Israel expressed his satisfaction that his last official act, upon completing his mission as the 21st Ambassador of Israel to Myanmar, is signing the mentioned agreement. Furthermore, he added that he would like to congratulate his Myanmar counterparts for the fast and efficient negotiation, which he believe characterize once more, the long lasting and unique relations between the two nations. Finally he added that he is confident that the implementation of the agreement will encourage more Israeli businessman and companies to invest in Myanmar, expand the volume of the bilateral trade, and contribute to the development of business sector and national economy.

GNLM

Israel Ambassador Hagay M. BEHAR shakes hands with Director-General U Aung Naing Oo after exchanging notes.—GNLM

Union Minister U Aung Min presents prize to an outstanding student in Toungoo Township.

TOUNGOO DISTRICT IPRD

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin greets US Secretary of State Mr John Kerry on 30th September.

MNA
Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Oct — Under the supervision of Kalay District Management Committee, a one mile and two furlongs long road section of Bogyoke Street from Kalay traffic light to the top of bridge is being expanded with seven feet wide on both sides aimed at ensuring smooth transport of local people.

Chairman of the Township Management Committee U Win Aung, Region Hluttaw representative U Sein Tun and District Hospital medical superintendent Dr Hla Htay drove stake for the building.

The station hospital will be 126 feet long and 12 feet wide one storey RC structure. The region government allotted K150 million for construction of the building.

U Pyae Phyo Swe of Sanda Thurein Construction Company signed a contract to construct the building of station hospital, medical officer housing, nurses and staff quarters and necessary structures.—District IPRD

Eye patients regardless of race and religion to receive FOC treatment

Dawei, 5 Oct — Under the auspices of venerable Sitagu Sayadaw, a medical team led by physician Dr Mya Aung of Sagaing Sita- agu Hospital and specialists from the US will perform eye surgical operations at the patients free of charge.

The eye health care services will be given to eye patients from 21 to 25 October and surgical operations from 25 to 30 October, according to an official of Sitagu Arojadana Hospital.

PTC Electricity Service Company will donate glasses to the patients. TheSitagu Arojadana Hospital invites donations for eye care services and eye surgical operations. Eye patients regardless of race and religion may enlist at the office of the Dawei Sitagu Arojadana Hospital, dialing 059-23454, 09-8750179 and 09-33626977.

Venerable Sitagu Sayadaw Dr Ashin Nanisara (D.Litt, PhD) will administer Desana to the disciples in the precinct of Shwetaungsar Pagoda and Lawkamarazein Pagoda in Dawei at 8 pm on 27 October.

Po Shwe Thun (Dawei)
US, Philippine troops hold joint amphibious exercise

The activity involved 85 personnel from the Philippine Marines, and about 100 US personnel using five amphibious assault vehicles of the US Marine Corps.

Philippine Marines education and training deputy officer Lt Col Dennis Hernandez said the drills would “reestablish our amphibious capabilities, such that when the real scenario comes in, we would have no problem anymore.”

The US and the Philippine militaries have recently bolstered their ties by signing in April an enhanced defence cooperation agreement that would allow the former more access to the latter’s facilities.

This year’s PHIBLEX opened last Monday and will end on Friday.

In 2012, China occupied Scarborough Shoal, a large coral reef that was long a favorite fishing ground of Filipino fishermen.

Kyodo News

China issues yellow alert for typhoon Phanfone

The typhoon could create waves up to seven metres high in the eastern part of the East China Sea between Sunday noon and Monday noon, according to the forecast.

Waves as high as 3 metres will be seen off the coast near Shanghai and Zhejiang Province, the center said, warning vessels operating in the waters to take precautions.

China has a four-tier colour-coded weather warning system, with red representing the most severe warning, followed by orange, yellow and blue.

The station said another typhoon, Vongfong, which was about 660 kilometres east-southeast of Guam as of Sunday morning, is approaching the Mariana Islands.

Xinhua

At least 18 dead in Indonesia illegal gold mine collapse

Jakarta, 5 Oct — At least 18 people died after being trapped in an illegal gold mine that collapsed in Indonesia’s West Kalimantan Province, a search and rescue agency official said on Sunday, as efforts continued to search for possible survivors.

Small-scale and illegal mining is a flash point for conflicts and accidents in Indonesia, where mineral resources are often situated in remote and protected forest areas that are difficult for the government to regulate.

The collapse occurred on Saturday at 11 am but the rescue agency was not notified until evening, Leonardus Sabar Umbara, officer in charge at the West Kalimantan rescue headquarters in Pontianak, told Reuters.

A rescue team reached the site late on Saturday and found 18 victims, 16 men and two women. Fifteen have been identified.

“Local people are reluctant to report incidents like this as many of them are engaged in illegal mining,” Umbara said.

People in the area were not sure how many other miners may have been trapped, but television station Metro TV said there were up to 500 workers at the site on Saturday.

A similar collapse in the same area killed nine people several years ago, Umbara said.

Reuters
German defence minister wants to revive Euro Hawk-media report

BERLIN, 5 Oct — German Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen wants to revive the high-altitude reconnaissance drone Euro Hawk after the government backed away from plans to buy some last year, a German newspaper said on Saturday.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung (FAS) said it had learnt from the defence ministry that it wanted “to get the Euro Hawk drone out of the garage” to be able to test a reconnaissance system for it. In an advance copy of a report due to be published on Sunday, the newspaper said that was the result of a defence assessment due to be handed to the ministry on Monday.

A spokeswoman for the defence ministry told Reuters she could not comment on such reports but added that the ministry would on Monday receive the assessment it had commissioned and then evaluate it.

Germany back away last year from a 1.2 billion euro ($1.5 billion) plan to buy four more Euro Hawk drones, which US defence company Northrop Grumman Corp developed with Europe’s Airbus based on the Global Hawk design. Back then Germany said meeting the standards required to win aviation approval would cost 500 million to 600 million euros. But Northrop remains in long-running talks with the country about the stalled purchase.

FAS said the German armed forces had in recent months tested whether the reconnaissance system could be used on other platforms but had found that they could not be.

It said if tests with the Euro Hawk prototypes prove unsuccessful, the armed forces would need to be purchased and a new version of the Global Hawk was probably the only system that would be used. The Euro Hawk is based on the Global Hawk.

German news magazine Spiegel also said the Euro Hawk was under discussion again after consulting firm KPMG recommended in a report due to be presented this week remedying gaps in reconnaissance technology equipment in the armed forces with an “unnamed” aircraft as a carrier.

The magazine cited experts as saying the only possible solution for this in the foreseeable future was the ‘Triton’ drone which is developed by Northrop and is the successor to the Global Hawk.

Reuters

Japan, US eye summit talks in Beijing in November

TOKYO, 5 Oct — Japan and the United States are arranging for Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and President Barack Obama to meet for talks on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit in Beijing in November, Japanese government sources said on Saturday.

Abe and Obama are expected to express their willingness to work with Chinese President Xi Jinping to reduce tension in the Asia-Pacific region triggered by territorial disputes in the South and East China seas, the sources said.

The Japanese leader is also calling on Xi to hold summit talks on the East China Sea issues of the APEC summit on 10-11 November. Abe and Xi have yet to hold one-on-one talks since they took office. Abe in December 2012 and Xi the following March.

Relations between Japan and China have plunged to the lowest level in decades due to a territorial dispute over the Japan-controlled Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, and differing perceptions of wartime history.

At their meeting in the Chinese capital, Abe and Obama are likely to avoid making comments that could be interpreted as warnings about China, the APEC meeting host.

In particular, Abe and Obama may avoid mentioning China’s growing military influence and assertiveness in Asian waters, which have caused friction with Japan and Southeast Asian countries, especially Vietnam and the Philippines.

Abe is expected to tell Obama that Japan will make efforts to improve relations with China. And if talks with Xi materialize in Beijing before Abe meets with Obama, the Japanese prime minister is likely to explain to the US president what was discussed with the Chinese leader, in an effort to ease US concern over the deterioration in Japan-China ties.

Abe and Obama are also expected to discuss the Ukraine situation, with Abe seeking US understanding of Tokyo’s reluctance to go as far as Washington in applying pressure on Russia through sanctions.

Abe is also likely to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the APEC meeting, in an effort to continue bilateral talks aimed at resolving a long-standing dispute over the sovereignty of four Russian-held islands off Hokkaido.

Abe and Putin have forged a personal relationship through five meetings since the Japanese leader returned to power in late 2012, but that relationship has been affected by the sanctions Japan did impose on Russia for annexing Crimea and supporting the separatists in eastern Ukraine.

A senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official indicated Abe’s talks with Obama and Putin while all three are in Beijing could focus on putting pressure on Xi to meet with the Japanese premier.

Among other issues, Abe is also expected to explain to Obama about recent developments between Japan and North Korea over Pyongyang’s reinvigoration of the fates of Japanese nationals abducted by the North decades ago.

And on the economic front, Abe plans to urge Obama to work toward an early conclusion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade initiative negotiations.

Spanish PM calls for dialogue as Catalonia renews independence campaign

Spain’s Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy attends a Spanish cabinet meeting at Moncloa palace in Madrid on 3 Oct, 2014.—Reuters

BELGRADE, 5 Oct — Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic met on Saturday with the representatives of Youth of the European People’s Party (YEPP) and said that Serbia is the pillar of stability in the West Balkans, adding that the initiated economic reforms will bring prosperity to the country and its citizens.

In a meeting with YEPP members from 22 European countries, currently on a several-day visit to Belgrade, Vucic said that during the government’s first five months in office economic measures have been implemented with an aim to improve the difficult economic situation and that a set of reform laws has been adopted, the government’s media cooperation office said in a press release. The prime minister stressed that he hopes that he will soon have more to offer to the people of Serbia except the austerity measures, which are only a small part of the reform process. “We will be the first country in South East Europe to initiate the process of economic reform on its own. We are not doing something that will bring us more votes in the next elections, but something that will bring prosperity to our country. We are working on creating a better investment climate and attracting more foreign investments,” Prime Minister Vucic underlined.

Speaking of the EU accession process, Vucic pointed out that Serbia must earn the membership and that is why it will meet its obligations. “We will not be the poorest EU Member State, or the country where the judiciary and laws are at the lowest level. I am sure we will notice some positive changes in Serbia in the course of your visit,” he stressed the prime minister. —Tanjug

Spain, Serbia eye summit talks in Belgrade in November

MADRID, 5 Oct — Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy called on Saturday for dialogue with Catalan separatists “within the limits of the constitution” as the government of the wealthy region resumed its campaign for a vote on independence.

The government of Catalonia had temporarily suspended campaigning for a 9 November referendum on whether to break away from Spain after Spain’s Constitutional Court agreed last week to Madrid’s request that it review the legality of the vote.

But the regional administration of Artur Mas said in a new television advertisement on Saturday that “it has asked to take the legal, political and institutional initiative to guarantee the right to decide the political future of Catalonia”.

The film begins with the same images as a previous pro-referendum ad but after a few seconds the screen turns black and a voiceover in the local Catalan language informs viewers about the central government’s move to block the vote.

Polls show a large majority of people in the north-eastern region, which has its own widely spoken language and distinct culture, want to hold a referendum on independence. While support for independence has been rising, however, it is not clear that Catalans would vote to break away from Spain.

The Spanish government argues that the planned referendum would breach the rule of law, and premier Rajoy called on Saturday for dialogue with the in the framework of the constitution.

“Law and dialogue, this is the way out of this situation.” Rajoy said at a campaign event for his People’s Party in Guadalajara, just north of Madrid, on Saturday.

“Initiating dialogue would be moving toward a common ground and there is just one condition, that it is done within the rules of play that apply to all of us, and that is the law.”

Even though Scotland chose not to secede from the United Kingdom in a referendum last month, the fact the vote was allowed at all has been source of envy in Catalonia and boosted momentum for a similar plebiscite.

If the Catalan vote were to go ahead, it would not have any direct legal consequence but could be used to drive a negotiation process on devolution of powers to the region similar to those promised to Scotland by the British government.—Reuters
**British Muslims condemn beheading of aid worker Alan Henning**

**LOND**ON, 5 Oct — Muslim groups across Britain united on Saturday to join Prime Minister David Cameron in condemning the beheading of aid worker Alan Henning by Islamic State insurgents.

Prayers for the 47-year-old taxi driver were said in mosques throughout Britain at the start of the Muslim Eid al-Adha festival, as his family said they were numb with grief.

Cameron called Henning a gentle, compassionate man who had simply tried to help others, and said Britain would do all it could to destroy his killers.

British media had focused on Henning as an ordinary, middle-aged non-Muslim who had given up his time and left behind a wife and two teenage children to help Muslim friends drive informal aid convoys to the victims of Syria’s civil war.

“We will use all the assets we have... to defeat this organisation, which is utterly ruthless, senseless and barbaric in the way it treats people,” Cameron said in a televised statement after meeting the heads of Britain’s armed forces and intelligence agencies.

Henning had been held in Syria for nine months before a video was posted on YouTube on Friday showing him kneeling against a desert setting before a masked man holding a knife.

The man spoke briefly with the same southern British accent as the killer of previous hostages, widely dubbed “Jihad John”.

A second video featuring an unmasked, apparently British fighter pouring scorn on Cameron on for failing to send in ground troops was being urgently examined by police on Saturday, Cameron’s office said.

Henning was the fourth Western hostage to be beheaded by Islamic State, which has been attacked by US, British, French and Arab fighter jets since seizing Syria for nine months before a video was posted on YouTube on Friday showing him kneeling against a desert setting before a masked man holding a knife.

“Because of our parliament’s decision to attack the Islamic State, I, as a member of the British public, will now pay the price for that decision,” he says. Britain’s Muslim leaders have in the past been accused of being reluctant to publicly confront Islamic extremism.

Henning’s case prompted a united response, however.

Last month, a letter signed by over 100 British Imams and Muslim leaders said the threats to Henning had no justification in Islam. “This is not Jihad (Holy War) — it is a war against all humanity,” it read.

Henning’s wife Barbara and his two teenage children said they were desperate to see the loss of a man who had cared about the welfare of others. “He will be remembered for this and we as a family are extremely proud of him and what he achieved,” they said in a statement.

On Friday, the father of journalist John Cantlie, another Briton being held by Islamic State, appealed for his son’s release.

In Brussels, the European Union’s External Action Service said the EU was “committed to contribute to the fight against all terrorist groups that endanger regional and global stability”, and would spare no effort to ensure that “an end is put to this atrocious terrorist campaign and all perpetrators are held accountable”.

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**Pakistani Taleban declare allegiance to Islamic State and**

DERA ISMAIL KHAN / ISLAMABAD, 5 Oct — The Pakistani Taleban declared allegiance to Islamic State on Saturday. All Muslim states in the world have great expectations of you... We are with you, we will provide you with Mujahideen (fighters) and with every possible support.”

The statement, released in Urdu, Pashto and Arabic, was sent after Islamic State militants beheaded British aid worker Alan Henning in a video posted on Friday, triggering condemnation by the British and US governments.

It also came despite recent speculation that the Taleban leadership, whose goal is to topple the government and set up a Sharia state, is actually wary of IS, which is driven by different ambitions that have little to do with South Asia.

The Pakistani Taleban, funded by local as well as foreign charity donations from wealthy supporters in the Gulf and elsewhere, operate separately from the Afghan insurgents of the same name, but are loosely aligned with them.

In Pakistan, there have been further turmoil in the region as most US-led foreign troops withdrew from Afghanistan this year, with groups like the Haqqani network likely to exploit the security vacuum to strengthen their hold on Afghan regions. The Haqqani network, despite being based in Pakistan, is narrowly focused on its insurrectionary campaign in Afghanistan and has not commented on IS-related developments.

The Pakistani Taleban have been beset by bitter internal rivalries over the past year, with the influential Mehsud tribal faction of the group refusing to accept the authority of Mullah Fazulullah, who came to power in late 2013.

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**At haj, Saudi Arabia clerics step up anti-Islamic State drive**

MINA, (Saudi Arabia), 5 Oct — Taking aim at Islamic State, Saudi Arabia has mounted a battle of hearts and minds at this year’s haj, warning pilgrims that the hardline group is “evil” and seeking to recruit their children to fight in Iraq and Syria.

As millions of pilgrims visit the holiest sites in Islam on the second day of the annual pilgrimage on Saturday, global leaders condemned the fourth beheading of a Westerner by Islamic State insurgents.

Saudi Arabia declared Islamic State a terrorist organization in March and sharply stepped up denunciations of the group after its fighters made rapid territorial gains in Iraq in June.

US-led air strikes on the group has allowed some of the lost territory to be recaptured, but the well-armed militants continue to make gains in Iraq and Syria. Last week, Saudi air force planes pounded militant targets in Syria.

The group’s radical Sunni Islamist ideology is gaining traction elsewhere in the Muslim world: A group in Algeria pledged allegiance before killing a French hostage last month, and Pakistani Taleban also declared their support on Saturday.

Saudi Arabia follows the ultra-conservative Wahhabi school of Sunni Islam, which disdains Shi’ites as heretics and demands a strict literal interpretation of Sharia Muslim law.

Although Islamic State, like al-Qaeda, draws some of its ideology from the Wahhabi school, it rejects the legitimacy of the Saudi government and has vowed to topple the ruling Al Saud dynasty.

Riyadh also fears that thousands of Saudis who have gone to fight with Islamic State will return to target their own country. “Your religion is targeted. Your security, ideology, strength and intellect are all targeted,” the kingdom’s Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdulaziz Al al-Sheikh preached to the vast crowds of pilgrims in Mecca on Friday. About three million Muslims, among them 1.4 million from abroad, are expected to perform haj this year.

“The enemies of Islam are making preparations against you, so be wary of them,” the Grand Mufti said in his sermon at Arafat’s Namira mosque.

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**British’s Prime Minister David Cameron**

Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron
First skills beget further skills

By Kyaw Thu

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cholars have suggested that the development of skills through education should be effective, efficient and equitable simply because learning and work are now interrelated. Investing in human capital is now therefore seen as an ideal vehicle for providing benefits to individuals and the society as a whole.

Skills are central to bridging inequality and promoting social and career mobility. People with poor skills are prone to financial hardship and unemployment. Poor health, low income and social exclusion all result from lack of skills.

Any failure to invest in skills will cause people to live on the margins of society. In addition, technological advancement will not result in economic growth. In the end, it will be difficult for a country trapped in this situation to compete in this age of knowledge.

Rising income inequality is largely due to differentiating skills, especially between blue-collar and white-collar workers. Addressing this challenge entails effective investment in people from early childhood through compulsory quality education to ensure better skills, better jobs and better lives.

In this respect, developing the right skills in the right people at the right time is at the heart of designing and employing curricula and training programmes.

At this juncture, our country is in urgent need of skilled and highly-skilled workers, most of whom are working abroad apparently due to salary divide. It would be better for the government to make it easier and attractive for skilled migrant workers to return home. One thing for sure is that if they return they will definitely bring back with them knowledge and experience useful to the country.

All in all, developing the skills critical for a country should be at the heart of its skills policies.

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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.

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

Japanese Govt grants US$ 584,493 for five grassroots projects in education sector

YANGON, 5 Oct — Mr. Tateshi HIGUCHI, Ambassador of the Embassy of Japan and Chairman of the Committees from State and Region concerned, signed the grant contracts for five projects on 2 October, under its Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects (GIP) Scheme. According to the press release issued by the Japanese Embassy in Myanmar, it is learnt that with the total amount of US$ 584,493, the Project for Construction of Min Ywa High School in Thanatpin Township, Bago Region will be implemented at a cost of US$ 99,271; the Project for Construction of Kanbawza Thengi No.1 Nunnery School in Muse Township, Shan State, US$ 174,753; the Project for Construction of Lay Paw Mu Basic Education Branch Middle School in Kyaukkyi Township, Bago Region, US$ 92,035; the Project for Construction of War Ta Loke Kani Village Basic Education High School in Emme Township, Ayeyawady Region, US$ 115,350.

The four schools and a nunnery school projects will benefit over 4,100 students. Besides, the projects will indirectly benefit the local people of Kayin and Shan in Bago Region, Ayeyawady Region and Shan State. The fund will be spent for constructing new R.C building with sufficient classrooms and full school furniture.

The Government of Japan has assisted 694 various grass-roots projects in Myanmar under this GIP scheme since 1993 including 317 projects in education sector. It is anticipated that these assistances will further strengthen existing friendly relations between Myanmar and Japan, which marks its 60 years anniversay of diplomatic relations this year.”

Japanese Ambassador Mr. Tateshi HIGUCHI presents note of grant contract to school officials.
Union ministers meet media persons to discuss progress of Myanmar’s reforms

Yangon, 5 Oct — Union ministers U Soe Than, U Win Shein and Dr Kan Zaw on Sunday met with local and foreign media at Yangon Region Government Office to discuss progress of reforms in Myanmar.

As part of reforms, the government is carrying out its third wave processes such as promoting skills of staff and organizational restructuring that play a vital role in building a developed country, U Soe Than said.

Dr Kan Zaw clarified progresses of his five year economic development plan to build an industrialized nation.

U Win Shein also explained current implementation projects in financial sector, relations between projects and budgets, budget allocation, development of state-owned enterprises, management of loans, financial laws and matters related to amendment bills.

Thura U Thaung Lwin, Chairman of Board of Scrutinizing and Monitoring of Tax, also clarified taxation issues.—MNA

Three pillars, media seek ways to build mutual trust and understanding

U Zaw Thet Htwe. — MNA

The conference between the three pillars and the press took place for the second day at the Ministry of Information Office on Sunday, sources said.

The conference was jointly organized by the Ministry of Information, Deutsche Welle and the International Media Support with a view to building mutual trust and understanding through constructive relations between the press and the three pillars: the executive body, the judicial body and the legislative body.

When asked to comment on the conference, U Ko Ni, a lawyer, said that there are some opposing viewpoints between governmental departments and the press, adding that it is a common practice in developed countries to recognize the role of the media. He was optimistic that the three pillars and the press would succeed in building mutual trust and understanding.

Prof. Dr Aung Tun Thet stressed the need of the harmony among the three pillars and the press, which he said would bring more benefits to the country.

According to U Zaw Thet Htwe, a member of the Myanmar Press Council (Interim), the media is responsible for criticizing the three pillars by pointing out where they go wrong. He also expressed his belief that the conference would result in better cooperation between the press and the three pillars.

U Sein Than, Director-General at the Office of the Supreme Court of the Union, noted that his office will make it sure that there are information centers in district and township courts of states and regions to keep the public informed through the media.—MNA

KBZ Bank wins international awards

Yangon, 5 Oct — London-based World Finance Group awarded Banker of the Year, Asia, 2014 to U Aung Ko Win, Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd recently.

Myanmar’s biggest private commercial bank was also awarded the Best Banking Group and Best Commercial Bank in Myanmar as a result of its effort to provide modern banking services. The bank is operating its daily banking services with more than 12,000 staff through 290 branches, largest number of branches of any bank in the country.

According to the spokesman, KBZ Bank has a plan to extend up to 400 branches across the country. It was established in 1994 in Taunggyi of Southern Shan State.—MNA

KBZ Bank wins international awards

Banker of the Year, Asia 2014 Award. — MNA

Award of Best Commercial Bank, Myanmar. — MNA

Award of Best Banking Group, Myanmar. — MNA

Armenian Archbishop concludes visit

Yangon, 5 Oct — Armenian Archbishop His Holiness Karekin II and party left Yangon by air on Sunday evening.—MNA

New rule helpful decreasing . . .

(from page 1) Myanmar workers to South Korea in 2010, the Public Overseas Employment Agency sent over 1,900 workers to South Korea in 2011, over 3,000 in 2012 and over 4,000 in 2013. So far, Myanmar government has already sent nearly 14,000 workers to South Korea.

A private overseas employment agency was allowed in 2007 to send Myanmar workers to South Korea, and it was abolished two years after sending workers to South Korea by the corruptions.—GNLM

Taunggyi blasts damage bus-stop, wound two police officers

Nay Pyi Taw, 5 Oct — Three blasts occurred in Taunggyi of Shan State on 4 October, leaving a bus-stop destroyed and two security policemen injured, sources said.

The first blast went off at a bus-stop in Sao San Tun ward at 10.22 pm, ripping off the seats and the roof, with no one being hurt.

The second one came 20 minutes later on the side of Bogyoke Aung San Street in Thittaw ward, followed by the third 10 minutes later, wounding two security policemen but not seriously.

While securing the blast areas, police patrol officers discovered an exploded directional anti-personal mine and an exploded mine in the surrounding areas, both of which mine troopers detonated by using sandbags.

Armenian Archbishop His Holiness Karekin II and party left Yangon by air on Sunday evening. — MNA

They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials of Myanmar Christian Church. — MNA

Monday, 6 October, 2014 | 9
Syrian border town still under siege by Islamic State despite allied air strikes

MURSITPINAR/BEIRUT, 5 Oct — Islamic State forces shelled the Syrian border town of Kobani on Saturday and its Kurdish defenders said they were expecting a new assault to try to capture it.

US-led coalition warplanes had struck at Islamic State targets overnight to halt the insurgents’ advance and Saturday’s barrages were less intense than the previous day.

“Clashes continue now, they are shelling on all three fronts. They tried to invade Kobani last night but they were repelled,” senior Kurdish official Aysa Abdullah told Reuters from the town on Saturday.

“We think they are planning to launch another big attack but YPG is prepared to resist them,” she said, referring to the Kurdish armed group defending it. Previous coalition air strikes have failed to stop the insurgent offensive and an estimated 180,000 people have fled across the border into Turkey to escape the fighting around Kobani — a conflict now overshadowing Syria’s wider civil war.

Islamic State said they would take the town within days and boasted they would pray in its mosques for the Muslim religious festival of Eid al-Adha, which began on Saturday.

In Istanbul, Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan reacted angrily to comments by US Vice President Joe Biden suggesting that Turkey had supported groups in Syria linked to al-Qaeda.

Turkey has up to now been a reluctant partner in the US-led coalition of Western and regional allies and the new dispute could complicate international efforts to present a united front against Islamic State.

The insurgents stepped up their offensive close to the Turkish border last month, seizing surrounding villages and advancing to within a few kilometres (miles) of Kobani, also known as Ayn al-Arab. Its capture would allow Islamic State to consolidate its hold on swathes of territory in Syria and Iraq.

Swift offensives by Islamic State since June have sent shockwaves through the region and prompted the United States and its allies to carry out a series of bombing raids to halt the insurgents’ rapid advance.

Israeliöicitizes Swedish plan to recognize state of Palestine

Jerusalem, 5 Oct — Israel has described a plan by Sweden’s new centre-left government to recognize the state of Palestine as being ill-considered in the absence of Middle East peace negotiations. Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven’s announcement the move during his inaugural address to Stockholm’s parliament on Friday.

Israel’s Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman Sunday said Lofven had “hastened to make declarations ... apparently before he could delve into the matter and understand it is the Palestinians who have constituted the obstacle to progress” in reaching a peace accord with Israel. Writing on Facebook, Lieberman also said he would summon the Swedish ambassador for a “conversation” at Israel’s Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

Meanwhile Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas said the Swedish announcement was “great and honorable” and he hoped other countries would follow suit, according to the official Palestinian news agency Wafa. Palestinians seek statehood in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, adjacent East Jerusalem and the blockaded Gaza Strip. They have sought to side-step stalled peace talks by lobbying foreign powers to recognize their sovereignty claim.

The UN General Assembly approved the de facto recognition of the state of Palestine in 2012 but the European Union and most EU countries have yet to give official recognition.

In his speech Lofven said the Israeli-Palestinian conflict must be solved with a two-state solution, negotiated in accordance with international law. “A two-state solution requires mutual recognition and a will to peaceful co-existence. Sweden will therefore recognize the state of Palestine,” said Lofven.

Israel says it wants to resume peace negotiations with Abbas but that he must dissolve a unity government formed with Hamas Islamists who control Gaza and preach the Jewish state’s destruction. Israel and Hamas have fought several wars, most recently over 51 days in July and August.— Reuters

US strikes kill 35 IS fighters in northern Syria: activists

DAMASCUS, 5 Oct — At least 35 fighters of the Islamic State (IS) militant group were killed on Saturday by the strikes of the US-led anti-terror coalition in northern Syria, the opposition Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The YPG, said in a statement on Friday that its fighters were able to stop the advancement of the IS fighters toward Kobane, killing 67 of them over the past 24 hours.

Kobane, also known as Ayn al-Arab, has been a reluctant partner to the IS militants over the past two weeks. The terror group’s fighters succeeded to capture hundreds of Kurdish villages around Kobane, sending tens of thousands of people fleeing for their lives toward the Turkish borders.

Citing sources inside Kobane, al-Mayadeen said the city is still subject to shelling from the IS militants. Kurdish activists accused Turkey of cooperating with the IS to empty the city of its residents so that it could impose a buffer zone on the Syrian side of the borders under the pretext of helping the refugees.

The US-led anti-terror coalition has repeatedly struck the positions of the IS around Kobani. However, the US strikes did not stop the ferocious attacks by the IS.

Syrian Kurds, whose communities largely live in the northern parts of Syria, have reached a deadlock in their fight with the Islamic State militants, who have repeatedly tried to storm Kurdish-dominated Syrian areas. Syria’s Kurds account for some 15 percent of the country’s 23 million inhabitants, most living in the northern part of the embattled country.— Xinhua

11 killed in two separate blasts in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 5 Oct — Eleven people were killed and around 30 injured on Saturday in two separate blasts in northwestern and southwestern Pakistan, police said.

A suicide bomber blew himself up in a busy market in Hayara, a Shiite Muslim town in Quetta on Saturday night, killing five people and injuring over a dozen, provincial police chief Mohammad Amlish said.

Nearly 15 kilograms of an explosive device was used in the attack, he told reporters in Quetta.

Earlier in the day, an explosion ripped through a passenger vehicle in Kohat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in northwest Pakistan, killing six people and injuring seven.

City police chief Salim Khan Marwat said the blast was caused by an improvised explosive device planted in the vehicle.

Security officials examine the blast site in southwest Pakistan’s Quetta on 4 Oct, 2014. At least 7 people were injured in a remote controlled blast attempting to target Deputy Superintendent Police (DSP) at Spinj Road in Quetta earlier on Saturday, local media reported. — Xinhua

Israel’s Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman

Israel criticizes Swedish plan to recognize state of Palestine

Kohat district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in northwest Pakistan, killing six people and injuring seven.

City police chief Salim Khan Marwat said the blast was caused by an improvised explosive device planted in the vehicle.

Kyodo News
Swedish woman world’s first to give birth after womb transplant

STOCKHOLM, 5 Oct — A Swedish woman has become the world’s first to give birth after having a womb transplant, opening up the possibility for thousands of infertile women to have babies, the doctor in charge of the research project said on Saturday.

The unnamed Swede, in her mid-30s delivered a healthy baby boy by caesarean section in early September, around two years after receiving a uterus donated by an unrelated, 61-year-old.

She was one of seven women who successfully underwent a womb transplant from a live donor — in most cases the recipient’s mother — and subsequently had in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment.

“There are some more pregnant,” Mats Brannstrom, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at University of Gothenburg told Reuters. “They are more than 28 weeks pregnant.” Brannstrom said other hospitals around Europe, the United States, Australia and China had been waiting for results of the Swedish research before beginning their own programmes.

“When we have the results of other studies, we will know how effective the procedure is and what the risks are,” he added.

Medical advances in treating infertility and helping women to get pregnant have sparked widespread ethical debate, with some critics saying scientists shouldn’t “play God”.

Others question the morality of spending huge sums to enable women to get pregnant when they have the option to adopt.

Brannstrom said the treatment, the first available for women who were born without a viable womb or who have had their uterus removed because of cancer, was “a matter of justice”.

“If we decide as a society that infertility is a type of disease — which we have — should try to treat it,” he said.

Around 200,000 women in Europe suffer from uterine infertility. Brannstrom said a transplant was “the only solution to the problem” although it was too early to say whether the procedure, which costs around 100,000 euros ($125,000), would become common.

The University of Gothenburg has permission to do 10 womb transplants with up to two full-term pregnancies for each woman.

German watchdog urges more competition in taxi market

FRANKFURT, 5 Oct — The arrival of online transport company Uber should be used to boost competition in Germany’s taxi market, though regulators must make sure traditional services do not face disadvantages, the head of the country’s competition watchdog said.

US group Uber, which allows users to summon taxi-like services on their smartphones, has faced regulatory scrutiny and court injunctions from its early days, even as it has expanded rapidly into roughly 150 cities around the world.

Courts in Berlin and Hamburg last month upheld bans on the company, saying it did not comply with German laws on the carriage of passengers.

“More competition would not harm the taxi market,” Andreas Mundt, president of the German cartel authority told the Rheinische Post newspaper.

“The impetus from Uber should be used to arrive at a more liberal interpretation of existing rules,” he said, adding the current system, which regulates normal taxis more harshly than Uber services, was not sustainable.

Uber has appealed against the bans in Germany, the latest front in its global battle to win regulatory approval in the face of stiff opposition from taxi services under threat from its business model.

The university has already treated nine women, two of whom had to have their transplanted wombs removed. All the women treated will have their uteri’s removed again after their pregnancies.

“This is the first type of transplant that is temporary,” Brannstrom said.

The programme’s first pregnancy was confirmed in the spring and the baby weighed around 1.775 grams when delivered by caesarean section after the mother developed preeclampsia in the 32nd week of pregnancy.

“The baby screamed right away and has not required any other care than normal clinical observation at the neonatal unit,” Brannstrom said in a statement.

“The mother and child are both doing well and have returned home. The new parents are of course very happy and thankful.”

Verizon’s Redbox Instant video streaming service to shut down

NEW YORK, 5 Oct — Redbox Instant, a streaming video service operated by Verizon Communications Inc (VZ.N) and Outwater Inc’s (OUTR.O) Redbox, will shut down next week because the venture has not been as successful as either partner hoped, the two companies announced on Saturday.

The service, which combined the Redbox DVD rental kiosk business with a streaming video offering from Verizon, was launched in 2013 to compete against online video company Netflix Inc (NFLX.O), but never caught on with consumers.

Redbox Instant will shut down on 7 October, the companies said in a joint statement.

“The joint venture partners made this decision after careful consideration,” the statement said. “The service had not been as successful as either partner hoped it would be.”

Subscribers will receive an email notifying them of the termination of the service. A separate email will be sent on 10 October with details on refunds, the statement said.

The alliance marked Verizon’s first foray into video streaming outside its network operating region, but it never gained a foothold against online rivals such as Netflix, Amazon, com Inc (AMZN.O) and Hulu Plus.

The telephone company had only offered web video services to subscribers using its FiOS TV service, which competes with cable providers such as Comcast Corp (CMCSA.O) and Time Warner Cable (TWC.N).—Reuters

An illustration picture shows the logo of car-sharing service Uber on a smartphone next to the picture of an official German taxi sign in Frankfurt, on 15 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Italy’s GTECH calls extraordinary meeting to approve IGT buyout

MILAN, 5 Oct — Italian gaming group GTECH said on Saturday it will hold an extraordinary shareholders’ meeting on 4 November to approve steps needed for the completion of its $4.7 billion buyout of US slot machine maker International Game Technology.

The purchase of the Las Vegas-based company, the largest foreign acquisition by an Italian firm since 2009, promises to shift GTECH away from its struggling domestic market and make it a major player in the casino business.

By calling the meeting, GTECH — the world’s No 1 lottery operator — intends to seek shareholder approval to seal its planned cross-border merger of GTECH into Georgia Worldwide plc, it said in a statement.

Georgia Worldwide plc will become the parent holding company for the combined operations of the two groups when the acquisition is completed.

Once approved, GTECH shareholders voting against the merger will be given the right to withdraw by selling their shares within 15 days of the registration of the merger resolution.

Existing shareholders will be paid 19.174 euros per GTECH share, the statement said. This is a roughly 4 percent premium to Friday’s closing share price, according to Reuters data.

With the purchase of IGT, GTECH would derive more than half of its around $4.1 billion revenues from foreign operations. It currently makes 60 percent of sales in Italy, which is struggling to emerge from its longest recession in 70 years.

IGT makes popular slot machines bearing brands such as that of TV show “Wheel of Fortune” and science fiction film “Avatar.”—Reuters

A sign hangs in the Verizon booth on the first day of the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas on 8 Jan, 2013.—Reuters
Brazilians go to the polls in nail-biter election for president

RIO DE JANEIRO, 5 Oct — Brazilians vote on Sunday in the most unpredictable presidential election in decades and the first since the end of an economic boom underpinning the leftist Workers’ Party’s 12-year rule. As President Dilma Rousseff seeks a second term, voters are weighing whether the socio-economic gains of the last decade are enough to reject the candidacies of a popular environmentalist and a pro-business social democrat, who both promise to jumpstart the economy after four years of lacklustre growth.

Polls now show Rousseff as the former runner in a race that is likely to go to a runoff on 26 October, following one of the most competitive campaigns since Brazil returned to democracy in 1985. The death of one candidate, the unexpected surge of another, and bitter marketing by Rousseff to claw back into the lead have contributed to a nail-biter election as uncertain as the course of the country itself.

“It really is too close to call,” said Rafael Cortez, a political analyst with Tendencias, a consultancy in Sao Paulo. “Volatility and frustration favour opposition candidates, but you don’t really have a crisis to topple the government, either.” Rousseff’s main rivals are Marina Silva, a hero of the global conservation movement and ruling party defector now with the Brazilian Socialist Party, and Aecio Neves, a senator and former state governor from the centrist party that laid the groundwork for Brazil’s economic boom last decade.

The two opposition candidates, in a last-minute sprint for runner-up, both vow to return to the market-friendly economic policies that critics say Rousseff abandoned, especially strict budget and inflation targets. They also promise to stop meddling with the big, state-run banks and companies that have been subject to political intervention and corruption scandals in recent years.

Reuters

Kenya to host Interpol environmental security office

NAIROBI, 5 Oct — Kenya will host the Environmental Security Office of the international police organization, known as Interpol, said a statement from the Australian High Commission in Kenya received on Saturday.

It said the office, which will be based in Interpol’s Regional Bureau for East Africa in Nairobi, is aimed at enhancing both national and international efforts towards the protection of wildlife.

Nikolic meets participants of ‘Joy of Europe’

BELGRADE, 5 Oct — Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic held a reception in Belgrade on Saturday to mark the 45th anniversary of the international children’s festival ‘Joy of Europe’ and told the children to stay in touch with their new friends and grow to be good adults.

Nikolic expressed his gratitude to children from the primary schools in Belgrade who welcomed their peers from 19 European countries into their homes. “In the friendly and open Belgrade, you will always be welcome,” said the president’s wife Dragica Nikolic, who chairs the ‘Joy of Europe’ organizing committee.

This event could serve as an example to adults and teachers about friendship, understanding, peace and love, as the values that should be spread around the world, she said.

The 45th international children’s festival ‘Joy of Europe’ opened with a carnival procession in downtown Belgrade.

The participants of the event are children aged 7-14 from Azerbaijan, Albania, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Latvia, Macedonia, Germany, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Serbia, Turkey, France, Croatia, Montenegro and the Czech Republic. This year’s gathering is dedicated to the anniversary of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, which was signed 25 years ago.

Tanjug

Technology changing how Japanese pay respect to deceased relatives

TOKYO, 5 Oct — For Japanese living far from the graves of their ancestors, paying respects no longer has to involve a long journey, with subscribers to an online service able to conduct virtual cemetery visits from their computer screens.

This service offered by I-Can Corp, a Tokyo-based funeral service company, has roughly 400 users, according to the company.

On the screen, a gravestone stands in a green field filled with colourful flowers. At the edge of the screen, a scoop of granite is placed on a granite gravestone. The process takes one minute.

Users can easily visit their ancestors and do not have to carry offerings, since the charnel house is close to a station and provides them with flowers and incense. Visitors do not need to clean grave stones either, as they are kept clean by charnel house staff.

The charnel house, which opened in 2013, provides them with flowers and incense. Visitors do not need to clean grave stones either, as they are kept clean by charnel house staff.

There are many visitors who drop in on the way from shopping and work,” a Nichiryoku official said. “The system is particularly received well by people with children and those on wheelchairs.”

In Japanese urban areas, charnel houses are gaining popularity amid a shortage of cemeteries and rising prices of grave stones. Toru Miyazaki, director of Nichiryoku’s management and planning department, said, “We aimed to create a grave site that responds to the needs of people living in an urban area.” Miyazaki said the company is looking to introduce the system at other charnel houses in Tokyo.

Kyodo News

Residents dance during a wine festival in the village of Areni, Armenia, on 4 Oct, 2014. — Xinhua

Global New Light of Myanmar
Gratitude

MITA Myanmar Investment, Trade & Technology Conference and Workshop

We express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to distinguished chief guest H.E. U Hla Myint, Mayor, Chairman of YCDC and Minister for Development Affairs of Yangon Region, special guest U Win Aung, President of UMFCCI and Key Note Speakers Prof. Dr. Aung Soe Thein, Adviser, President’s Advisory Board, Member of MIC, NESAC & MPC and H.E. U Wynn Lwin (Ambassador Retd.) who delivered welcome addresses and Key Note Speeches at the MITA Myanmar Investment, Trade & Technology Conference at UMFCCI in Yangon on 25 September 2014. We highly appreciate and thank all esteemed Speakers, Panelsists and Moderators who are high ranking officials from Government Departments & Ministries (Education, Science & Technology, Environment, Health, Railways, etc), Embassies, JICA, INGOs, MNCs, Myanmar and Foreign Companies. We were delighted to receive about 160 Guests and Participants from Myanmar and 18 foreign countries who actively participated in the Conference, we would like to appreciate their kind participation.

Our heartfelt thanks to Platinum Sponsor: LLC Nobel Oil Operating Co., and other sponsors / supporting organizations, Master of Ceremony-Daw Khin Sabai, Consultant, MRTV (Nay Pyi Taw), reporters and camera crews from Myanmar News Agency, MRTV, MRTV-4, Sky Net and Foreign & Local Media Partners (Upstream, IAIR, Myanmar Business Today, 7 Days Daily Newspaper & Journal and The Union Daily Newspaper) and other Myanmar & Foreign news agencies. Last but not least; our special thanks to Managements and Staffs of UMFCCI and Taw Win Garden Hotel who helped us to organize this “Professional Conference on 25 September & Workshop on 26 September 2014” successfully.

From Management and Staff of MITA Services Pte Ltd and MITA Myanmar @ ISBC (https://mitaservices.com.sg)

Bank Holiday

All Banks will be closed on 8th October (Wednesday) End of Buddhist Lent Day 2014, being public holidays under the Negotiable Instruments Act.

Central Bank of Myanmar

2,000 evacuated after quake

KUNMING, 5 Oct — About 2,000 local residents were evacuated as of Saturday night in southwest China’s Yunnan Province after water escaped on Friday from a barrier lake formed by an August earthquake.

Six workers are missing after the accident. Some 400 rescuers are searching at the site.

At around 3:20 pm on Friday, 20 people were digging tunnels to allow the water to discharge from the dam safely. "They were about to place dynamite to blow up the blockage, but suddenly water burst through and flooded the construction site," said a Yunnan official on Saturday.

Ten workers escaped, but 10 others were washed away. Four were rescued and are being treated at Qiaojia People’s Hospital.

The lake is 15 km long and covers an area of 49 square km in Qiaoqiao and Ludian counties. It was formed when landslides blocked the Niulan River.

The August quake left over 600 people dead and 112 missing in Yunan.

Selection Meeting

The Chulia Muslim Jammat meeting will be held on (19-10-2014) (Sunday) at 10 a.m to Select the trustee and appointment committee members.

-Rest: due to short period advertisement took place once

Invites Only

Chulia Muslim Daraghah Mosque Trust
No.385, Bo Gyoke Aung San Street, Yangon

Volcano in North Sumatra, Indonesia erupts

JAKARTA, 5 Oct— Mount Sinabung volcano in North Sumatra of Indonesia erupted on Sunday, sending columns of ash up to 3,000 metres to the sky, an official said.

But the eruption did not trigger evacuation.

The volcano had erupted for four times since earlier this week, Sutopo Purno Nugroho, spokesman of the national disaster management agency, told Xinhua via phone.

Hot ash and gravel were spewed to the sky, all sliding to the south, said Sutopo.

Mount Sinabung last erupted in June and September 2014 after erupting over a period of months from September 2013 to February 2014, which left 15 people dead and more than 30,000 other internally displaced.

Mount Sinabung is among more than 120 active volcanoes in Indonesia, which is prone to seismic upheaval due to its location on the “Pacific Ring of Fire.” The Indone-

sian transport ministry has warned flights to stay away from the path near the vol-

cano.—Xinhua

Mass graves with charred victims found in southern Mexico

GUERRERO, 5 Oct.— Authorities have found mass graves with the charred remains of up to 20 people in the restive southern Mexican state of Guerrero, at a time when police are scouring the area for nearly four dozen missing students after a rash of violence.

The remains were found on a hillside on the outskirts of Iguala in six graves, which were still fresh, a local official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The identities of the dead were not immediately clear, two officials added.

Guerrero Attorney General Inaky Blanco told reporters in Iguala on Saturday that the remains would be sent to Mexico’s forensic service to determine whether or not the corpses were those of the missing students.

He declined to say how many graves or corpses had been found.

“In the next few hours we will determine the cause of death and the number of bodies,” a spokesman for the state attorney general’s office said.

Iguala is about 120 miles (193 km) south of Mexico City in the increasingly violent state of Guerrero, the site of clashes involving students, police and armed men last week.

At least six people were killed in a spate of inci-

dents during the clashes last week.

Angel Aguirre said earlier this week that photos showed police had taken some of the students away.

Several hundred students protested on Saturday night in front of Aguirre’s residence in the state capital of Chilpancingo, expressing anger that some of the students may be among the bodies found in the graves.

A car was overturned and several petrol bombs were hurled at the residence perimeter, where security outposts were lightly damaged.

An police official said on Saturday that there was video footage of eight to 10 students being put into police trucks earlier in the week. Twenty-two officers were arrest-

ed in Guerrero on Sunday, accused of killing two stu-

dents during the clashes.

Aguirre said on Saturday that at least 30 indi-

guals have now been de-

tained in connection with the incidents.

Local government officials criticized the police for showing an excessive use of force with the students in Guerrero, where gangs have evolved from a fragmented drug cartel and are fighting turf wars.

Thirteen of an original group of 57 missing people re-emerged this week.

Some had hidden, others had gone home. Dozens are still unaccounted for.

Many mass graves have been found across Mexico in recent years and months, the legacy of drug gang violence that has killed around 100,000 peo-

dle since 2007.—Reuters

Powerful typhoon approaches Japan, heavy rain forecast

TYOYO, 5 Oct.—A powerful typhoon moved northward on Sunday toward Japan’s mainland, with heavy rain expected in wide areas across the country’s western to eastern re-

gions.

As of 11 am, Typhoon Phanfone was roughly 140 kilometres south-south-

east of Yakushima Island, moving at a speed of 20 kilometres per hour with an atmospheric pressure of 945 hectopascals at its centre and packing winds of up to 216 kph, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency.

The season’s 18th typhoon is expected to come close to the western Japan’s Shikoku region on Sunday night and may approach other areas in western and eastern Japan on Mon-

day with the possibility of making landfall, the agen-

cy said. Rainfall in the 24 hours to 6 am on Monday is expected to reach 500 millimetres in central Japan’s Tokai region, 400 mm in the Shikoku and Kinki, 250 mm in Kyushu and 150 mm in the Chugo-

ka, Kanto-Koshin and Hokuriku, the agency said.

Kyodo News

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 6th October, 2014:
Weather will be partly cloudy in Sagaing Region and Kachin State, rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Tanintharyi Region, scattered in Mon State and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with like-

lihood of isolated heavy falls in Tanintharyi Region. Degree of certainty is (80%).
Bandleader Nati Cano, leading figure in mariachi music, dies at 81

Los Angeles, 5 Oct—Grammy-winning mariachi bandleader Nati Cano, who stirred American audiences with the folk sounds of his native Mexico and played a key role in helping to teach young people how to play the music, has died at age 81, a bandmate said on Saturday.

Cano died on Friday at a hospital in Fillmore, California, after a long battle with cancer, said the bandmate, Sergio Alonso.

Born in 1933 in a rural town near Guadalajara, Mexico, Natividad “Nati” Cano grew up with the mariachi music his family of day labourers played in their spare time.

The traditional folk music is centered on the sounds of violins, trumpets, guitar and two guitar-like instruments unique to Mexico, the vihuela and the guitarron.

His father taught Cano to play the vihuela, and he later went to an academy to learn the violin before dropping out to join family members in entertaining patrons at cantinas.

In 1960, after having moved across the US border to Los Angeles, he joined a mariachi group that he would later come to lead and rename Los Camperos, which translates to The Countryside.

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano, as the band has been known, went on to use a Los Angeles restaurant called La Fonda as their home base where they performed regularly. They toured with singer Linda Ronstadt to promote her 1987 album “Canciones de mi Padre,” and were one of several mariachi bands Ronstadt relied on to make the recording.

Cano was named a National Heritage Fellow by the National Endowment for the Arts, and in 2008 he and Los Camperos won a Grammy Award for best regional Mexican album for their release “Amor.”

Alonso, in a phone interview, called Cano the most important figure in popularizing mariachi music in the United States.

“He epitomized the band leader, he was stern but he was fair. He was also very idealistic and he really romanticized mariachi music,” Alonso said.

Cano also played a key role in helping to start a number of mariachi education programmes in public schools in the Southwest United States.

“In Mexico, if you’re thinking about education, about mariachi, yeah, you can find good mariachi there,” Cano told the Los Angeles Daily News in 2008. “But as far as education for the kids to learn, they’re kind of behind a little bit.”—Reuters

George Clooney jets to Seychelles for honeymoon

London, 5 Oct—Newly married couple George Clooney and Amal Alamuddin have reportedly jetted to Seychelles for their honeymoon after Brad Pitt advised them to go there.

The pair, who got married in Venice, Italy last weekend, are staying at the luxurious resort on the North Island, which can only be accessed by helicopter, reported Contactmusic.

A source close to the 53-year-old actor said that Clooney secretly organized their romantic trip to the remote Indian Ocean paradise after his good friend Brad Pitt recommended it.

“George and Amal were looking for the ultimate, private getaway and I believe it was Brad who told him to go to this resort. It’s one of the most beautiful places on earth and George wanted to show Amal something even more amazing than Venice,” a source said. “It was the only place that could top off such an elaborate wedding.”

The eco-friendly tropical haven, developed in 2003, is comprised of 11 villas with private plunge pools, and has four beaches, one of which is fittingly called Honeymoon Cove.

Prince William and Duchess Catherine also spent their honeymoon there in 2011, while Brad and his wife, Angelina Jolie, have holidayed there in the past.—PTI

Michael B Jordan promises no cheesy ‘Fantastic Four’ outfits

Los Angeles, 5 Oct—Actor Michael B Jordan has promised that “Fantastic Four will” not feature “cheesy superhero outfits.”

The 27-year-old “Fruitvale Station” actor praised his outfit in Josh Trank’s comic book reboot for 20th Century Fox, reported Daily Beast.

“I think it wasn’t on set, but it was during the fittings when I put on the full outfit and looked at myself in the mirror, and I was like, ‘Game on!’” he said.

“It was like, this is it! This is what it looks like. This is what it feels like. It felt good. I think we did a really good job at making it modern, new, fresh without going to the cheesy superhero outfits. We didn’t take the easy way out at all. So I didn’t mind it so much,” he added.

Kate Mara, Jamie Bell and Miles Teller will also star in the movie. PTI

Nati Cano (L) and Jesus Guzman hold their awards after winning Best Regional Mexican Album at the 51st annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles on 8 Feb, 2009.—REUTERS

Jennifer Hudson

Los Angeles, 5 Oct—Singer-actress Jennifer Hudson has suggested that “Sex and the City 3” is currently in the works.

Hudson, 33, appeared in the first “Sex and the City” movie as Carrie Bradshaw’s assistant Louise, reported Hollywood Life.

There has been speculation about a possible follow-up to 2010’s “Sex and the City 2” since that film’s release, with star Kristin Davis and producer Michael Patrick King recently expressing hopes for a sequel.

“I think it might be happening. Somebody just came to me talking about that. So, if it’s in the talks, it might happen. So, look for it,” Hudson said.

She also said that she might reprise her role in “Sex and the City 3.”

“Look out for Louise from St Louis,” she added.

“The Sex and the City” films were spun off from the popular television series, which won seven Emmy Awards and eight Golden Globes.

The pair, who got married in Venice, Italy last weekend, are staying at the luxurious resort.—PTI

Jennifer Hudson
Late City goals cut Chelsea advantage, Liverpool win

**LONDON, 5 Oct—Yaya Toure and Sergio Aguero struck late as Premier League champions Manchester City climbed within two points of table-topping Chelsea thanks to a patient 2-0 victory at a resolute Aston Villa on Saturday. Toure curled home from the post before Kieran Richardson was let down by a poor touch as he raced clear at the opposite end. As a goalless draw beckoned Toure, criticised in recent months for a series of anonymous performances, was granted space on the edge of the area and dispatched a precise shot.

Aguero doubled the lead minutes later with a powerful shot from the edge of the area as City recorded their first clean sheet since the opening day of the campaign. "It is a fantastic win. Full credit to Villa for the way they played but in the second half we did the job," Toure told Sky Sports. "The most important thing for me is to try my second half we did the job," Toure told Sky Sports. "The most important thing for me is to try my second half we did the job," Toure told Sky Sports.

"It is a fantastic win. Full credit to Villa for the way they played but in the second half we did the job," Toure told Sky Sports. "The most important thing for me is to try my second half we did the job," Toure told Sky Sports."

"Cristiano is in very good condition," Ancelotti told a news conference on Saturday. "He has completely recovered and is in perfect shape as always." Real’s Wales winger Gareth Bale, who had been working in the gym following the Ludogorets game, also took full part in Saturday’s training session. Real said on their website (www.realmadrid.com). The European champions are fifth in La Liga after six matches, four points behind early leaders Barcelona, who have 16 points and play at Rayo Vallecano later on Saturday (17:00 pm BST). Champions Atletico Madrid meet Valencia away later on Saturday (14:00), with both sides on 14 points in joint second. —Reuters

Robinho fires Santos to 1-0 win over Flamengo

**RIO DE JANEIRO, 5 Oct—A first-half strike from AC Milan loanee Robinho gave Santos a 1-0 victory over Flamengo in Brazil’s Serie A championship on Saturday. The 30-year-old forward fired a first-time effort into the bottom corner in the 24th minute on Guevino’s cross. The result at the Maracana stadium lifted Santos to within four points of fourth place — a position that would earn them a place in next year’s Copa Libertadores. ‘I have always dreamed of scoring goals at the Maracana. It’s a legendary stadium,’ Robinho said after the match. ‘Today was a difficult game but we were able to get three important points.’ Robinho has now scored seven times in 12 matches since joining his original club on loan in August. In other matches on Saturday, Coritiba eclipsed Atletico Paranaense 1-0, Espanhol defeated Fluminense 1-1, Sao Paulo won 1-0 at Gremio, Victoria defeated Botafogo 2-1, Corinthians routed Cruzeiro 5-0, Cruzeiro overcame Atlético Mineiro 3-1, Cruzeiro beat Internacional 2-1 and Goiás defeated Figueirense 1-0. —Xinhua

Manchester City’s Sergio Aguero (3rd L) is tackled by Aston Villa’s Philippe Senderos (2nd R) during their English Premier League soccer match at Villa Park in Birmingham, central England on 4 Oct, 2014.—Reuters

Liverpool's Jordan Henderson (R) celebrates with Steven Gerrard after scoring his team's second goal during their English Premier League soccer match against West Bromwich Albion at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 4 Oct, 2014.—Reuters

Real’s Ronaldo in ‘perfect shape’ before Bilbao clash

**MADRID, 5 Oct—Real Madrid forward Cristiano Ronaldo returned to training with his team mates on Saturday and coach Carlo Ancelotti said he was in “perfect shape” ahead of Sunday’s La Liga game at home to Athletic Bilbao. The World Player of the Year took a knock to the ankle near the end of Wednesday’s Champions League Group B victory at Ludogorets when he was caught by midfielder Amier Abel. The Portugal captain has been on lethal form this season and has scored 10 goals in five La Liga appearances and two in two Champions League games. "Cristiano is in very good condition," Ancelotti told a news conference on Saturday. "He has completely recovered and is in perfect shape as always." Real’s Wales winger Gareth Bale, who had been working in the gym following the Ludogorets game, also took full part in Saturday’s training session. Real said on their website (www.realmadrid.com). The European champions are fifth in La Liga after six matches, four points behind early leaders Barcelona, who have 16 points and play at Rayo Vallecano later on Saturday (17:00 pm BST). Champions Atletico Madrid meet Valencia away later on Saturday (14:00), with both sides on 14 points in joint second. —Reuters

Bayern Munich’s Arjen Robben (L) vies for the ball during the German first division Bundesliga football match against Hannover in Munich, Germany, on 4 Oct, 2014. Bayern Munich won 4-0.—Xinhua

Bayern Munich (L) and Hamburg (R) players take part in the 2014 Champions League draw ceremony in Paris, France, on 22 December, 2013.—Reuters

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Van Gaal grateful to De Gea as United go fourth

LONDON, 5 Oct — Radamel Falcao grabbed his first goal for Manchester United to secure a 2-1 Premier League victory over Everton on Sunday.

It put United fourth in the table on 11 points, five behind leaders Chelsea, who host Arsenal in one of three other games on Sunday.

United manager Louis van Gaal was able to celebrate a second successive victory for the first time since taking charge in the close-season, but as in the recent 2-1 win over West Ham United, his team almost threw two points away at the end.

Van Gaal admitted being grateful to goalkeeper David De Gea for a series of fine saves, including one from Leighton Baines’s penalty and then three more in the last few minutes.

“When you hold a penalty and then hold three magnificent saves in the dying seconds, then you are great because you win the game,” the manager said.

He also praised Angel Di Maria, who scored the first goal and contributed the assist for Falcao’s winner but added: “It’s strange because every time the first half is very good and then the second half is so different.”

Argentina international Di Maria scored his third goal in four games to give United the lead in the 27th minute but Baines, after missing a penalty for the first time with his 15th Premier League spot-kick, crossed for Steven Naismith to head an equaliser in the 55th minute.

Colombian striker Falcao, playing in place of United’s suspended captain Wayne Rooney, poached the winner in the 62nd minute from a mis-hit shot by Di Maria. In the last few minutes De Gea made three outstanding saves, twice from Leon Osman and once from Costa Rican Bryan Oviedo as United’s inexperienced defence struggled to hold on.

Di Maria suggested that the goalkeeper should have been named man of the match by broadcaster Sky Sports instead of him. He said he was delighted too for fellow South American Falcao in scoring his first goal for the club, adding: “It’s great for him, he’s been looking for it for a while and it’s very important for him. "Not only him but the whole team is on the right road now.”

Everton were left in the bottom four with their manager Roberto Martinez rueing De Gea’s brilliant performance and complaining that the referee should have stopped play before United’s second goal because Steven Pienaar was down injured.

“The referee made a major error there,” he said. “Our second-half performance deserved more than we got and we finished really strong at the end.”

Nishikori marks homecoming with Japan Open title win

TOKYO, 5 Oct — Japanese ace Kei Nishikori marked his homecoming in style by defeating big-serving Canadian Milos Raonic in three sets to win his second tour title in as many weeks at the Japan Open on Sunday.

In a rematch of the Tokyo final he won in 2012, world No 7 Nishikori sparked wild celebrations among home fans at Ariake Colosseum as he prevailed 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 to follow up his victory last weekend at the Malaysian Open.

There was more Tokyo heartbeat though for eighth-ranked Raonic, who lost in the Open final for the third year in a row.

The victory, the fourth of the season and seventh of Nishikori’s career, further boosted his chances of reaching the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals in London next month.

In a match lasting nearly four-and-a-half hours and finishing at 2.26 a.m., Raonic became the first of three top-10 opponents Nishikori would beat on his way to the final.

In a match lasting nearly four-and-a-half hours and finishing at 2.26 a.m., Raonic became the first of three top-10 opponents Nishikori would beat on his way to the final. Nishikori now leads the head-to-head series with Raonic 4-1.

Honda nets 4th goal of season in Milan win

MILAN, 5 Oct—Japan international midfielder Keisuke Honda grabbed his fourth goal of the season as AC Milan returned to winning ways with a 2-0 victory over Chievo Verona in Serie A on Saturday.

Sulley Muntari put Milan in front 10 minutes into the second half and Honda completed victory with a 25-metre free kick 12 minutes from time.

Honda won a battle with Jeremy Menez to take the free kick and he stepped up to curl the ball around the outside of the Verona wall to give his side maximum points.

“It looked like he (Menez) was going to kick the ball but I wasn’t going to let him take it from that position. I would have if he was Kaka,” said Honda. “I am glad it went it the way it did.”

Milan coach Filippo Inzaghi was full of praise for Honda after the match.

“Honda has been showing me his best right from the day I came here both in his technical ability and his attitude,” said Inzaghi.

“He always turns up for practice two hours early and leaves two hours afterwards. He has the attitude of a great pro. He has consistency and shows unbelievable determination. I am very satisfied with him.” — Kyodo News

Sharapova beats Kvitova to win China Open

BEIJING, 5 Oct — Russian Maria Sharapova overcame Czech Petra Kvitova 6-4 2-6 6-3 in the final of the China Open to claim the title and move up to number two in the world rankings on Sunday.

Wimbledon Open champion Kvitova broke her opponent twice to claim the first set but Sharapova unleashed 13 winners in the second to force a deciding set.

Sharapova raised her game in the third set to lead 5-3 before serving out the match and raising her hands in celebration after Kvitova buried a return into the net.

World number one Novak Djokovic takes on Tomas Berdych in the men’s final later on Sunday. — Reuters