President U Thein Sein sends messages of felicitations to Turkish President, PM

UNCCTAD to provide technical assistance for graduation of Myanmar from LDC status

Yangon University, Kansai University of International Studies agree to promote exchange of students, academic information

MFFA creates opportunity to breed giant sea perch to local fish farmers

By Aye Min Soe

The University of Yangon signed a memorandum of agreement with Japan’s Kansai University of International Studies on Tuesday, agreeing to promote the exchange of students, exchange of academic information and publications and other exchanges of an academic nature agreed upon by both universities.

Under the university’s 19th MoA with foreign universities and the 4th MoA between the university and Japan, the two universities will be working together to enhance and introduce new ways of teaching activities. The University of Yangon has signed 17 MoUs so far with foreign universities to carry out research projects, academic staff capacity-building and curriculum development.

“University of Yangon is now opening up and trying to pursue academic freedom in line with National Education Law which has just approved by Parliament on 4 October,” said Prof Dr Aung Thu, rector of the University of Yangon, at the signing ceremony held at the university.

The National Education Law inevitably guarantees international collaboration in the context of reform measures, he added. “We want to enhance relations, education and research (between the two universities)” said Prof Dr Atsushi Hamana, the president of Kansai University of International Studies of Japan.

They focused on technical assistance from UNCTAD for implementation of the procedures on gross national income, human assets index and economic vulnerability for graduation of Myanmar from Least Developed Countries status. Also present at call were Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw, U Khin Maung Aye, Dr Zaw Min Aung and Dr Sann Lwin.—MNA

Vice President U Nyan Tun cordially greets Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General of the Geneva-based United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).—MNA

Family members of fishermen picking out fish as usual livelihood for earning their income through sales of fish and fish products in rural area of Bago Township.—Photo: Phoe Thant

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

Yangon, 28 Oct—U Than Lwin, a chairman of the Myanmar Fish Farmers Association, pledged Tuesday to provide local fish farmers with basic requirements, including technical support, to start giant sea perch fish breeding in the next breeding season.

He added producers who want to start giant sea perch farming in suitable places of the country may join with the association to breed the fish on a commercial scale, inviting them to attend a meeting in December to extensively discuss how to maintain the ponds for giant sea perch breeding and cost of production.

Breeding giant sea perch is a successful farming industry, particularly in Thailand.

In Myanmar, a local breeder started giant sea perch farming in Taninthayi Region under the guideline of an Australian expert. It produced successful outcomes, but the farming is not yet a success in Yangon. It is assumed that technology-related barriers have caused farmers to lose their farms. Therefore, breeders and experts are now discussing how to breed the fish successfully in other areas, the chairman of MFFA said. (See page 3)
Ministries elaborate on reasons for more budget allocations

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—A new budget allocation bill came under discussion at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw here on Tuesday, with union ministers and deputy ministers clarifying the principle of the bill and its initial debates on why their ministries need additional budgets.

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung elaborated on how his ministry is undertaking projects by the funding received from the Union Funds and how it will seek funds for future projects.

Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe explained the causes of reduced earnings, new installations of cable lines to prevent unwanted electric hazards, the construction of new power stations, and arrangements for enough power supply to meet the rising demands in summer.

Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw about the share of budget allotment for his ministry and projects to be undertaken by additional budget allocation.

U Khin Zaw, Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation, talked of the construction of dams, compensations to project-affected people, and measures to ensure the effective use of cultivable land.

U Khin Maung Aye, Deputy Minister for Live-stock, Fisheries and Rural Development, explained how his ministry is implementing the fight against poverty and the drive for rural development.

Deputy Minister for Energy U Aung Htoo told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that his ministry is short of funds, which he said resulted from increased rates of pension pays as well as from the necessity of more funds to finish ongoing projects.

Deputy Minister for Industry U Myo Aung briefed on outstanding debts his ministry owes for steel plants, plans for the prospects of sales of steel products.

Deputy Minister for Sports U Thaung Htaik explained why his ministry’s expenses exceeded allotted budget, citing for reasons the construction of sport grounds, stadiums and swimming pools, raised electricity fees, and appointments of foreign sport instructors and trainers.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint told the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw that the maintenance and repair of road facilities and plans to upgrade them through foreign assistance and loans.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw continues tomorrow. MNA

Representatives focus on discussions at Tuesday’s session of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw discuss electricity, electoral systems

Pyi Taw, 28 Oct—Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) convened its 24th day here Tuesday, discussing safety measures of electricity power lines and appropriate electoral system for Myanmar.

U Khing Muang Yi of Ahlon Constituency. MNA

Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Maw Tha Htwe. MNA

The parliamentarians of Pyithu Hluttaw then discussed on the report of commission which analyzes on the emergence of appropriate electoral system for the country.

U Phyo Zeya Thaw, representative of Pobbbathiri constituency, opposed to the Mixed-member proportional (MMP) electoral system which is mixed with the First-past-the-post (FPTP) and the Proportional Representation (PR), pointing out that the MMP is dividing the basic rights of people and has some weaknesses. He also suggested that the electoral system should be amended in accordance with the wills of public.

U Win Oo, representative of Yebyu constituency, supported the FPTP system in which the representative who wins the largest supporting votes will come first followed by the second and third winners who can substitute for the first representative when he or she is assigned for executive role or any other reason, causing the vacancy of respective constituency.

Regarding peace-making process, U Ye Htut Tin, representative of Pasawng constituency, urged for national unity and peace as the country is located between the two global powers.

U Phyo Min Thein also suggested the change of electoral system should be carried out not by the parliament along, but by holding referendum across the country.

U Zone Teint, representative of Chipwe constituency, said the votes of un-elected representatives should be combined to favour all the ethnic people, political parties and voters to ensure national reconciliation.

Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint. MNA

Defence Services Personnel representative Major Ye Min Htwe. MNA

Defence Services Personnel representative Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw. MNA

Plan underway to form Construction Industry Development Board

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct.—With regard to the question raised by Defence Services Personnel representative Brig-Gen Aung Kyaw at Tuesday’s session of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House), Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint replied that a plan is underway to upgrade Mongphyat-Monyawng road to the asphalt road for smooth transport of local people by demanding the fund.

The deputy minister continued replies to question of Defence Services Personnel representative Major Ye Min Htwe on design, specification and quality control and construction sequences for construction of the buildings. He replied that the High-rise Building Construction Projects Supervisory Committee scrutinizes design, specification and quality control and construction sequences of the buildings as of 2013. Moreover, arrangements are being made to form the Construction Industry Development Board so as to give guidance for systematic construction of buildings. In addition, the Directorate of Construction will be set up in the future for supervising all construction tasks.

At the session, the Hluttaw approved the bill amending the seeds law, and the amendments of the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee and decided to seek approval from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for the Myanmar aviation bill. MNA
Myanmar, India to further cooperate in peace and stability in border regions

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win received Commander of Eastern Command of Indian Armed Forces Lt-Gen MMS Rai, AVSM, VSM, at Zeyathiri Beikman in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday to hold talks about further cooperation in peace and stability in border regions.

They also discussed border issues between the two countries.—Myawady

Vice-Senior General Soe Win with Commander of Eastern Command of Indian Armed Forces Lt-Gen MMS Rai, AVSM, VSM, take a documentary photo together. MYAWADY

Research projects for successfully developing Dawei SEZ discussed at meeting

Yangon, 28 Oct—Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Aye Myint held talks with Japanese delegations from Dawei Institute of Research and Deloitte Tohmatsu Consulting Co., Ltd on Dawei SEZ project.—MNA

search projects for successfully developing the Dawei Special Economic Zone organized by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan and implemented by a Japanese Research Institute by the name of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).—MNA

Petrochemical considered as one of top potentials for large scale chemical industries to develop in Myanmar

By Aye Min Soe

YANGON, 28 Oct—Myanmar has potential for large scale chemical industries and petrochemical industry is also one of the expected industries to develop in the country, according Ministry of Industry.

“For the development of petrochemical industry in Myanmar, mutual cooperation, investment, exchange of technology and other physical matters such as standardization procedure, chemical management policy are required,” said U Ye Mon, Managing Director of the Paper and Home Utility Industries under the Ministry of Industry in his opening speech at the 8th Regional Chemical Management Forum which kicked off in Yangon on Tuesday.

Myanmar has no large chemical factory nor multinational enterprises so far due to its lack of investment and technical know-how. The three-day forum hosted by Myanmar for the first time was organized by Swedish Chemical Agency (KEMI) and the forum is being participated by delegations from Sweden, Japan, China, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar, introducing specific chemicals management issues to regional countries.

To foster the management of chemicals, Myanmar enacted “Prevention of Hazard from Chemicals and Related Substances Law” on 26 August, 2013 and Rules of the law has been submitted to Cabinet for approval.

Myanmar has a plan to declare the notification of the hazardous chemicals according to the International Conventions as following up action.

Myanmar is also considering to sign the Minamata Convention that purposes to phase out Mercury. Myanmar’s Ministry of Industry has mainly carried out chemical management at factories, enacting law and rules for the chemical management. GNLM

UNHCR’s regional coordinator visits Pyithu Hluttaw

NAY PYI TAW, 28 Oct—Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo, on behalf of the speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, received the representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as officials from Singaporean school Tuesday here.

U Hla Myint Oo met Mr James Lynch, UNHCR’s Bangkok-based regional coordinator for South-East Asia and Mr Giuseppe de Vincentis, UNHCR’s regional representative at the Lower House Building at 3:30 pm. He also discussed with Ms. Joyee Cuff and Mr Louis Low, dean and manager at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, about possible application of parliamentary staff for the courses of Public Administration and Management at 4:30 at the same venue. Participants at the meeting included secretaries of the International Relations Committee and the Citizens’ Fundamental Rights, Democracy and Human Rights Committee, as well as the officials at parliament.—MNA

Delegates participate in group discussion at the 8th Regional Chemicals Management forum. PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

MFFA creates . . .

(from page 1)

According to U Than Lwin, plans are underway to make a detailed plan for giant sea perch farming. It is a part of the whole aquaculture development plan that has been implemented by the Myanmar Fisheries Federation to promote Myanmar’s aquaculture industry. It is expected to finish in January next year. The federation believes that the plan is sure to attract more foreign investment. GNLM
Vessels, cruise liners earn income through transport of globetrotters, local passengers

Mandaly, 29 Oct—Vessels of inland water transport association and cruise liners give transport services to globetrotters and local travellers from Gawwin and Mayangyan ports in Ayeyawady River of Mandalay.

The vessels ferry the passengers along the Mandalay-Mingun route, Mandalay-Bagan route and Mandalay-Katha-Bhamo route.

“Our company transports foreign tourists and local passengers along Mandalay-Mingun and Mandalay-Bagan routes daily. We arrange breakfast, lunch and tea time for the passengers on Mandalay-Bagan route. Moreover, we run a cruise liner three times a week for transportation of tourists,” said managing director U Zaw Win Than of Pioneer Cruises Travel & Tours Company.

The directorate of Hotels and Tourism Services Development (Mandalay Region) has issued licences to 41 vessels for the Mandalay-Mingun route, five for the Mandalay-Bagan route, seven for Mandalay-Katha-Bhamo route and five cruiseliners.

The vessel association fixes US$ 8 per foreigner and K5,000 per local passenger along Mandalay-Mingun up and down trip, US$45 per foreigner and K25,000 per local passenger for Mandalay-Bagan route and US$35 per foreigner and K25,000 per local passengers on Bagan-Mandalay route.

The cruise liner runs its route at US$ 700 per foreigner along three-day trip and US$350 per foreigners along two days trip.

A total of 160,975 foreigners arrived in Mandalay Region in 2012 and 291,518 in 2013. From January to September 2014, over 130,000 globetrotters have visited Mandalay Region. Directorate of Hotels and Tourism Development estimated about 3 million tourists will arrive in Myanmar this year.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)
**Wednesday, 29 October, 2014**

**LOCAL NEWS**

Engineers make earnest efforts in expansion of road

KYAUPKADAUNG, 28 Oct — Public Works under the Ministry of Construction is building new roads and maintaining and upgrading the existing roads and bridges.

Engineers and workers of Mandalay Region Public Works expand the curves and narrow road sections on Kyaukpaduang-Myingyan Road in Kyaukpaduang Township with the use of heavy machinery.

Popa triple curves section is being expanded with spending K47 million funded by the Union government.

Hluttaw MP U Taing Aye of Kyaukpaduang Township and township officials inspected expansion of the road section.

“Original road is 20 feet wide. Now we expand five feet wide to pedestrian way on either side at the curve of the road. After the expanding works, we will build the gravel-filled walls along the road,” an official of the Township Public Works said.

The construction works started in August 2014. So far, the expansion of work has been completed by 75%.

Ko Nay (Kyaukpaduang)

AMD turns out skilled villagers in driving agricultural machinery

BUDALIN, 28 Oct — The basic agricultural machinery driving course kicked off at No 62 tractor station of Agricultural Mechanization Department in Budalin Township of Sagaing Region recently.

A total of 30 trainees from villages are attending the 10-day course.

**Myingyan Township gets new BEMS**

MYINGYAN, 28 Oct — A ceremony to open the upgraded Basic Education Middle School was held in conjunction with the handover of new school building at the school in Thityon Village in Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region on 26 October.

Mandalay Region Chief Minister U Ye Myint unveiled the signboard of the upgraded school. The district education officers reported on progress in education sector.

Mr John and party of 100 School Project of Canada explained the purpose of donation and donated documents related to the school and copy books to officials.

The new school building is 120 feet long, 30 feet wide and 18 feet high one-storey structure.

The chief minister and party met local people in Talok Village and Aneintkyaw Village and explained alleviation of poverty and rural development being undertaken by the region government.

—Thida Ko Ko (Mandalay)

**Culverts expanded on Myingyan-Mandalay Road**

NATOGYI, 28 Oct — A private construction company is expanding 10 culverts to 40 feet wide ones on three-mile long Myingyan-Mandalay road in Natogyi Township of Mandalay Region.

Ten culverts are located on Myingyan-Mandalay Road. Arrangements are being made to ensure smooth transport of vehicles along the 24-foot wide roads by expanding the culverts and bridges.

At present, the local authorities improve the roads and bridges along Myingyan-Mandalay Road and Myingyan-Natogyi Road.

Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)

Rural people earn income from breeding goats

MAHLAING, 28 Oct — Mahlaing Township of Mandalay Region is formed with 247 villages where local people are engaged in cultivation and livestock breeding on a manageable scale.

Myaukle Village in the township has over 200 houses. People of the whole village carry out breeding of goats.

“We breed Kasi species of goat. We sell goats ranging K80,000 to K110,000 to Taunggyi, Hpa-an and major cities. Moreover, we export goats to China, earning income for the family,” said a local.

Kyaaw Kyaaw (Mahlaing)

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Kyaaw Kyaaw (Mahlaing)
Chinese vice president holds talks with Japanese governors

BEIJING, 28 Oct — Chinese Vice President Li Yuanchao and a group of Japanese governors on Tuesday discussed bilateral issues, two weeks prior to a regional economic summit where top leaders of the two countries may have a chance to hold their first formal meeting amid severely strained relations.

The meeting between Li and the group led by Kyo to Gov Keji Yamada took place in Beijing where Chinese President Xi Jinping hosts this year’s summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum on 10-11 November.

The Chinese leadership has not softened its criticism of what it sees as Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s unpertinent attitude toward its wartime history.

But the leadership has been sending clear signals over the last six months or so that despite continuing political tensions between Beijing and Tokyo, it is interested in promoting exchanges between local governments and companies of both countries.

Bilateral ties remain frosty due to territorial dispute and China’s irritation over Japan’s irritation over Japan’s war history. But the leadership has been sending clear signals in the last six months or so that despite continuing political tensions between Beijing and Tokyo, it is interested in promoting exchanges between local governments and companies of both countries.

The system, which requires eight ground crew members to operate, can be put to use in Singapore’s surveillance and early warning to give us sufficient reaction time to respond will always be a challenge, but the Aerostat will improve our surveillance capabilities significantly,” Ng said.

Suspected Abu Sayyaf sub-leader nabbed in S Philippines

ZAMBOANGA CITY, 28 Oct — A suspected sub-leader of rogue group Abu Sayyaf, who is believed to be involved in high-profile kidnappings and attacks, was arrested by government security forces in a pre-dawn raid in southern Philippines on Tuesday.

Regional Police Director Edgar Basbas identified the suspect as Nasir Usman, a teacher assigned at the Tandug Ahas National High School. Usman, who oversees the indoctrination of the militant group, was arrested in Lamitan City, Basilan province.

Basbas said Usman is facing four counts of kidnapping with serious illegal detention. The warrant for his arrest was issued in connection with the Lamitan siege in 2001.

Police intelligence also revealed that the suspect is believed to be involved in Ilipin town siege in 1995 and kidnappings in Zamboanga Sibugay and Tumahubong in 2000.

Singapore to add new surveillance system to guard its boundaries

SINGAPORE, 28 Oct — A new surveillance system, referred to as the Aerostat System, will be put into use above Singapore early next year, Channel NewsAsia reported on Tuesday, citing Defence Minister Ng Eng Hen.

The system, a tethered balloon that uses low-level radar to detect threats as far as 200 km away, will complement the city-state’s Air Force’s current suite of airborne and ground-based radars to conduct a more comprehensive air and maritime check.

Ng said during the Productivity and Innovation in Daily Efforts (PRIDE) Day award ceremony that it was because Singapore has seen an increasing number of high-rise buildings in recent years, and ground-based radar systems can “only operate above high-rise buildings.”

He also added that the system will save Singapore Armed Forces up to 30 million Singapore dollars (24 million US dollars) in operating costs every year.

Talks gather pace on sale of Indian patrol vessels to Vietnam

NEW DELHI, 28 Oct — Talks are gathering pace on the sale of four Indian naval patrol vessels to Vietnam, an Indian official said, the first significant military transfer to Hanoi as it improves its defences in the South China Sea.

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung held talks with counterpart Narendra Modi on Tuesday, the first meeting since the Indian leader took office in May, promising to turn the country into an economic and military power. An Indian government official said negotiations for the patrol craft had gathered pace since the credit line was announced last month during the visit of India’s president to Vietnam.

“We expect to see progress on this fairly early as negotiations are continuing between the Vietnamese and our defence suppliers,” the government official involved in discussions said.

Vietnam wants the craft for surveillance off its coast and around its military bases in the Spratly island chain in the South China Sea where it is building a credible naval deterrent to foreign countries with Kilo-class submarines from Russia.

Dung said Vietnamese defence cooperation with India was the pillar of their strategic partnership.

“During the visit, I am going to discuss with Indian leaders the major directions and concrete measures to promote bilateral cooperation,” he told the Economic Times in response to a question on how he planned to expand security cooperation.

India and Vietnam have a long-standing defence relationship but it has been restricted to military exchanges, training, spares and maintenance of military hardware since both have predominantly Soviet-origin equipment.

Training has moved to a higher gear since Vietnam acquired the diesel-electric Kilo submarines which India has operated since the 1980s. It has been giving underwater combat training to Vietnamese sailors at the submarine school, INS Satavahana, in the southern city of Vishakhapatnam since October.

But Indian military officials said Beijing itself had been providing arms to every neighbour of India, from Pakistan to Sri Lanka and lately even the Indian Ocean island of Maldives. Besides, patrol craft were far less lethal than the missile transfers that China had made to Pakistan, they said.

“These OPVs (offshore patrol vessels) are actually dual purpose,” said retired army major general PK Chakravorty, who served as India’s defence attaché in Hanoi. “You can use them for anti-piracy operations as well as for military purposes.”——Reuters
Lavrov hopes Ukraine’s coalition government to include peace-minded ministers

MOSCOW, 28 Oct — Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov hopes that Ukraine’s new coalition government will include ministers committed to the course of achieving peace. He said it in an interview with LifeNews TV channel and Izvestia daily.

“I’m sure there’ll be people to speak to both in the Verkhovna Rada and in the government, in the first place, because Petro Poroshenko’s bloc will become the leading force in the Ukrainian parliament anyway,” Lavrov said, recalling that Poroshenko was the partner of Russia and President Vladimir Putin in coordination of the Minsk agreements.

Poroshenko has confirmed more than once his commitment to these agreements. He did so at a meeting in Milan on 17 October and earlier this year at a multilateral meeting in Normandy, Lavrov said.

“I hope the government that will be formed — and it will inevitably be a coalition government — will have some ministers committed to the president’s course at achieving peace, at restoration of national concord and national reconciliation in Ukraine,” he continued.

“As a minimum, Poroshenko says firmly in his contacts with Putin he will not admit a relapse of military operations and that’s the main thing now,” Lavrov said. —Ibar-Tass

Rousseff pledges changes after narrow re-election win, markets fall

SÃO PAULO, 28 Oct — President Dilma Rousseff promised on Monday to make changes to her economic policies after she sought to build bridges with business leaders after narrowly winning re-election at the end of an acrimonious campaign.

Rousseff said in television interviews the changes would be announced next month after broad discussions with industrial and financial leaders, and that they would include reforming Brazil’s onerous tax system.

“I will try to make the changes and reforms that the country needs,” Rousseff said in an interview with TV Record. She also said she will soon pick a new finance minister but did not go into detail on the reforms or who she might choose.

Rousseff, 66, won a second term by a slim margin on Sunday, overcoming dissatisfaction with a sluggish economy and poor public services and dashed the hopes of investors who had bet on her centrist pro-business challenger, Aécio Neves.

The victory, driven by strong support among Brazil’s poor, met with cold reality on Monday as Brazil’s financial markets tumbled.

The benchmark Bovespa stock index fell 5.6 percent in early trade and closed 2.72 percent lower while the real currency ended at 2.52 per dollar, its weakest level since April 2005. Both had already seen heavy losses in recent sessions as Rousseff took a lead in polls.

Shares of state-run companies whose profits have suffered under Rousseff plunged on Monday. That included a more than 12 percent drop for scandal-plagued oil giant Petroleo Brasileiro SA, its biggest one-day decline in nearly six years.

Rousseff vowed “not to leave a stone unturned” in getting to the bottom of a corruption scandal at Petrobras, and punish those found responsible.

She said confidence would return because Brazil’s economy is still attractive and has $376 billion in international reserves. “We have to wait for markets to calm down and they will.”

Finance Minister Guido Mantega, whose departure had already been announced, also tried to beat back pessimism with promises to control inflation and close a budget deficit, although he added that the election showed popular approval for the government’s economic policies. Despite the reassurances, many investors are skeptical that Rousseff can pull off a swift economic recovery or make a major shift toward business-friendly policies after four years of interventionist measures that failed to spur growth or keep public finances under control.

She now faces the challenge of delivering on campaign promises to expand social benefits for the poor while balancing a strained federal budget.

Fitch Ratings, which rates Brazil’s debt two levels into investment grade, said it will evaluate Rousseff’s ability to revive growth and “address some of the macroeconomic imbalances that have emerged.”

Investors hope a more market-friendly finance minister can help restore fiscal discipline, bring transparency to the federal budget and better engage with business leaders. Some believe that Rousseff will be forced by economic realities to soften some of her policies, but she also faces pressure from her own ruling party to choose a finance minister who if not from the party, is aligned with its thinking.

“What’s essential is that the general lines of economic policy, as they have been practiced, are maintained,” Rui Falcão, the Workers’ Party president, told reporters. —Reuters

Russia’s foreign minister says he wants to make progress on Ukraine

BELGRADE, 28 Oct — Russia’s foreign minister says he wants to make progress on Ukraine.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Monday that talks between Russia and Ukraine will “return” because of the new government in Moscow.

Lavrov said in an interview with TV Record.

“I am hoping for very nice cooperation with European Commission member Johannes Hahn because, first of all, he knows us very well,” Lavrov told reporters.

“That is a really great advantage. I am not saying that all of us will cut some slack, but it means better, good understanding,” Lavrov said.

Russia owes much gratitude to outgoing Commission Fuele, who was a “fierce advocate of every Western Balkan state” during his five-year term, said Fuele.

Fuele visited Belgrade last Thursday to attend an informal meeting of foreign and finance ministers of Western Balkan countries, and said that Serbia is now a certain candidate for European Union accession.

He also said that, since Serbia’s first visit five years ago, Serbia has achieved major progress in integrations.

I am very happy to see after less than five years that Serbia has become a certain candidate for EU accession and that we are focusing on the question of “when” rather than “if,” Fuele said. —Tanjug

Japan presents nuclear disarmament resolution at UN committee

NEW YORK, 28 Oct — Japan has introduced a draft resolution on the elimination of nuclear weapons to a committee of the UN General Assembly, calling on countries in the nuclear non-proliferation treaty to work together for next year’s treaty review conference to strengthen its terms.

The resolution, submitted for the 21st year in a row to the First Committee on disarmament and security issues, enlisted more than 40 countries including nuclear states such as the United States and Britain as joint sponsors. The resolution welcomes the announcements and recent updates on overall nuclear warhead stockpiles by three of the five nuclear powers — the United States, Britain and France, and an update on its nuclear arsenal by Russia, a fourth power.

It also stresses the importance of achieving a successful outcome at the NPT review conference, given that next year marks the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The document, meanwhile, condemns “in the strongest terms” the nuclear tests conducted by North Korea and its missile development, recognizing the importance of compliance with past Security Council resolutions that call on North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons.

After it is adopted by the First Committee, the resolution is expected to be put to a vote at the General Assembly in December. —Kyodo News

MISCEVIC HOPES FOR GOOD COOPERATION WITH HAHN

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Serbia’s chief EU negotiator Tanja Miscevic last Thursday to attend an informal meeting of foreign and finance ministers of Western Balkan countries, and said that Serbia is now a certain candidate for European Union accession.

He also said that, since his first visit five years ago, Serbia has achieved major progress in integrations.

I am very happy to see after less than five years that Serbia has become a certain candidate for EU accession and that we are focusing on the question of “when” rather than “if,” Fuele said. —Tanjug

Japan presents nuclear disarmament resolution at UN committee

NEW YORK, 28 Oct — Japan has introduced a draft resolution on the elimination of nuclear weapons to a committee of the UN General Assembly, calling on countries in the nuclear non-proliferation treaty to work together for next year’s treaty review conference to strengthen its terms.

The resolution, submitted for the 21st year in a row to the First Committee on disarmament and security issues, enlisted more than 40 countries including nuclear states such as the United States and Britain as joint sponsors. The resolution welcomes the announcements and recent updates on overall nuclear warhead stockpiles by three of the five nuclear powers — the United States, Britain and France, and an update on its nuclear arsenal by Russia, a fourth power.

It also stresses the importance of achieving a successful outcome at the NPT review conference, given that next year marks the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The document, meanwhile, condemns “in the strongest terms” the nuclear tests conducted by North Korea and its missile development, recognizing the importance of compliance with past Security Council resolutions that call on North Korea to abandon all nuclear weapons. After it is adopted by the First Committee, the resolution is expected to be put to a vote at the General Assembly in December. —Kyodo News

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Public education and private education

By Kyaw Thura

It would not be far wrong to say that easy access to education is a human right, for it is through education that people can realize other human rights, that marginalized groups can lift themselves out of poverty and prevent themselves from falling back into deprivations. It is therefore necessary to foster the human value of education for national interests.

It has been widely believed that investing in education can pay off. In addition to guaranteeing a secure life, education can also protect the environment. Some people are ignorant and not educated properly, and do not know the consequences of their own actions. I am truly disgusted and saddened by the waste of their own actions. I am truly ashamed. People lack self-discipline and educate their children to ”take care of the environment”.

I have the right to drop litters to my apartment buildings. People would say “well, we pay you for cleaning out the rubbish therefore I have the right to drop litters”. Well, people, what are you thinking? Do you even realize that you are recklessly ruining your own place and from that it could lead to an unhealthy environment? You and your neighbors are the ones who will have to suffer at the end. So can we please stop throwing rubbish on the streets and behind your apartment buildings?

Furthermore, I would like to stress that township authorities should be responsible for proper management and disposal of garbage. What happens is garbage trucks do not come often—may be normally once a month or so. When it comes, it does not collect all the garbage. As the trash just sits in piles especially near markets. It is even more disgusting in rainy season since the litter is all wet and producing extremely unpleasant odor.

We must stop this littering habit and we must educate people around us on the impact of littering and how the trash affects the environment. For that, we cannot work alone. We need every concerned person from every sector to take care of the environment and the habit of littering. Also authorities should properly enforce anti-littering laws with monetary fines and start taking actions.

Finally, I would like to request our fellow citizens to stop littering and create a clean environment for the sake of this country. “My dear colleagues, let us stop the littering habit, let us make our environment safe and clean, let us show who we really are and let us make this nation proud”

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued by T Pauk’s article that appeared in your esteemed GNLM of Oct 23. I, at first, Myanglish is a new word coined by Tommy as I heard of it previously. As I read through the article I realized that it is an updated version of Burghlish used in old times, the word being derived from truncation and combination of Burmese and English.

The author, TP, appeared to have mixed up transliteration with Myanglish; code-mixing with English.

“Nay kaung lar” is transliteration into English of the Myanmar words and “I have hazzar things to do.” is an example of code-switching and not Hinglish. (Code-switching is mixing up two languages in the same sentence.)

Tommy’s article, I must say, is classic example of Myanglish. To support my contention let me highlight a couple of his Myanglish usages:

- “It is obvious to see that xxx”
- “xxxx the sender and receiver of message prefer to enjoy fun of xxx”

I’ve lifted just these two examples from his article in which quite a few Myanglish words are embedded. If TP had read PG Wodehouse’s spelling? (or?) Jeeves novels he would not have written that

Union CIT Minister attends ITU conferences in ROK

Nay Pyi Taw, 28 Oct—Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Myat Hein and party attended the 2014 Busan ICT Ministerial Meeting in the Republic of Korea from 19 October, the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference. The Union Minister delivered an address on Myanmar’s policy on development of communication sector in Myanmar at the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference.

The Union Minister and party arrived back in Myanmar on 25 October.

Correction

Please read “textile dyeing” instead of “textile dying” in last paragraph under sub-heading of Parliament Periodic of article “SMEs are now looking up” in 27-10-2014 paper.

The error is regretted.

The author.

Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Myat Hein attends the 2014 Busan ICT Ministerial Meeting in the Republic of Korea.—MNA

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.

Attitude towards littering in Myanmar

Khaing Min Thant

Littering has serious environmental impacts and is a considerable resource and financial burden for governments, business and the communities. It is a major concern in Myanmar. People lack self-discipline and they just drop litters at their comfort without returning places behind the environment. Some people are ignorant and not educated properly, and do not know the consequences of their own actions. I am truly disgusted and saddened by the environment. Some people are ignorant and not educated properly, and do not know the consequences of their own actions. I am truly disgusted and saddened by the state of our roadsides, markets and places behind apartment blocks. Imagine the impression it must have on garbage disposal. Not only that, we must think about the impact it will have on the country’s image.

There could be many reasons why we throw rubbish every day. One reason could be that we are used to this littering habit. One must be thinking “why should I care, even if I do not litter, most of the people are littering anyway. One person would not make a difference”. But let me tell you that even one person can really make a difference when people around you take it as an example and start doing the way you do. Therefore, let us be an example for people around us.

Laziness is also another factor when it comes to littering. People are lazy and simply do not want to carry litters until they find a dustbin. It gets even worse when there is lack of trash bins. Having trash bins everywhere for easy access could minimize littering. But whatever the case is, we must be a responsible citizen.

Another reason is that you are charged with money every three months or so for cleaning out the rubbish including places behind

The author got a bachelor degree in English and currently working as Head of School for “Future Light English Language Centre”. He also works as a freelance English teacher and translator.
Union defence minister holds talks with UNHCR representatives on resettlement of refugees

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Oct — Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Wai Lwin received Giuseppe De Vincentis, resident representative of Yangon-based Office of the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees, and James Lynch, UNHCR's South-east Asia regional coordinator, at his office in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

The UNHCR officials said they wanted to consult with the Myanmar government on a matter of resettling Myanmar refugees in Thailand in Myanmar, stressing the need to ensure security and stability, sustainable livelihoods for them and clearance of landmines in the region where refugees will be resettled.

The UN and the UNHCR are willing to see the signing of a memorandum of understanding or an agreement on the resettlement of refugees between Myanmar and Thailand, the officials said, adding the UNHCR has a road map for resettlement.

Despite the need for cooperation between Myanmar and Thailand, Myanmar must play a leading role in managing the issue, they said.

Lt-Gen Wai Lwin insisted the Ministry of Defence will cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that will act as the ministry to take the main responsibility and other ministries concerned — the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, the Ministry of Immigration and population and the Ministry of Border Affairs — in carrying out the resettlement of refugees in accord with the guidance of the government.

The minister continued that Myanmar-Thailand border committees formed on various stages will do whatever necessary to help.

Also present at the call were Deputy Minister Commodore Aung Thaw and officials. — MNA

Four Myanmar students awarded ASEAN scholarships

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Oct — The Singapore government on Tuesday awarded the ASEAN scholarships to four outstanding students from Myanmar with the aim of promoting human resources in the ASEAN region as well as people-to-people relations among the students, according to the Singapore Embassy.

Mr Robert Chua, ambassador of Singapore to Myanmar, urged the four to learn more about Singapore, forge lasting friendships with its people, and contribute to bilateral ties and cooperation between the two countries, and nation building of their country.

Those scholars — Aung Myint Oo, Htun Win Aung, Hnin Azali and Phu Myat Hmu Kyaw — were selected on the basis of academic merit, leadership qualities and their potential to contribute to their home countries’ development. They enter Singapore schools at Secondary 3 and will sit for the GCE O-level examination (if applicable) at the end of Secondary 4 and the GCE A-level (or equivalent) at the end of pre-university 2.

Consumer protection needed to strengthen real estate development in Myanmar

YANGON, 28 Oct — Regulations for real estate development projects should be strengthened to protect consumers, VDB Loi, a legal and tax advisory firm with offices in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw, said in a report on the regulatory framework for foreign investment in Myanmar.

VDB Loi, which also has offices in some other ASEAN countries, released the real estate development report at a seminar jointly organized with the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Yangon on Friday.

The report prepared by VDB Loi Myanmar Ltd providing solutions for transactions and taxation stressed the need to protect people paying deposits for apartments before they are completed from long delays or from insolvency of the developers.

The report, comprising nine chapters, aims to analyze how current laws, regulations and government processes affect foreign investment in Myanmar’s real estate sector, VDB Loi’s Edwin Vanderbruggen, author of the report, said.

In a press release, the firm said strengthening some of the rules and practices in connection with property rights will help Myanmar attract more foreign direct investment, increase consumer protection and improve its commercial and tourism infrastructure.

The firm pointed out that rights related to apartments in Myanmar are under the law actually considered a kind of lease, saying they are mostly dependent on the contracts between the land owner, the developer and the apartment buyers. There is little practice in harmonizing or registering these rights except developments in joint venture with the Department of Urban Settlement and Housing Development or City Development Councils, it added.

The report also revealed that less than 5 per cent of large scale property projects had obtained an MIC permit at this time in Yangon due to the MIC’s policy with respect to land lease rights requiring that developers have an actual land lease and applicants being unable or unwilling to comply with MIC scrutiny.

Talking about a risk of delays and completion of financing deals caused by a situation in which the Central Bank of Myanmar and MIC are not yet familiar with the needs and expectations of foreign lenders, the firm suggested case-by-case approval should be replaced with more predictable, clear rules on foreign loans and a new regulation on implementation of mortgaging, charges and other secured interests for financing in order to mitigate the risk. — GNLM

Union FM sends message of felicitations to Turkish FM

NAV PYI TAW, 29 Oct — On the occasion of the 91st anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey, which falls on 29 October 2014, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to H.E. Muhittin M. Cavusoglu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey. — MNA

Nay Pyi Taw hosts workshop on sustainable development of mining

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Oct — Under the programme of the Myanmar-German Technical Cooperation, the Federal Institute for Geoscience and Natural Resources (BGR) and the Department of Mines under the Ministry of Mines jointly organized a workshop on sustainable development of the mining sector in Myanmar on Tuesday here.

The two-day workshop is aimed at promoting the country’s mining industry. Today workshop was attended by Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung, directors-general, managing directors, departmental officials and German guests.

Seminar for Myanmar graduation from LDC status held

NAV PYI TAW, 28 Oct — A seminar for Myanmar graduation from Least Developed Countries status was held at Aureum Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Tuesday.

Mr Taffere Tesfachew, Director of Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and experts discussed with technical expert team from subcommittees and other ministries.

Present at the meeting were Dr Myo Thein Gyi, director general of the Ministry of Education and Daw Yin Yin Oo, deputy director general of Strategic and Policy Studies Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the technical expert team on drafting the assessment report for Myanmar graduation from LDC status and the officials. — MNA

By Ye Myint

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Talking about a risk of delays and completion of financing deals caused by a situation in which the Central Bank of Myanmar and MIC are not yet familiar with the needs and expectations of foreign lenders that may be willing to finance property projects in emerging markets, the firm suggested case-by-case approval should be replaced with more predictable, clear rules on foreign loans and a new regulation on implementation of mortgaging, charges and other secured interests for financing in order to mitigate the risk. — GNLM

Four outstanding students Aung Myint Oo, Htun Win Aung, Hnin Azali and Phu Myat Hmu Kyaw who secured scholarship award to pursue education in Singapore. — GNLM
Canada must do more to thwart radical threat, security officials say

OTTAWA, 28 Oct — The head of Canada’s national police told a parliamentary committee on Monday the government must do more to stop homegrown radicals, such as those who killed two soldiers on home soil last week, from going overseas for militant training.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Commissioner Bob Paulson said last week’s killings in Ottawa and outside Montreal, which he said appeared to be carried out with minimal planning or preparation, show the nation faces a “serious” threat.

“While we are facing this threat at home, we must focus our efforts on preventing individuals travelling abroad to commit acts of terrorism,” Paulson said.

“Preventing the individuals from travelling is critical. If these individuals return with training and/or battle experience, they pose an even greater threat to Canada and our allies.”

Paulson’s remarks followed the fatal shooting on Wednesday of a Canadian soldier standing guard at an Ottawa war memorial by a man who then charged into the Parliament building. Two days earlier, another man rammed two soldiers with his car near Montreal, killing one.

“The magnitude of the threat is perhaps best characterized as serious,” Paulson told a Senate committee. The attacks in Ottawa and outside Montreal came during a week in which Canada sent warplanes to the Middle East to take part in air strikes against Islamic State militants in Iraq. Canadian officials vowed their involvement would not be influenced by the attacks.

Paulson spoke a day after the RCMP said the Ottawa gunman, Michael Zehaf-Bibeau, 32, had made a video of himself just before the Wednesday attack, and that it contained evidence that he was driven by ideological and political motives.

“He was quite lucid and was quite purposeful in articulating the basis for his actions,” Paulson told reporters after testifying.

“They were in respect broadly to Canada’s foreign policy, and also in respect to his religious beliefs.”

Lawmakers could help security agencies track suspected militants by making it easier for courts to limit suspects’ right to travel, Paulson said. Lawmakers could also make it easier for investigators to get hold of suspects’ Internet and phone records to allow monitoring of their communications, he added.—Reuters

Israel’s Netanyahu to expedite plans for 1,000 new settler homes

JERUSALEM, 28 Oct — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will expedite planning for some 1,000 settler homes in East Jerusalem, a government official said on Monday, in a bid to placate a restive coalition ally without further aggravating a dispute with Washington.

The ultra-nationalist Jewish Home party, led by Economy Minister Naftali Bennett, has been issuing veiled threats to sever its political partnership with Netanyahu unless he agrees to its call for 2,000 new building tenders in settlements in the occupied West Bank. But Netanyahu, just hours before the opening of parliament’s winter session, sidestepped the demand.

The government official said Netanyahu ordered the "planning" of some 1,000 new units in Jerusalem - approximately 400 units in Har Homa and 600 units in Ramat Shlomo - to be advanced.

There was no public pledge to actually erect them, and Pepe Alalu, a left-wing member of the Jerusalem municipality’s planning and housing committee, said the proposed projects in the two settlements, in areas of the West Bank that Israel captured in a 1967 war and annexed to the city, were not new.

“The plans have existed for a long time,” Alalu told Reuters, adding that no building permits had been issued.

Palestinian officials have voiced alarm — echoed in the international community — over settlement building, viewing it as a main obstacle to creation of the independent state they seek in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

“We strongly condemn the latest Israeli announcement to expand its illegal settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine,” Palestinian chief negotiator Saeb Erekat said in a statement.

“This announcement amounts to evidence of an intent to further commit crimes defined by and punishable under international law.”

The European Union has asked for clarification of Israel’s plans, said EU foreign policy spokeswoman Maja Kocijancic, and if the expansion is confirmed, “it will call once again into serious question Israel’s commitment to a negotiated solution with the Palestinians.”

British PM Cameron races to his car by bodyguards after man confronts him

LONDON, 28 Oct — British Prime Minister David Cameron was bundled into his official car by his bodyguards on Monday after a member of the public ran into him in what looked like a serious security breach, video footage showed.

In August, Britain raised its terrorism alert to the second-highest level with Cameron saying Islamic State (IS) militants operating in Syria and Iraq posed the country’s greatest ever security risk.

The footage showed the man run directly towards Cameron, who was leaving an event in the city of Leeds in northern England, and come into contact with him before being intercepted. Bodyguards later rushed Cameron towards a waiting car.

“A 28-year-old local man was briefly arrested after he came close to the prime minister’s group,” West Yorkshire Police said in a statement released on Twitter. “No threats were made, and after the man’s details were checked, he was de-arrested and allowed on his way.”

The Metropolitan Police unit responsible for Cameron’s protection said it would conduct a review of the incident, while the British leader said he wanted to thank his security team.

"Can I put on the record for once the debt I owe to the close protection team that looks after me and the very good job they do,” Cameron told parliament on Monday.

His spokesman said Cameron had confidence in his protection team and would “participate and cooperate in full” with the police review. The member of the public, named by British media as Dean Balboa Farley, posted on Facebook that the incident had simply been a case of “brushing into someone while running” — Reuters

Mexico arrests four gang members in students’ disappearance

MEXICO CITY, 28 Oct — Mexican authorities on Monday said they had arrested four drug gang members involved in the kidnap- ping of dozens of student teachers who disappeared last month and are feared massacred.

The announcement came as local media reported that a mass grave has been discovered in a trash dump outside moun- tain town of Cucula, near Iguala in the southwestern state of Guerrero, where 43 students disappeared after they clashed with police and masked men on 26 September. Mexico’s Attorney General Jesus Murillo said the four members of the Guerreros Unidos gang had been involved in the kidnapping of the students, which has sparked nationwide protests and undermined President Enrique Pena Nieto’s claims that Mexico is becoming safer under his watch. “Today we now have those who organized the disappearance of these youths,” Murillo said. — Reuters

A still image taken from video shows a man (C) approaching Britain’s Prime Minister David Cameron (3rd L) as he leaves a news conference in Leeds, northern England on 27 Oct, 2014.—Reuters

A woman pushes a pram as she walks in a Jewish settlement near Jerusalem known to Israelis as Har Homa and to Palestinians as Jabal Abu Ghneim on 27 Oct, 2014. — Reuters
An explosion following an air-strike is seen in the Syrian town of Kobani from near the Mursitpinar border crossing on the Turkish-Syrian border in the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa province on 28 Oct. 2014.—Reuters

**Ankara, 28 Oct —** Turkey cannot be expected to send troops to defend the besieged Syrian border town of Kobani and only Iraqi Kurdish peshmerga fighters and Syria’s own moderate opposition can save it, Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said.

“Saving Kobani, retaking Kobani and some area around Kobani from ISIS is the need for a military coalition,” Davutoglu said in an interview with the BBC broadcast on Tuesday.

But made clear neither Turkey nor Western allies would commit troops.

“If they (international coalition) don’t want to send their ground troops, how can they expect Turkey to send Turkish ground troops with the same risks on our border,” Davutoglu said.

Kobani, on Turkey’s south-eastern border, has been encircled by Islamic State fighters for more than a month, and the battle to save it has become a test of the US-led coalition’s strategy for halting the radical Sunni Muslim group’s advance.

Turkish officials have rebuffed accusations over their reluctance to do more to help Kobani’s beleaguered Kurdish defenders, whom they say are linked to the militant Kurdistan Workers’ Party (PKK), which has fought a decades long insurgency against the Turkish state.

After pressure from Western allies, Turkey last week agreed to let peshmerga forces from Iraq cross its territory to reach Kobani as its preferred alternative to US planes air-dropping weapons to Kurdish fighters in the town.

On Monday a Turkish official denied accusations from a Syrian Kurdish leader that Ankara was stalling on the deal, saying the peshmerga could cross “as soon as they are ready”.

“The only way to help Kobani not come, so that if ISIS leaves, PKK terrorists should not come,” he said.

We will help any forces, any coalition, through air bases (within Turkey) or through other means if we have a common understanding to have a new pluralistic, democratic Syria.”

Washington has committed to arming the Syrian opposition to fight Islamic State, but officials remain concerned about identifying effective, moderate groups in the increasingly bloody and radicalised conflict.—Reuters

**BEIJING, 28 Oct —** China will tighten the law on combating illegal cults to impose harsher punishments on people participating in illegal cults, a state-run newspaper said on Tuesday, after a brutal murder earlier in the year. An amendment to the law will mandate prison terms of up to seven years for those who organise or make use of a religious institution or cult to spread “superstitions to undermine national laws or regulations”, the official China Daily said.

The death penalty will be imposed for crimes which cause death or serious injuries, it added.

China currently has no specific laws relating to cults, the newspaper said.

“If the revised law comes into force, it will provide a formal legal basis for judicial organs to prosecute and handle cult-related crimes,” it quoted legal official Li Shishi as saying.

Earlier this month a Chinese court sentenced two members of a banned religious cult to death for the murder in a McDonald’s restaurant of a woman who refused an apparent attempt by the group to recruit her.

The 37-year-old woman, named Wu, was attacked in May in the eastern province of Shandong by members of the Qufu Laoshan Church of Almighty God, which had preached that a global apocalypsis would take place in 2012.

The case sparked a national outcry after it was revealed that Wu was beaten to death for refusing to give her telephone number to members of the group.

China’s ruling Communist party brooks no challenge to its rule and is obsessed with social stability. It has cracked down on cults, with many multiples having been in recent years. Demonstrations have been put down with force and some sect leaders executed.

In 1999, then-President Jiang Zemin launched a campaign to crush the Falun Gong religious group. It was banned as an “evil cult” and the members staged a surprise but peaceful sit-in outside the leadership compound in Beijing to demand official recognition of their movement.—Reuters

**Wellington, 28 Oct —** New Zealand and the United States troops will be conducting a month-long joint exercise in the central North Island next month to test their deployment agility, the New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) announced on Tuesday.

The New Zealand army and air force would stage Exercise Kiwi Koru, which is held every two years, with forces from the US Marine Forces Pacific and the US Army Pacific in the western Tarapuke Province.

The exercise would involve light armoured vehicles, infantry, artillery, engineers, signals and combat service support personnel, such as medical and logistics, in a scenario to restore peace between two fictitious nations, Bekara and Alpiria.

“It is an opportunity to test what we know, how we work and how we work with our international partners too,” Colonel Nick Gillard, of the New Zealand Army, said in a statement.

“New Zealand regularly conducts training with international partners such as the US and Australia. Exercises for next year include Exercise Dawn Blitz in California and Exercise Talisman Sabre in Australia, with Exercise RIMPAC in Hawaii and Exercise Croix Du Sud in New Caledonia in 2016.”

**Berlin, 28 Oct —** Islamic State militants will be able to mount operations in Iraq “for the foreseeable future” despite US-led air strikes and efforts by Iraqi security forces to regain territory, Germany’s BND foreign intelligence agency said.

German intelligence also sounded the alarm about a rising number of Islamist militants inside Germany who want to join IS in Iraq and Syria and warned of an increased risk of violent clashes on German streets between radicals and anti-extremists.

Islamic State (IS) has seized swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria this year, declared an Islamic ‘caliphate’ and has executed or driven away Shi’ite Muslims, Christians and other groups that do not share their radical version of Sunni Islam.

In a statement on Tuesday, BND said IS was still able to operate successfully in the western Iraqi province of Anbar and outside Baghdad and was working to convince more Iraqis to turn against the US-led coalition fighting against it.

“The continuation of the political and international situation in Iraq for the foreseeable future will make fighting terrorist, radical groups considerably harder,” it said.

In Syria, the BND said fighting between IS and Kurdish forces in Kobani near the Turkish border showed that the militants were still in a position to attack, even if their mobility has been impaired by US-led air strikes.

Due to limited resources, the forces of President Bashar al-Assad are concentrated in urban centres of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo along Syria’s north and the coast, where they have seen some military successes, the BND said.

Assad’s forces have largely turned their backs on Syria’s sparsely populated east, allowing IS to expand there, it added.

In a parallel statement, BND’s sister agency BfV, which handles domestic intelligence, said the number of Salafist Islamists was rising in Germany, and with it the number of potential recruits for IS. Some 450 people have travelled from Germany to join the radical Islamist fighters, Salafists espouse a strict, puritanical form of Islam.

The BVD said some Chechens living in Germany were joining Salafist groups and added that many of those recruits were especially active and violent. It also warned of increased clashes in Germany between Islamists groups and supporters of Kurdish separatists, in an echo of the Kobani conflict.

“Salafists are recruiting fighters for IS. Since the summer of 2014 the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) is recruiting its followers to fight against IS,” said BfV president Hans-Georg Maassen in the agency’s statement. The PKK, a secular group, has been fighting Turkish security forces for decades in a campaign to carve out a Kurdish homeland in southeast Turkey.

The fighting in and around Kobani in recent weeks has put renewed pressure on a fragile peace process pursued by Turkey and the Kurdish separatists.

**BANGKOK, 28 Oct —** Thailand and Norway will be conducting a joint exercise in the water areas of the South China Sea from 4 to 8 November to strengthen the two nations’ maritime rights and to increase knowledge of each other’s capabilities.

The exercise was aimed at responding to the South China Sea dispute and the potential for an armed conflict in the region. It is also aimed at dealing with the challenges of terrorism, piracy and illegal migration.

Under the agreement, the navies of both nations will be participating in the exercise.

“Both countries share strong commitment to peace and stability in the South China Sea region,” the Norwegian defence ministry said in a statement.

**AP:Thailand and Norway to conduct joint naval exercises in South China Sea on Nov 4-8**

**China to tighten laws to combat illegal cults**

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German intelligence also sounded the alarm about a rising number of Islamist militants inside Germany who want to join IS in Iraq and Syria and warned of an increased risk of violent clashes on German streets between radicals and anti-extremists.

Islamic State (IS) has seized swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria this year, declared an Islamic ‘caliphate’ and has executed or driven away Shi’ite Muslims, Christians and other groups that do not share their radical version of Sunni Islam.

In a statement on Tuesday, BND said IS was still able to operate successfully in the western Iraqi province of Anbar and outside Baghdad and was working to convince more Iraqis to turn against the US-led coalition fighting against it.

“The continuation of the political and international situation in Iraq for the foreseeable future will make fighting terrorist, radical groups considerably harder,” it said.

In Syria, the BND said fighting between IS and Kurdish forces in Kobani near the Turkish border showed that the militants were still in a position to attack, even if their mobility has been impaired by US-led air strikes.

Due to limited resources, the forces of President Bashar al-Assad are concentrated in urban centres of Damascus, Homs, Hama and Aleppo along Syria’s north and the coast, where they have seen some military successes, the BND said.

Assad’s forces have largely turned their backs on Syria’s sparsely populated east, allowing IS to expand there, it added.

In a parallel statement, BND’s sister agency BfV, which handles domestic intelligence, said the number of Salafist Islamists was rising in Germany, and with it the number of potential recruits for IS. Some 450 people have travelled from Germany to join the radical Islamist fighters, Salafists espouse a strict, puritanical form of Islam.

The BVD said some Chechens living in Germany were joining Salafist groups and added that many of those recruits were especially active and violent. It also warned of increased clashes in Germany between Islamists groups and supporters of Kurdish separatists, in an echo of the Kobani conflict.

“Salafists are recruiting fighters for IS. Since the summer of 2014 the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) is recruiting its followers to fight against IS,” said BfV president Hans-Georg Maassen in the agency’s statement. The PKK, a secular group, has been fighting Turkish security forces for decades in a campaign to carve out a Kurdish homeland in southeast Turkey.

The fighting in and around Kobani in recent weeks has put renewed pressure on a fragile peace process pursued by Turkey and the Kurdish separatists.

**Bangkok, 28 Oct —** Thailand and Norway will be conducting a joint exercise in the water areas of the South China Sea from 4 to 8 November to strengthen the two nations’ maritime rights and to increase knowledge of each other’s capabilities.

The exercise was aimed at responding to the South China Sea dispute and the potential for an armed conflict in the region. It is also aimed at dealing with the challenges of terrorism, piracy and illegal migration.

Under the agreement, the navies of both nations will be participating in the exercise.

“Both countries share strong commitment to peace and stability in the South China Sea region,” the Norwegian defence ministry said in a statement.

**AP:Thailand and Norway to conduct joint naval exercises in South China Sea on Nov 4-8**
Abe meets S Korean lawmakers, voices hope for summit with Park

Tokyo, 28 Oct — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe reiterated his hope in talks with visiting South Korean lawmakers on Monday for his first one-on-one summit meeting with President Park Geun Hye on the sidelines of an international conference later this year. Abe received a courtesy visit from six lawmakers, led by National Assembly Speaker Chung Ui Hwa, amid emerging efforts by the two Asian neighbours to mend ties strained by issues such as the warwomen of July at Japan’s wartime military brothels. “I hope your latest visit to Japan will help further promote personnel exchanges between lawmakers of the two countries and develop Japan-South Korea relations,” Abe said at the outset of their meeting, which was open to the media.

According to Japanese House of Representatives lawmaker Takeo Kawamurai, who attended the meeting, Abe also expressed hope that he will visit South Korea as its integral part.

Japanese hand-made paper shortlisted for UNESCO heritage status

Tokyo, 28 Oct — Traditional Japanese hand-made paper has been shortlisted by a UNESCO preliminary review panel for possible inclusion on its Intangible Cultural Heritage list, the Japanese Cultural Affairs Agency said on Monday. Based on the panel’s recommendations, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s Intergovernmental Committee will decide in Paris in late November on whether to list traditional hand-made paper from Saitama, Gifu and Shimane prefectures.

The paper products designated by the Japanese government as important intangible cultural heritage are traditionally made by hand, using only mulberry bark fiber.

If registered on the UNESCO heritage list, awareness of traditional Japanese paper including that produced in areas other than the three prefectures is expected to grow, helping promote traditional Japanese crafts overseas. The paper products shortlisted for possible registration are Hosokawashi from Saitama, Gomi and Sekishubanshi from Shimane.

AKS reject Ministry’s offer, strike continues

BELGRADE, 28 Oct — The Administrative Board of the Bar Association of Serbia (AKS) rejected on Monday the proposition of the Justice Ministry concerning the amendments to the Law on Notaries Public and regulation of the issue of arbitrary taxation, and decided to continue the strike.

AKS President Dragoljub Djordjevic told a news conference that after the lengthy talks, AKS Administrative Board decided to reject the Ministry’s proposition because, as he said, it does not serve the interests of citizens, rule of law and protection of human rights.

The offer was rejected because it does not constitute a progress in the talks, Djordjevic said.

He noted that some 20 days ago, lawyers sent to the Justice Ministry the proposition concerning the amendments to the Law on Notaries Public which they find acceptable, and he expressed the hope that the Ministry would re-examine the propositions.

According to him, lawyers are ready to continue the talks with a view to finding the best possible solution.

According to the propositions of the Justice Ministry, the amendments to the Law which would be adopted in the parliament within 14 days would revoke the exclusiveness of powers for notaries public when it comes to drafting real estate contracts as is the case now, and lawyers would be authorised to draw up contracts on the sale of property too, while notaries public would solemnise and verify the contract. The AKS proposition which covers the solemnisation of the contract envisages that all private documents can be solemnised by a procedure in which a notary public would draft a special notary document which would be attached to the private document as its integral part.

This means that a contract drafted by a citizen or lawyer would retain their original form while a notary public would add a special act in the solemnisation process to verify the contents of the private document.

When it comes to taxes, lawyers want the fiscal obligations for lawyers in Serbia to remain on the level of not Abe’s leadership in finding a path to resolve it, Kawamura told reporters.

South Korea insists that Japan has not done enough to make amends to those women. Japan says that issues of responsibility and claims regarding its colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula, including compensation, have been legally settled with South Korea by a bilateral agreement forged when the two countries normalized ties in 1965.

For the occasion of upcoming summit talks, Japan has not done enough to make amends to those women. Japan says that issues of responsibility and claims regarding its colonial rule over the Korean Peninsula, including compensation, have been legally settled with South Korea by a bilateral agreement forged when the two countries normalized ties in 1965.
India develops new network to ensure maritime security

Security experts say the need for coordination was underlined by the 2008 terrorist attack on Mumbai in which the assailants arrived in the city by sea. According to the sources, NC3I will help improve cooperation between the Indian Navy and the coast guard as both services will develop a “common operational picture” via Coastal Surveillance and Decision Support software that presents the “situation at sea” on a real-time basis to concerned agencies.

The network was conceptualized in 2010 and a contract to build it was awarded in March 2012 to Bharat Electronics Ltd, Bangalore by the Ministry of Defence.

The network obtains input about merchant vessels from a variety of sources, including the Automatic Identification Systems and Long Range Identification and Tracking System as well as a real-time feed from radar units fitted as part of a chain of static sensors.

All vessels detected are shown on the surveillance software and efforts are being made to get real-time information on shipping vessels as well.

Information provided by the NC3I network will not be shared in real-time with foreign countries, but threats at sea pose common concern to maritime nations such as piracy, armed robbery, terrorist movements at sea, natural disasters, search and rescue and so on will be regularly exchanged among concerned countries using established channels of communication.

As it goes into service, the NC3I network will become the backbone for the National Maritime Domain Awareness Project.

The sources said the NMDA project will go beyond networking the Navy and the ICG by integrating additional information and data from government agencies such as the Ministry of Shipping, which has data on merchant shipping and ports, the Ministry of Agriculture and Aquaculture, which monitors fishing vessels, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for information on offshore development areas and the Ministry of Home Affairs for maritime security-related information obtained from the Department of Border Management.

India—Kyodo News

**Corrigendum**

To correct “Alicor Inc.”, it was appeared “Al- ticor, Inc” on the page 12, 1st column, line 1, dated 4 February 2014.

**Advertisement & General**

**WEATHER REPORT**

**FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 29th OCTOBER, 2014:** Rain or thunder showers will be fairly widespread in Tanintharyi Region, scattered in Kachin, Shan and Chin States and isolated in Upper Sagaina, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and weather will be partly cloudy in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of certainty is (80%).

India—Kyodo News

Canada PM not to attend APEC summit in China after terrorist attacks

**NEW YORK, 28 Oct —** Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper will skip a trip to China next week to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit because of the killings of two soldiers in separate attacks in the country, The Globe and Mail newspaper said online on Monday.

A prime minister will instead attend Canada’s Remembrance Day holiday in Ottawa on 11 November, according to Reuters news service. The two-day meeting of leaders from 21 Pacific Rim countries begins in Beijing on 10 November.

A soldier was gunned down on Wednesday at the country’s National War Memorial in Ottawa by a 32-year-old Canadian soldier, police and political motives,” according to the national police. Earlier in the week, a suspected jihadist ran over two soldiers in a Montreal suburb, killing one.

**Beijing holds anti-terror drill ahead of APEC meetings**

**BEIJING, 28 Oct —** Beijing police launched an anti-terror drill on Monday to guarantee security for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) meetings scheduled to be held in Beijing in November.

Without being informed of the exercise, police officers from different departments handled simulated terror incidents in 35 minutes at two venues for the meetings, the China National Convention Centre and Yangt Lake, said a spokesman with the capital’s public security bureau.

The drill’s spokesman said the exercise was aimed at testing the responsive and coordination of police forces in the face of terrorist attacks.

At 2 pm, the bureau’s command center reported emergencies at the two venues, including a gathering of troublemakers, terrorists pwling into a crowd in a car carrying explosives, as well as hostage-taking.

Public security officers and armed police forces rushed to the sites. A helicopter above sent images to the command centre in real time. A soldier on Monday, China’s police chief, Guo Shengkun, urged tight security checks to prevent terrorist attacks during the APEC meetings and ensure the “absolute safety” of leaders and senior officials at the meetings.

**Beijing, 26 Oct —** Policemen attend an anti-terror drill in Hefei, capital of east China’s Anhui Province, on 26 Oct, 2014.—Xinhua

Policemen attend an anti-terror drill in Hefei, capital of east China’s Anhui Province, on 26 Oct, 2014.—Xinhua

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**HOLIDAY NOTICE**

As the wharves, warehouses and chellian Offices of Yangon Port will be closed on the 6th NOVEMBER 2014 (Fullmoon day of Tazaungmone) and 16th NOVEMBER 2014 (National Day). Loading, Unloading and delivery for Goods will be received on Payment as Holiday Fees.

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Daniel Radcliffe: I’m proud to have learnt dancing for broadway

LONDON, 28 Oct — ‘Harry Potter’ star Daniel Radcliffe says more than the success of his films, he is proud of the fact that he learnt dancing for broadway.

The 25-year-old actor became famous after playing a schoolboy wizard in eight ‘Harry Potter’ films and since then has branched out into stage, screen and television roles since the end of the series in 2011, reported the Daily Express. “I was the blankest canvas my dance teacher had ever seen. He taught me to dance, I owe it all to him. I don’t boast about stuff generally speaking — it’s not really me — but learning to dance on broadway and dancing in a broadway show is probably the thing I’m absolutely proudest of,” he said.—PTI

End of story.

Emma Bunton wants Spice Girls reunion

LONDON, 28 Oct — Singer Emma Bunton says she would love to reunite with her Spice Girls bandmates Victoria Beckham, Mel B, Geri Halliwell and Mel C if the right opportunity comes along.

Spice Girls formed in 1994 have been one of the best selling pop groups of all times. The group last performed two years ago, first at the London Olym pics closing ceremony, followed by the premiere of ‘Viva Forever: The Musi cal’ reported Contactmusic.

“It’s not something we have talked about. I love working with the girls, I would be up for it. It’s all about timing. We did the Olympics — it’s quite hard to top that!” said Bunton.

Neil Patrick Harris takes hosting talents to NBC variety series

LOS ANGELES, 28 Oct — With the Emmys and Tonys under his belt and his first Oscars hosting gig lined up, actor Neil Patrick Harris is turning his talents to anchor a new NBC variety show, the Comcast Corp-owned broadcast network said on Monday.

Harris, 41, best known as the womanizing Barney Stinson on long-running CBS sitcom “How I Met Your Mother,” will host the new primetime series, which will feature live comedy skits, musical numbers, game shows and hidden camera pranks on celebrities, NBC said in a statement.

The format of the yet-to-be-titled series is based on the popular British ITV show “Ant and Dec’s Saturday Night Takeaway,” which has already been adapted in numerous European markets including German and Italian versions.

NBC has ordered 10 episodes of the US series from ITV Studios America, which will be filmed in front of a live audience. No air date has been scheduled yet.

The show is the latest on Harris’s portfolio after it was announced earlier this month that he would be the host of the 2015 Oscars.

The actor recently won a best musical actor Tony award for his Broadway stint in “Hedwig and the Angry Inch,” and co-starred in David Finch er’s hit thriller film “Gone Girl.”

The new variety series follows NBC’s push towards televised event spectacles, trying to draw people to watch live rather than delayed or on-demand programmes.

After the success of its live “Sound of Music” event with country singer Carrie Underwood last year, NBC is hoping to draw viewers to this year’s “Peter Pan Live!,” with actress Allison Williams in the title role.—Reuters

Deepika wants to work with AbRam in her next film: Shah Rukh Khan

MUMBAI, 28 Oct — Shah Rukh Khan is elated that the cameo by his youngest child AbRam in ‘Happy New Year’ is fetching compliments.

SRK, 48, said he received many messages about AbRam’s appearance in the end credits but the best compliment came from his co-star Deepika Padukone. AbRam is Shah Rukh’s third child born via surrogacy last year.

“AbRam is looking adorable in the film. The best compliment I got was from Deepika. She said she wants to do her next film with him (AbRam) as she finds him adorable,” Shah Rukh Khan told reporters during the success party of the movie.

When asked about playing with his children, the actor said, “Aryan and I used to play FIFA video games and I play football and cricket with him. With AbRam, I only do the head bang. He keeps searching in the iPad where he can use utter words like A B and few animals sounds… so he does play,” he added.

Talking about his latest Diwali release, which according to SRK’s production company Red Chillies Entertainment, has collected Rs 108.86 crores on the opening weekend, the actor said the numbers will keep increasing with every big release.

“I have always maintained that numbers keep changing as big films keep coming on holidays and in weekends. When I was being asked this during ‘Chennai Express’, I said maybe next one is going to bigger and better because the screens and platforms are increasing,” he said.

Shah Rukh Khan

Rock star Sting’s musical ‘The Last Ship’ docks on Broadway


Actors Robert De Niro, Liam Neeson, Bill Pullman and Alan Cumming, along with singers Billy Joel and Debbie Harry of Blondie were on hand on Sunday night for Sting’s Broadway debut as a composer at the Neil Simon Theatre.

Despite winning 16 Grammies, the former frontman of the rock group The Police, Sting admitted being nervous before the curtain went up for the show he had been working on for five years.

“I was brought up in a pretty extraordinary place in the shadow of a shipyard and it always had a kind of theatrical feel to it. And I thought — I wanted to honour the community I came from. It was about time,” Sting, 63, said.

The musical charts the course of Gideon Fletcher, a shipbuilder’s son who leaves his girlfriend, Meg Dawson, and his hometown of WallSEND in search of a better life. He returns 15 years later after his father’s death to a town hit by recession, where the shipyard has closed and his lover has moved on.

“Rich score propels ‘Ship,’” the New York Daily News said in a headline, while the New York Times called it an “ambitious, earnest musical,” adding that the seductive score is among the best composed by a rock or pop figure for Broadway.

“The Last Ship” is packed with about 20 songs ranging from sweet, melodic ballads to toe-tapping dance numbers set in the grim shipyard, a local pub and the Catholic Church.

“The varied score draws on the antique sounds of sea shanties, and often has a heavily Celtic sound — with a little Kurt Weill thrown in for good measure,” said the New York Times.

— Reuters
**Asleep in Jesus**

**Mrs. Sarah C. David**
(Teacher David / Auntie Sarah)

St. Anthony’s Boys’ High School
and Sacred Heart High School
Age 87 years

Beloved wife of (late Rev.J.N. David),
Mother of Christopher David-Mrs. Dorothy David,
and his family from wartime
Rome, 28 Oct — Benito Mussolini’s personal air raid shelter is opening to the public, 74 years after Italy’s former fascist dictator started building a network of fortified underground rooms to protect himself and his family from wartime bombing.

**Mussolini’s air raid bunker to open to the public**

**rice to ancient fisherman**

**Paddleboard yoga stands venerable practice on its head, on water**

**New York, 28 Oct — Move over hot, flying and spinning yoga. Paddleboard yoga is the latest trend to stand the ancient practice of breath control, body postures and movement on its head — this time on a surfboard surrounded by water.**

**Fitness experts and enthusiasts say classes for waterborne yoga, which is also known as Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP) have blossomed, focus concentration and lures exercisers who prefer open air to overheated studios.**

“People tell me it’s like walking on water,” said paddleboard racer and yoga instructor Gillian Gibree, who has been teaching Paddleboard Yoga since 2009. The instructor and trained lifeguard said first timers begin with a water safety demonstration on dry land before going on to water, where even the simplest yoga postures can take on an added intensity.

“The board, even planked (a foundational push-up pose) is a challenge,” she said. “Everything is slowed down because it takes much longer to keep your balance.”

Because the board is unstable, different muscle groups are fired, said Gibree, who has floated her practice on rivers, bays and even oceans, although she usually teaches on flat water.

“It works a lot on balance and you have to find your drishti (yoga’s focused gaze) on the board,” she said. “It’s a total body workout.”

**John Lennon’s iconic specs on sale for 25,000 pounds**

**A pair of Beatle legend John Lennon’s iconic glasses, which he lent to a flirty girl, will go on sale for 25,000 pounds. — PTI**

Baker received the gift from the late Beatle star during a performance by the band at Soho club in London in 1966. Bournemouth-born Baker said, “It is hard to imagine someone as cool as John doing the conga, but it happened.” — Reuters

**Rome, 28 Oct — Benito Mussolini’s personal air raid shelter is opening to the public, 74 years after Italy’s former fascist dictator started building a network of fortified underground rooms to protect himself and his family from wartime bombing.**

**A passageway is pictured inside a secret bunker of Fascist leader Benito Mussolini that was built between 1942 and 1943 under his private residence at Villa Tordini in Rome, on 25 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS**

**SUP Yoga joins two ancient traditions. The modern SUP sport originated in Hawaii in the 1950s and 1960s, but stand up paddle boarding dates back thousands of years, to ancient fisherman from Polynesia to Peru.**

And while the classical techniques of yoga date back more than 5,000 years, a worldwide survey of more than 3,000 fitness professionals published this month by the American College of Sports Medicine rated it number seven among the top 10 fitness trends for 2015.

Gibree, said her clients come from places as far flung as Canada, Switzerland, South Africa and New Zealand.

“For some things work well on the board, some work more easily on land,” she said, noting that, while paddleboard yoga doesn’t replace a studio practice, it can complement it.

Matthews’ paddleboard yoga classes start with warm-up, breathing and stability exercises on land, much like a regular yoga class.

Once on the water she explores more of the basic postures.

“It’s always a trade-off,” said Matthews, who has lately seen classes pop up in indoor pools. “The beauty of SUP yoga is that you can do it on any body of water.”

She said the most common question she gets about SUP yoga is: “Am I going to get wet?”

“Typically, you’re not going to get wet,” she added. “Unless you fall in.”

**John Lennon**

**LONDON, 28 Oct — A pair of Beatle legend John Lennon’s iconic glasses, which he lent to a flirty girl, will go on sale for 25,000 pounds. Wendy Baker, now 75, has put up the priced possession for auction, reported Daily Express.**

**A model demonstrates a “Pigeon Pose” during a Paddleboard Yoga demonstration in San Deigo Bay, California in this May 2014 handout photo provided by Shadow Van Houten on 24 Oct, 2014.—REUTERS**
Real to appeal Zidane suspension over coaching licence

MADRID, 28 Oct — Real Madrid will appeal a three-month suspension slapped on assistant B team coach Zinedine Zidane for not having the correct licence, the club said on Monday.

The former Real and France midfielder was sanctioned by the Spanish football federation for allegedly acting as head coach of third tier Real Madrid Castilla even while Santiago Sanchez, who was also banned for three months, nominally held the post.

In a statement on their website (www.realmadrid.com), Real expressed their “absolute disagreement with the decision” and said they would “pursue every available legal avenue so that this decision is overturned”.

“Not least because Zinedine Zidane has been authorised by the French football federation (FFF) to work as a head coach in the category Real Madrid Castilla currently play in, as the certificate issued by the federation from October 2014 states,” they added.

A World Cup winner with France in 1998, when he scored two goals in the final against Brazil, Zidane played for Real from 2001 until his retirement in 2006.

The 42-year-old also netted a spectacular volley for Real to win the 2002 Champions League final against Bayer Leverkusen.

Castilla were relegated from the second division last season, before Zidane joined the coaching staff. They are currently 14th in Group 2 of the regional four-group “Segunda B”, or third tier.

Austrian brace lifts Queens Park Rangers off the foot of the table

LONDON, 28 Oct — Charlie Austin scored twice to lift Queens Park Rangers off the bottom of the Premier League with a 2-0 home win against Aston Villa on Monday.

Manager Harry Redknapp was under pressure after his struggling side had won just once in their opening eight games but a goal in either half from Austin helped lighten the mood at Loftus Road.

Aston Villa, beaten in their last five games without scoring a goal, started brightly but Austin calmed the home fans’ nerves with an excellent half volley into the bottom corner with 17 minutes gone.

As the visitors went in search of an equaliser the QPR striker struck again after 69 minutes with a deft side-footed finish inside Villa keeper Brad Guzan’s near post from an Eduard Vargas cross.

The win lifted Redknapp’s side to 19th on seven points, ahead of Burnley on four, while Villa dropped to 20th in the table with their search for a league goal extending to over eight hours.

“It was an excellent performance,” Redknapp told Sky Sports television. “They dominated possession in the second half but once we put an extra man into midfield we started seeing more of the ball and hit the post before scoring a second.

“There’s no reason why Charlie Austin can’t score a lot of goals this season. I’m pleased for the lad.”

“There’s nothing in the league in terms of points,” added Redknapp. “We’re only four points behind Hull in 10th.”

Pacquiao roughs up sparring partners before Algieri fight

HONG KONG, 28 Oct — Manny Pacquiao is more than three weeks out from his next title defence against unbeaten American Chris Algieri but the World Boxing Organization (WBO) welterweight champion is already in fighting form.

Training partner Freddie Roach says Algieri is terrific right now.”

Roach had no words of comfort for Pacquiao’s sparring partners, however.

“We still have three hard weeks of work in front of us. With three good sparring partners, it’s working out well. I have one more sparring partner coming over as a reserve, but I will use him as well.” — Reuters

Boxer Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines trains during a media workout in Hong Kong on 27 Oct, 2014. — Reuters

Pacquiao's coach Carlo Ancelotti (R) watches his assistant Zinedine Zidane shoot at their players during their Champions League final soccer match against Atletico Madrid at Luz stadium in Lisbon, on 24 May, 2014. — Reuters

Queens Park Rangers’ Charlie Austin (L) shoots past Aston Villa’s Ron Vlaar to score his second goal during their English Premier League soccer match at Loftus Road in London, on 27 Oct, 2014. — Reuters

Villa had already played last season’s top five league teams in consecutive fixtures, enduring a miserable run of four straight defeats, but any hopes of picking up easy points at QPR were soon dispelled.

“All of QPR’s points this season have come at home and they proved to be difficult opposition again for Paul Lambert’s side. Scenes of jubilation from the home fans were in stark contrast to Lambert’s men, who must be wondering where their next league goal is coming from.

Prolific marksman Christian Bentekke made only his second start since March but he drew a blank as Villa’s inability to score became almost farcical.

The visitors had started like a team determined to get back to the winning ways that had seen them reach as high as second in the table in the opening weeks of the season.

But the hosts turned the tide when Bobby Zamora nodded a low header under the dive of Algeria for the area for Austin to finish.

Caran Clark nearly equalised after the restart when Bentekke headed down to the defender but he failed to apply the finish only yards from Robert Green’s goal.

To compound Villa’s misery Austin quickly made it 2-0, making the miss even more costly.

Vargas nearly added a third when substitute Junior Hoilett put through him on goal but the Chilen fired straight at Guzan.

Villa’s on-loan midfielder Tom Cleverley nearly ended their wait for a goal with 10 minutes to go but Green parried his volley and QPR’s Sandro made an important tackle from Clark at the rebound. — Reuters

Reuters