President calls for stronger integrated partnership in Asia-Pacific region

BEIJING, 9 Nov — At the APEC CEO Summit 2014 in Beijing on Sunday, President U Thein Sein said that Myanmar believes a stronger integrated partnership in the Asia-Pacific region will greatly contribute to member countries and people as a whole. The development of an infrastructural network will not only expand the region market but also capture international markets, he said.

According to the president, Myanmar is in a geographically strategic position to greatly benefit both South Asia and Southeast Asia. The president also spoke of his government’s efforts to turn the country into a democratically modernized one so that its people can enjoy better living standards. He stressed that Myanmar is now regarded as a newly emerging destination for businesses on account of its strategic geographical location, moderate climate fit for the cultivation of various crops, huge market size, and high production output at low costs.

He went on to say that Myanmar has kept its doors open to foreign investments, with strong laws and regulations in place. Touching on the country’s current economic trends, he said there are more favourable conditions now than in previous years, adding that the country’s rich resources will be turned into products to be exported.

Opening ceremony held for Bayintnaung Bridge-2 in Yangon

YANGON, 9 Nov — The opening ceremony for Bayintnaung Bridge-2, a new bridge linking eastern and western Yangon, was held Sunday. The Union Government decided to build the bridge because Bayintnaung Bridge-1, which was constructed in 1994, sees major traffic congestion, with some 20,000 vehicles crossing it daily, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin said at the opening ceremony.

Construction of Bayintnaung Bridge-2 began on 1 June 2013 and load tests were conducted on 1-10-2014 and on 2-10-2014. The Yangon Region Government is planning to build five more bridges in the region in the 2014-15 fiscal year, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe said at the ceremony.

He went on to say that Myanmar has kept its doors open to foreign investments, with strong laws and regulations in place. Touching on the country’s current economic trends, he said there are more favourable conditions now than in previous years, adding that the country’s rich resources will be turned into products to be exported.

Newly-inaugurated Bayintnaung Bridge-2 linking western and eastern parts of Yangon.—MNA

New measles-rubella campaign to be launched in January: Ministry of Health

YANGON, 9 Nov — The Ministry of Health is planning to launch in January a combined measles-rubella vaccination campaign nationwide with the aim of preventing both infectious diseases in the target age group of 9 months to 15 years.

It is a part of the plan to develop new vaccines in the country within three years, with the World Health Organization saying every country should have at least eleven vaccines, Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung, assistant director of the Expanded Program on Immunization of the Health Department, told the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Currently, the Ministry has been providing vaccination services to the public to fight eight serious diseases. Staff from the Ministry are now gathering data to provide the new combined measles-rubella vaccine to locals. The combined vaccine is expected to be distributed to more than 17 million people. The programme is scheduled to be conducted at schools across the country, he added.

Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung said that it constitutes the first phase of the WHO’s regional goal to eliminate both measles and rubella among South East Asian nations by 2020.

Measles is one of the major causes of child mortality among the countries. In Myanmar, it was found in higher age groups who failed to get vaccinated but the country has reached its goal of reducing the risk of a measles outbreak in the next ten years.

By Khaing Thanda Lwin
Nirvana Hotel has grand opening in Nay Pyi Taw

**Union Ministers U Soe Maung and U Win Myint and deputy ministers view round displays of equipment at rooms of Nirvana Hotel in Dekkhinathiri Township.**—MNA

**Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—** Nirvana Hotel in Dekkhinathiri Township was officially opened to the public on Sunday, offering a wide range of high-quality services including limousine service, sources said.

High-ranking officials including Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Maung and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint participated in the ribbon-cutting event to open the establishment.

An official of the hotel said customers will be able to enjoy meals prepared by a famous Italian chef on loan from L’opera Restaurant, adding that the hotel also has a business center available for guests.—MNA

MCF launches project competition to find young technicians

**Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—** The development of information and communication technology can promote socioeconomic development and ensure a higher quality of life for individuals, said U Myat Hein, Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology, at the launch of an educational project competition in Yangon on Saturday.

Organized by the Myanmar Computer Federation, the competition is aimed at selecting finalists for the National ICT Award 2014, according to sources.

U Myat Hein, who is also chairman of the Myanmar Computer Science Development Council, urged officials to encourage contestants to come up with new ideas for projects that will contribute to the effective implementation of e-education, mobile money transfers, mobile banking, e-commerce and e-libraries.

Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo, who also acts as vice chairman of the MCSDC, said that the development of a country depends on the quality and efficiency of its human resources, adding that a country of highly educated people can enjoy sustainable economic growth and that a developed country is capable of providing an education of a high quality.

The educational project competition is divided into four categories — primary, middle, higher and teacher levels.

**Union Minister for Sport U Tint Hsan and party at prize presentation for winners in sports events of Rakhine State Chief Minister’s Cup.**—MNA

Union Sports Minister awards winners in Rakhine State Chief Minister’s Cup

**Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—** Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan together with Rakhine State Chief Minister U Maung Maung Ohn attended the final match of the region and state wrestling event of the Rakhine State Chief Minister’s Cup in Sittway of Rakhine State on Sunday, awarding the winners in both the men’s and women’s events. The Union Minister also presented special prizes to a Rakhine dance troupe that entertained the attendees with Rakhine traditional dances and songs at the opening ceremony.

On Saturday, U Tint Hsan and U Maung Maung Ohn watched a U-20 inter-district football final match at Waithali sports ground in the state. Sittway District Team defeated its opponent 3-2 and seized the Chief Minister’s Cup.

Those high-ranking officials together with regional athletes attended a dinner in the evening, with more than six dance troupes performing traditional dances and songs for them.—MNA

**Nirvana Hotel in Dekkhinathiri Township was officially opened to the public on Sunday.**—MNA

Flood prevention tasks carried out in four Dagon townships

**Yangon, 9 Nov—** Box culverts to prevent floods in four Dagon Myothit townships will be completed in this open season, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint, chairman of the Committee for Flood Prevention in four Dagon Myothit townships, said at the meeting 19/2014 of the Four Dagon Myothit Townships, said at the meeting 19/2014 of the committee held at Kanaung Hall in Dagon East township on 8 November.

Four Dagon Myothit townships and many other places were inundated during the recent storm as the flood prevention measures had not been completed, according to the deputy minister.

**Dy Education Minister leaves for UNESCO World Conference in Japan**

**Yangon, 9 Nov—** Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung left Yangon on Saturday evening for Japan to attend the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development that is jointly organized by the U.N. cultural agency and the Japanese government.

While in Japan, the deputy minister is slated to tour schools in the country.

**New measles-rubella...**

**Yangon, 9 Nov—** The previous measles vaccination programme for children under the age of five was held in 2012.

Rubella is usually mild in children, but for some people, especially pregnant women and their babies, rubella can be serious.

Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung, Assistant Director of Health Department, Khaing Thanda Lwin

**GNLM**

**GNLM**
President calls for stronger . . .

available to partners keen on transparency, accountability and environmental conservation.

Efforts are under way to reform policies on finance and tax, foreign currency exchange, trade and investment, with the president saying that the market economy in Myanmar is now on the right track.

On raising the social status of local people, the president talked about special economic zones being implemented in the Dawei, Thilawa and Kyaukphyu areas.

He pointed out the presence of challenges in making Asia a better integrated region, citing higher costs of maintenance and a shortage of investments in building infrastructure.

He welcomed China’s initiative to establish the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in a bid to address the challenges.

With the second-largest economy in the world, China is flourishing, playing a major part in the global economy, the president said.

President U Thein Sein praised China for adhering to the APEC CEO Summit’s motto: “New Vision for Asia Pacific: Creativity, Connectivity, Integration, Prosperity”.

Prior to the APEC CEO Summit, President U Thein Sein, who was on an official visit to China, met President of Bangladesh Mr Abdul Hamid at a guesthouse in Beijing on Sunday morning to discuss greater promotion of trade, energy, border security, drug and human trafficking and prevention of terrorism.

Regarding the infiltration of people who are assumed to be from Myanmar into Bangladesh, President U’Thein Sein reaffirmed Myanmar’s stance that they must return on their own volition and come under a four-point scrutiny as agreed by both countries.

Following the APEC Summit in the afternoon, the president and his entourage left the China National Convention Centre for Beijing’s international airport to return to Nay Pyi Taw.

On arrival at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, President U Thein Sein was welcomed back by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, union ministers, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Yang Houlan and officials.

Members of his entourage included Union Ministers U Win Maung Lwin, U Soe Thane, U Ohn Myint, Dr Kan Zaw, U Win Shein, U Khin Maung Soe, Dr Myint Aung and U Ye Htut and Deputy Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar U Set Aung.

While at the airport, President U Thein Sein oversaw preparatory measures taken to welcome leaders of ASEAN and East Asia regions scheduled to attend the 25th APEC Summit and related meetings.—MNA

Myanmar, Vietnam to promote bilateral relations and cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, met with Mr Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the Hotel Max in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

They cordially discussed matters relating to the promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation between Myanmar and Vietnam.

Seikkyi-khanaungto Hospital gets operating theatre

YANGON, 9 Nov — As part of efforts to upgrade health care services provided to the people, a new operating theatre was commissioned into service at Seikkyi-khanaungto Township Hospital in Yangon Region on Sunday morning.

Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe expressed thanks for donations to a fund for construction of the operating theatre.

Zaw Htet Paing Engineering and Construction Company Ltd carried out construction of the theatre at a cost of K51.8 million.

Township medical officer Dr Min Naung accepted cash donations from donors for further upgrading the hospital and its services.

In 1985, U Hla Aung and his wife Daw Hla Myint donated a four-acre plot of land to officials to build a 16-bed hospital in Dala Township.

The building was opened on 3 February 1991.

Correction

Please read President U Thein Sein in the headline of “President U Thein Sein notes importance of infrastructure in regional development at summit” on page 3 in this daily issued on 9-11-2014. Error is regretted.—GNLM

Opening ceremony held for Bayinnaung Bridge-2 . . .

The government upgraded the hospital to its current 25-bed capacity on 21 August 2003.—MNA

Bayinnaung Bridge-2, which connects Mayangon and Hlinethaya, is a four-lane bridge that is 1,628 feet long.

Also present at the ceremony were Union Minister for Energy U Zeyar Aung, Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Huy Aung, the speaker of the Yangon Region Hluttaw and representatives, members of the Yangon Region Government, officials and local people.

OPENING CEREMONY HELD FOR BAYINNAUNG BRIDGE-2

President U Thein Sein attending APEC CEO Summit 2014 in Beijing, People’s Republic of China.—MNA

President U Thein Sein being welcomed back at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and officials.—MNA

Myanmar National News Agency.
Audience enthralled by showcase of traditional culture

 Mandalay, 9 Nov — A showcase of Myanmar’s traditional performing arts was staged at the National Theatre in Mandalay on Saturday night, aimed at enabling a new generation of youths to enjoy Myanmar’s culture and letting visitors to the country have a taste of Myanmar traditions.

 Artists performed traditional dances and songs, skillful demonstrations of Chinlone (cane-ball), the traditional sport of Myanmar that is a combination of sport and dance, and entertainments of the Naga ethnic group.

 One person who attended spoke glowingly of the event, saying the traditional dances of the Naga ethnic group “were very wonderful and won the applause of the audience”.

 The presentation was organized by the Mandalay Region Theatrical Performers Association, theatrical drama director Maung Yin Aung, band leader academy U Sein Mutta and artists from the National University of Arts and Culture (Mandalay) and the Mandalay State School of Fine Arts.

 A similar performance will be presented at the same venue on the night of 22 November.

 Tin Maung (Mandalay)

 Plan underway to supply electricity to Mandalarians at full capacity from 2015

 Mandalay, 9 Nov — A coordination meeting on supplying electricity at full capacity from 2015 was held at the hall of Mandalay Region Electrical Engineer in Mandalay on 7 November.

 Mandalay Region Minister for Electric Power and Industry U Kyaw Myint explained that the region authorities will carry out supply of electricity from a power station to the local people in the summer from gas power plants, diesel power stations and solar power stations. The regional government demanded funds from the Union budget so as to supply electricity to the dwellers at full capacity, he said.

 Moreover, he continued to say that the regional government will cooperate with private electricity supply companies for power supply tasks.

 Region Electrical Engineer U Hla Tun said that Mandalay District consumes the largest volume of electricity in the region, and preparations have been made for supplying electricity at full capacity.

 Amarapura Township Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) MP U Thein Tun Oo and Region Hluttaw MP Dr Kyaw Hla gave suggestions on power supply and demand on the fund.

 Officials are making preparations to set up the Mandalay Region Electricity Supply Corporation.

 Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

 MRCCI meets to discuss election of new executives

 Mandalay, 9 Nov — The Mandalay Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry held a meeting to discuss the election of executives for the next three-year term at its hall in Chanayethazan Township, Mandalay, on Saturday.

 Members of the MRCCI and brother associations attending the event at the Yadanabon Super Centre discussed the election of new executives for the 2014-17 period.

 U Aye Lwin, chairman of the election committee, explained the process of the election for new executives.

 The new executives of the chambers will be elected on 7 December by members in line with the rules of the association. A total of 60 percent of executives will be replaced with new generation executives in the election.

 Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

 Muse Township GAD holds annual ceremony

 Muse, 9 Nov — The government of Muse, a border town between China and Myanmar’s Shan State, held an annual celebration on 7 November.

 It began with officials of the Township General Administration Department donating meals to Buddhist monks in commemoration of the anniversary.

 At the ceremony, department staff donated K610,000 to a fund earmarked for construction of Migada Pagoda on Loiteinkham Hill in the township and also provided K34,931.71 to be used to pay off loans of former staff.

 In the afternoon, they joined a luncheon hosted by the township administrator.

 L. Soe Thang Too (IPRD)
Baptist Church officials meet in fourth seminar

**DAWEI, 9 Nov**—The fourth seminar of executives of the Myanmar Baptist Churches Federation was held at a hall in Dawei, Taninthayi Region, from 5 to 9 November. Federation Chairman Rev Dr Zaw won extended greetings. General Secretary Rev Dr Yan Kho Paung gave blessings to the nation. Representatives of various churches participated in the discussions.

**Taninthayi Region Chief Minister U Myat Ko** and **Region Minister U Win Shwe** extended greetings. Regional authorities, reverends from Baptist churches across the nation and church officials totaling some 350 attended the seminar.

**Po Shwe Thun-Dawei**

Lecture on consumer protection activities given at school

**MANDALAY, 9 Nov**—Students of the International Language and Business Centre visited the Institute of Sports and Physical Education (Mandalay) under the Sports and Physical Education Department in Mandalay on 7 November. The students viewed training of athletes in Futsal, weightlifting, table tennis, boxing, Wushu, Taekwondo, judo, karate and gymnastics.

Trainers explained the progress in training the athletes.

**Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)**

ILBC students visit Mandalay’s sports institute

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**Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)**

Pyithu Hluttaw MP explains plans for development tasks to locals

**Mandalay, 9 Nov**—A coordination meeting on spending funds of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw for regional development tasks was held at the hall of Chanayethazan Township General Administration Department in Mandalay on 8 November.

Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) representative Dr Kyaw Myint of Chanayethazan Township, Region Hluttaw representative Daw Tin Tin Mar and local authorities participated in the discussions.

Dr Kyaw Myint explained plans to carry out development tasks in the township spending the fund and local authorities submitted reports on requirements of the township.

**Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)**

Artists perform entertainments after donating Kathina robes to monks

**Mandala, 9 Nov**—Artists from Mandalay held the 13th Kathina robe offering ceremony at Dhammasala Hall in Chanayethazan Township in Mandalay on 7 November.

In the evening, dancers Shwe Mann Thu Myint Myint Than, Yuwady and Heikthee Than Than performed dances together with comedians to the accompaniment of Myoma Band. The next day, they offered Kathina robes and donations to 25 members of the Sangha at the monastery in Htanaungtaing Village in Myingyan Township, Mandalay.

In addition, famous literati in Mandalay such as writers Nyi Say Min and Nyi Pu Lay gave literary talks to the students.

**Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)**
China willing to provide more “public goods” to world: Xi

BEIJING, 9 Nov -- China is able and willing to provide more public goods for the Asia-Pacific and the world, as its overall national strength grows, Chinese President Xi Jinping said here on Sunday.

China will especial- ly offer new initiatives and visions for enhancing regional cooperation, to contribute to the connectiv- ity, development and prosperity of the Asia-Pacific, said Xi in his speech at the CEO Summit of the ongoing APEC meetings.

It is ready to work with other countries to promote the “Silk Road Economic Belt” and the “21st Century Maritime Silk Road”, he said.

Last month, 21 Asian countries signed the Memorandum of Under- standing on Establishing Asian Infrastructure Invest- ment Bank (AIIB) that was initiated by Chi- na.

On Saturday, Xi an- nounced that China will commit 40 billion US dol- lars to the establishment of a Silk Road Fund to finance for infrastructure, resources development and industrial cooperation among countries along the “Belt and Road”.

“We are ready to work with all other par- ties to push for the early operation of AIIB and build the bank into a new platform for cooperation in connectivity, finance and other areas,” Xi said.

Tharman said on Thursday.

SGX’s UPS systems mal- functioned, SGX president Muthukrishnan Ramaswa- mi said on Thursday.

Talking about the in- cident, Tharman stressed that it “does not help” Sin- gapore’s reputation as a fi- nancial hub. Although there have been similar incidents in other markets, Tharman made it clear that such in- cident was not allowed to have occurred.

“It doesn’t matter what happens overseas,” He said, “we’ve got to get it right here.”—Xinhua

India's defence minister says needs 440 helicopters for armed forces

NEW DELHI, 9 Nov -- India needs a total of 440 new helicopters for its armed forces, Defence Minister Arun Jaitley said on Sunday, adding that some will be brought from abroad and some will be manufactured domestical- ly.

India has several ten- ders open for purchasing helicopters.

S'pore investment giant launches inquiry arm for power malfunction case

SINGAPORE, 9 Nov -- Singapore Exchange (SGX) has set up a board of inquiry to investigate the power supply system malfunction which led to a three-hour trade halt in its securities market on Wednesday af- ternoon, local media re- ported on Sunday, citing Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Thar- man Shanmugamratnam.

Tharman made the re- marks while speaking after touring the Commu- nity Health Day at SATA CommHealth Jurong East Medical Centre, Channel NewsAsia reported.

The official said SGX has appointed independent experts to look into several matters, including power supply and recovery pro- cesses.

The service disruption on Wednesday, which saw the trading system of the bourse paralyzed for over two hours, was triggered by a momentary fluctuation in power supply. This caused the UPS systems to switch to its internal power source. The service disruption hit at 2:18 pm local time as the hardware that provides connectivity to traders was derailed by power supply issues.

The stock trading eventually resumed at 5:15 pm and closed at 5:45 pm, which normally closes at 5 pm. This was the first time SGX’s UPS systems mal- functioned, SGX president Muthukrishnan Ramaswa- mi said on Thursday.

On a possible meeting with Xi, Abe told report- ers prior to his departure from Tokyo that he wants to convey the message that “Japan and China, which have responsibilities for peace and stability in the international community, should go back to the origin- al point of the strategic re- lationship of mutual benefit to develop relations.”

If realized, Abe also said that he wants to tell Xi “a crisis management mechanism to avert a accidental clash” in the East China Sea needs to be es- tablished.

“I want to improve the Japan-China relationship and that view has not changed since my first ten- ure of the premiership in 2006,” he said.

Abe was prime minis- ter from September 2006 to September 2007 before his return to office in Decem- ber 2012.

In 2006, less than two weeks into office, Abe made an ice-breaking trip to China and at that time both countries agreed to elevate relations to a “strategic” and “mutually bene- ficial” nature.

On the multilateral front, Abe plans to explain to APEC leaders his coun- try’s efforts to contribute to sustainable regional growth, Japanese officials said. During his four-day stay in Beijing through Wednesday, Abe also plans to hold talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday evening during which a territorial dispute is likely to be on the agenda.

Balloons are released into the sky on the Independence Day in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 9 Nov, 2014. Cambodia marked the 61st anniversary of the declaration of the Independence Day from French protectorate on Sunday. Xinhua

Abe in Beijing for APEC with eye on Jap-an-China summit

BEIJING, 9 Nov -- Jap- anese Prime Minister Shin- zo Abe on Sunday arrived in Beijing, the first leg of his three-nation tour to at- tend the Asia-Pacific Eco- nomic Cooperation forum summit from Monday.

Abe’s trip to China comes amid expectations that he may hold his first summit talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping since becoming Japanese leader in 2012.

The prospect for a meeting in Beijing emerged after foreign ministers of the two countries agreed on Saturday to work toward resuming various high-level talks to mend ties soured over territorial and histori- cal issues.

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Tokyo and Moscow remain at odds over the question of the sovereign- ty of Russian-controlled, Japanese-claimed islands off Hokkaido and Abe is keen on making use of his meeting with Putin to make progress on the long-stand- ing dispute.

After Beijing, the Jap- anese premier will head to Myanmar to attend events involving the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the Myanmar capital Nay Pyi Taw.

His last stop will be Brisbane, Australia, to at- tend the 15-16 November summit of the Group of 20 developed and emerging economies.

Abe will return to Ja- pan on 17 November.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) and his wife Akie walk by a Chinese guard of honor at Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing on 9 Nov, 2014, upon arrival there. Abe will attend the two-day Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit from 10 November and fly to Myanmar and Australia. Kyodo News

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) and his wife Akie walk by a Chinese guard of honor at Beijing Capital International Airport in Beijing on 9 Nov, 2014, upon arrival there. Abe will attend the two-day Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit from 10 November and fly to Myanmar and Australia. Kyodo News
Germany cheers 25 years since Berlin Wall’s fall

BERLIN, 9 Nov — Germany on Sunday celebrated 25 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, a milestone in ending the Cold War, by throwing a huge open-air street party at the iconic Brandenburg Gate.

Germany on Sunday celebrated 25 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall, a milestone in ending the Cold War, by throwing a huge open-air street party at the iconic Brandenburg Gate. More than a million people were expected in the reunited capital to see rock stars and anti-communist dissidents take to the stage amid fireworks displays to recall the peaceful breach of the despised concrete barrier.

The ugly scar the Wall once cut through Berlin has been marked by an art installation, a string of almost 70,000 white balloons inflated to form a 15-kilometre (nine-mile) stretch of its former 155-kilometre path. To symbolise the tumultuous day the barrier first cracked open on 9 Nov, 1989, the balloons will float into the sky at dusk to the stirring strains of Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy”, the anthem of the European Union.

Later the unofficial Wall anthem “Heroes”, which David Bowie recorded in a studio near the barrier in then-West Berlin, will ring out across the city, performed by British singer-songwriter Peter Gabriel. The anniversary celebrations started on a sombre note with a church service and ceremonies for the at least 389 victims of the border, who were shot, blown up by mines or otherwise killed as they tried to escape the East.

Chancellor Angela Merkel, 60, who grew up in a pastor’s daughter under communism, joined other dignitaries at a memorial at Bernauer Strasse, which saw harrowing scenes of people jumping from windows when the Wall first went up in 1961.

“It took a long time and many people’s suffering to make it possible for the Wall to fall, not just in Germany but also in Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and many other countries,” Merkel told reporters at the event.

“That’s something we should remember on a day like today.”

Unlike the 20th anniversary celebrations, when many heads of state and government flocked to Berlin, this time around the festivities are mainly a people’s celebration in a city that has blossomed into a cultural hub and major European tourist destination.

More than a million people were expected to descend on Berlin over the weekend, said tourism group Visit Berlin.

One visitor who walked along the Wall light installation — called “Lichtgrenze” or light frontier — at sunrise Sunday was Benjamin Nemerofsky, 41, a Canadian artist who has lived in the city since 2001.

“The fall of the Wall changed many things in Europe, in Germany and in Berlin,” he said. “This is a city where you can see 20th century history at every corner. That’s fascinating,” he told AFP, describing himself as “bewitched” by Berlin.

Philippines, Australia, NZ welcome eased tensions between Japan, China

BEIJING, 9 Nov — Regional dialogue partners of Japan including the Philippines, which has a territorial row with Beijing, welcomed on Saturday the easing of tensions between Japan and China as the two Asian neighbours’ foreign ministers agreed to restart “various” high-level talks.

Philippine Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario told Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida during their meeting in the Chinese capital on the fringes of the ministerial meetings of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum that he welcomes the improvement in Japan-China ties, according to the official.

New Zealand Foreign Minister Murray McCully, during talks with Kishida, also expressed strong hopes on the future of Japan-China ties, according to the official.

Kishida’s meetings with them came the same day he held talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi during which he underlined the importance of arranging a meeting between Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Kyodo News

APEC ministers adopt roadmap for Asia-Pacific free trade area

BEIJING, 9 Nov — Foreign and trade ministers of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) countries adopted on Saturday a roadmap for organization of a free trade area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP).

“In order to translate the FTAAP from a vision to reality, we agree to kick off and advance the process in a comprehensive and systematic manner towards the eventual realization of the FTAAP. We adopt the Beijing Roadmap for APEC’s Contribution to the Realization of the FTAAP which demonstrates APEC’s leadership and commitment to regional economic integration and provides a pragmatic guide to advancing work towards the FTAAP in a step-by-step approach, with the goal of establishing the FTAAP as early as possible by building on ongoing regional undertakings. We instruct officials to undertake the actions identified in the roadmap while pursuing the conclusion of initiatives considered as potential building blocks of the FTAAP,” the Joint Ministerial Statement reads.

The ministers confirmed intentions to observe the Bogor objectives of 1994, where freedom of trade and investments should be available for all APEC countries by 2020 — Year Two.

The ministers confirmed intentions to observe the Bogor objectives of 1994, where freedom of trade and investments should be available for all APEC countries by 2020.

In 1994, APEC Leaders announced the commitment to achieve the goal of free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific trade and investment with contributions and support from ABAC, PECCE and APEC Study Centres. We instruct the CTI Friends of the Chair Group on Strengthening RI and Advancing FTAAP to organize and lead a task force to undertake the study and report the result to us by the end of 2016.” Besides, the ministers confirmed intentions to observe the Bogor objectives of 1994, where freedom of trade and investments should be available for all APEC countries by 2020.

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The ministers confirmed intentions to observe the Bogor objectives of 1994, where freedom of trade and investments should be available for all APEC countries by 2020.

This study will be built on previous analytical work in APEC, and aim to analyze a wide range of options for expanding Asia-Pacific trade and investment with contributions and support from ABAC, PECCE and APEC Study Centres.

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Will we win the fight against child labour?

By Kyaw Thura

Myanmar has shown its support for the fight against "the worst form of child labour" in line with ILO Convention 182. According to the International Labour Organisation, the worst form of child labour is defined as work that can have a lasting impact on a child's mental and physical development. The worst form of child labour includes illicit activities such as slavery, trafficking, and the use of children in armed conflict or for prostitution or pornography.

The government has pledged to consider such work illegal and prevent juvenile employment from happening while striving to remove children trapped in such work and bringing the perpetrators to justice.

It is clear that the elimination of child labour is not a mission that can be accomplished overnight. In addition, the government alone will not be able to address this issue to dramatic effect. To rise up to this challenge, the government is now working together with the ILO, INGOs and civil society organizations to lay down necessary policies and structures by initiating regulatory reform and budgetary revision.

U.S. Senator Tom Harkin once said that "a nation cannot achieve nor sustain prosperity on the backs of its children." In the global economy, the exploitation of children must not be tolerated under any circumstances or for any reason. He also stressed that it is important "to get children out of these abusive circumstances and into schools where they can gain the knowledge and skills they need to build a decent life."

His words encourage all people from across the political, economic, social, educational and religious spectrums to come together to speak with one voice unequivocally in opposition to abusive and exploitative child labour, which is in fact a practice that must be abolished.

It is therefore imperative to bring public attention not only to the tragic predicament of children trapped in obvious labour but also to the fact that these children are robbed of their childhood, their education and their future. After all, action always speaks louder than words.

PASSION

Kyti Mun

Passion means: Strong Feeling; the Force of a Feeling; Concentrated Energy; Focused Mind; the Oxford Dictionary defines PASSION as: "A very strong feeling of love, hatred, anger, enthusiasm, etc. Passion has the most constructive as well as destructive power, like fire. So, let us analytically consider what the essential meaning of Passion is, as follows:

- P = Purpose
- A = Audacity
- S = Strengths
- T = Strategy
- I = Insight
- O = Opportunities
- N = Networking

PURPOSE
Passion must be channeled into a purpose. Passion should be focused on a definite purpose. Passion not strongly concentrated on one tremendous purpose will tend to be dissipated without any useful result. The mighty force of a passion should be harnessed into a productive purpose. A purpose should be thoroughly thought through in terms of desired results. Getting the right results is the main thing.

AUDACITY
The force of a tremendous passion firmly harnessed to a definite purpose must be well planned and meticulously executed. There should be no dilly-dallying. Wishy-washy beliefs only engender dissipation of energy and wakening of purpose. All the responsible people must be thoroughly conscientious and strongly committed to "Going Places and Doing things; Making Things Happen and Getting Things Done in the Right Way, on Time and within Budget."

STRENGTHS
Passion should always be reinforced and fueled with the right and adequate resources. Strengths in the required resources must be proportionately built up and consolidated. A battle can be fought and won only with superior strengths and strategy. The responsible persons must see to it that human qualities and capabilities must be carefully built up to the maximum limits and modern technology must be constantly updated. Morale and resources are the deciding factors for a definite decision for victory.

STRATEGY
Strategy is the very bright human brains plus morale and resources. If the End justifies the Means, the Objective justifies the Strategy. A good strategy should be based on:

• The Principle of Objective
• The Principle of Concentration/Mass
• The Principle of Offensive
• The Principle of Cooperation
• The Principle of Economy of Force
• The Principle of Security
• The Principle of Surprise
• The Principle of Mobility

INSIGHT
Insight is seeing far into the future and seeing the big picture. Insight is also seeing THROUGH the FORM right into the CONTENT. INSIGHT is knowing what you want and when you want it. Insight is also knowing how to get to what you want. Insight can be obtained by brain-storming, by thinking through, by exploring the breakthrough ideas, and by sharp instinct or hunch in some cases of deadlock or impasse.

OPPORTUNITIES
Indeed, Opportunity is the life blood of enterprise, the stuff on which entrepreneurs thrive and fortunes are made. Good and successful business is about opportunities—finding them, creating them and taking advantage of them.

The Webster Dictionary defines opportunity as "a favorable juncture of circumstances" or "a chance for advancement or progress". The Oxford Dictionary defines the word as "a time or set of circumstances suitable for a particular purpose." Ragger La Salle likes to define opportunity as: "An observed fortunate set of circumstances."

NETWORKING
Most opportunities come from people. This is a people's world. Intelligent people improve the world and the human civilization. People have creative and breakthrough ideas. So those who want to get the most opportunities should try to establish both intellectual and emotional connections with various people. People are in fact the reservoir of opportunities for progress and prosperity.

CONCLUSION
PASSION is a most important emotional intelligence. It is a very valuable quality of the heart. Without passion in the heart, life would be like living without fire or heat.

Generally, passion should be tempered with prudence and wisdom.

The Project for Improvement of Malaria Control Equipment

YANGON, 9 NOV—The Department of Health (DoH) under the Ministry of Health and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) successfully signed Grant Agreement (G/A) of the Project for Improvement of Malaria Control Equipment following signed Exchange of Note (E/N) between Myanmar and Japan on 21 October 2014.

Dr. Min Than Nyunt, Director-General and officials concerned from the Department of Health, Mr. Masahiko Tanaka, Chief Representative of JICA Myanmar Office attended the ceremony.

Under this project, a grant amount up to Japanese Yen one hundred and forty-six million (JPY 146,000,000) will be extended with the purpose to support National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) to reduce malaria to 90% the level in 2009 by 2016 and to socioeconomic development and achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals in 2015.

The Ministry of Health and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have a long history of cooperation on Malaria control such as the Grant Aid Project on Malaria Control in Myanmar in 2009 and the Technical Cooperation Project on the Major Infectious Diseases Control Projects Phase 1 & 2 to provide technical assistance in response to three infectious diseases, namely, Malaria, Tuberculosis and HIV. —GJLM

Web: www.un.org/esa/socdev/childlabour/
Preparations made to host ASEAN Summit in Nay Pyi Taw

3 Fund-raising Beneficiaries of Marathon to Support Underprivileged Children in Myanmar announced

By Kyaw The-ein (MNA-Ext.)

Yangon, 9 Nov — The organisers of the Yoma Yangon International Marathon (“YYIM”) for 2015 are proud to announce the first three organisations to be selected as beneficiaries of fund-raising efforts in relation to YYIM 2015. Following an evaluation of the support and assistance required and in line with the YYIM 2015’s charity theme of “Run for Children”, Yoma Strategic Holdings Ltd (“Yoma Strategic”), First Myanmar Investment Company Limited (“FMI”) and Yangon City Development Committee (“YCDC”), have thus far selected YCDC Day Care Center, Su Taung Pyae Youth Development Center, and Aung Za Bu Youth Development Center.

These selected organisations currently provide educational and residential support to a combined total of more than 3,000 children, many of whom are orphans and come from ethnic areas. Additional beneficiaries may be selected over the coming months and will be announced as and when they have been confirmed. Supporting underprivileged children in Myanmar is the common theme for selection of the charities.

“As the Yoma Yangon International Marathon continues to grow in size and stature, so must our social contribution. I sincerely hope each marathon participant is inspired to contribute towards our charity drive and along with the efforts of our Charity Ambassadors, we will collectively help the children of Myanmar to have a better future,” said Andrew Rickards, CEO, Yoma Strategic.

The third YYIM, taking place on 11 January 2015, will feature a new philanthropic component spearheaded by the Charity Ambassadors driving fundraising efforts for the beneficiaries. The Charity Ambassadors will be undertaking a number of fundraising events and will be helping to raise the profile of the YYIM and the selected charities. Members of the public can make a donation in support of the YYIM Charity Ambassadors and the selected charities by visiting the GIVEasia website: www.giveasia.org/movement/yomayangoninternationalmarathon2015.
Power shift in US Senate brings sterner tone to foreign policy debate

WASHINGTON, 9 Nov — The Republican takeover of the US Senate will bring a tough new tone to the debate over Washington’s foreign policy, with lawmakers expected to use their new clout and power over the budget to promote a more interventionist foreign policy. While leaders of the Democratic-majority Senate mostly backed President Barack Obama’s international goals, Republicans plan to pressure the White House to take a tougher line on Iran, Russia and Islamic State fighters in Iraq and Syria.

“it think the Congress can and will be heard from, particularly on the funding side,” John Thune, a member of the Senate’s Republic leadership, said in a telephone interview. After Republicans, who already controlled the House of Representatives, won a majority in the Senate on Tuesday, two of Washington’s most vocal foreign policy hawks, John McCain and Lindsey Graham, came in line to chair two key Senate panels. McCain, who has advocated a more robust response in both Ukraine and Syria, will lead the Senate Armed Services Committee, which oversees military policy. That includes a say in the budget, giving him a strong lever on policy. Graham is due to chair the Senate appropriations subcommittee that controls the State Department’s budget and can withhold or grant aid to foreign governments.

Tennessee Senator Bob Corker, in line to be chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is known as a consensus-builder. But he has backed a sterner policy for Syria and lamented what he sees as a lack of communication with lawmakers by the Democratic White House, which could mean more hearings.

The Foreign Relations committee has the power to approve or reject Obama’s nominees for ambassadorships and top State Department positions before they face a full Senate vote. The Senate’s power shift also could have a big influence on deals the administration reaches with other countries.

An early opportunity for the Republicans to flex their new muscle will come with the agreement that Obama is trying to negotiate with Iran by 24 November to curb its nuclear program.

To reach a deal, Obama must be able to convince Tehran that Washington will lift sanctions. Republicans, who worry that Obama will make too many concessions, are talking about turning the screws on Tehran and imposing yet more sanctions.

Democrats and Republicans are at odds over when to vote on a new authorization for Syria and lamented what he sees as a lack of communication with lawmakers by the Democratic White House, which could mean more hearings.

Gorbachev says world is on brink of new Cold War

BERLIN, 9 Nov — Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev warned in a speech in Berlin on Saturday that East-West tensions over the Ukraine crisis were threatening to push the world into a new Cold War, 25 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Gorbachev, who is credited with forging a rapprochement with the West that led to the demise of communist regimes across Eastern Europe, accused the West, and the United States in particular, of not fulfilling their promises after 1989.

“The world is on the brink of a new Cold War. Some say that it has already begun,” said Gorbachev, who is feted in Germany for his pivotal role in helping create the conditions for the Berlin Wall’s peaceful opening on 9 November, 1989, heralding the end of the Cold War.

“And yet, while the situation is dramatic, we do not see the main international body, the UN Security Council, playing any role or taking any concrete action.”

The conflict in eastern Ukraine has killed more than 4,000 people since the start of an uprising by pro-Russian separatists in mid-April. Russia blames the crisis on Kiev and the West, but NATO says it has overwhelming evidence that Russia has aided the rebels militarily in the conflict.

Gorbachev, 83, also criticised Europe and said it was in danger of becoming irrelevant as a global power.

“Instead of becoming a leader of change in a global world, Europe has turned into an arena of political upheaval, of competition for spheres of influence and finally of military conflict,” he said. “The consequence inevitably is Europe weakening at a time when other centres of power and influence are gaining momentum. If this continues, Europe will lose a strong voice in global affairs and gradually become irrelevant.”

Speaking at an event at Berlin’s Brandenburg Gate, Gorbachev said the West had exploited Russia’s weakness after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. “Euphoria and triumphalism went to the heads of Western leaders,” he said. “Taking advantage of Russia’s weakness and the lack of a counterveight, they claimed monopoly leadership and domination of the world, refusing to heed words of caution from many of those present here,” he said.

Gorbachev said the West had made mistakes that upset Russia with the enlargement of NATO, with its actions in the former Yugoslavia, Iraq, Libya and Syria and with plans for a missile defence system.

“To put it metaphorically, a blister has now turned into a bloody, festering wound,” he said. “And who is suffering the most from what’s happening? I think the answer is more than clear: It is Europe.”

US, EU, Iran meet in Oman over nuclear talks

MUSCAT, 9 Nov — The trilateral meeting that involves the United States, Iran and the European Union (EU) is to start in Muscat, the capital of Oman, on Sunday to discuss core issues on Iran’s nuclear programme, the official Oman News Agency reported.

The two-day meeting, attended by US Secretary of State John Kerry, EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad-Javad Zarif, comes just two weeks before the 24 November deadline for a comprehensive deal on the controversial nuclear programme of the Islamic republic.

The meeting is part of the EU-coordinated negotiations between Iran and the so-called P5+1 group, including Britain, China, France, Russia, the United States plus Germany.

After the deal between Iran and the P5+1 group on 24 November last year, both sides have held several rounds of talks trying to work out a final agreement.

The Western sanctions against Iran and the country’s uranium enrichment capacity are now the two key issues between the two sides.

Under the interim deal agreed in Geneva last November, Iran agreed to suspend some sensitive nuclear issues between the two sides.

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US air strikes target Islamic State convoy in Iraq

Baghdad/Washington, 9 Nov — US air strikes destroyed an Islamic State convoy near the Iraqi city of Mosul but US officials said on Saturday it was unclear whether the group’s top commander Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi had been in any of the 10 targeted vehicles.

Colonel Patrick Ryder, a Central Command spokesman, said the US military had reason to believe that the convoy was carrying leaders of Islamic State, an al-Qaeda offshoot which controls large chunks of Iraq and Syria.

The convoy consisted of 10 Islamic State armed trucks.

“I can confirm that coalition aircraft did conduct a series of air strikes yesterday evening in Iraq against what was assessed to be a gathering of ISIL leaders near Mosul,” said Ryder, using another name for Islamic State.

“We cannot confirm if ISIL leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was among those present.”

Islamic State had been changing its strategy since the air strikes began, switching to lower profile vehicles to avoid being targeted, according to residents of towns the group holds.

A Mosul morgue official said 50 bodies of Islamic State militants were brought to the facility after the air strike.

Mosul, northern Iraq’s biggest city, was overrun on 10 June in an offensive that saw vast parts of Iraq’s Sunni regions fall to the Islamic State and allied groups.

A month later a video posted online purported to show the wreckage of Baghdadi preaching at Mosul’s grand mosque.

Earlier on Saturday, Al-Hadath television channel said US-led air strikes targeted a gathering of Islamic State leaders in a town near the Syrian border, possibly including Baghdadi.

Iraqi security officials were not immediately available for comment on the report from the station, part of Saudi-owned al-Arabiya television, but two witnesses told Reuters an air strike targeted a house where senior Islamic State officers were meeting, near the western Iraqi border town of al-Qaim.

Al-Hadath said dozens of people were killed and wounded in the strike in al-Qaim, and that Baghdadi’s fate was unclear.

Mahmoud Khalaf, a member of Anbar’s Provincial Council, also said there were air strikes in al-Qaim. He gave no details.

The US-led coalition carried out air strikes near al-Qaim overnight, deposing an Islamic State armoured vehicle and two checkpoints run by the group, Ryder said. —Reuters

Libyan protesters seize eastern oil port as Benghazi toll hits 300

Benghazi/Tunis, 9 Nov — Libyan security guards have started a protest at the 120,000 barrel-per-day Hariga oil port in the east, halting all oil exports from the terminal, a Libyan oil official said on Saturday.

The closure only adds to the growing chaos in Libya, whose internationally recognized government has been driven out of the capital by an alliance led by forces from the city of Misrata, which has installed a rival government and parliament.

In the main eastern city of Benghazi, five pro-government soldiers were killed and 28 wounded on Saturday while fighting Islamists, lifting the death toll from three weeks of clashes to 300, medics said.

The protesters at Hariga were part of a state security oil force that has gone on strike over pay several times this year.

“There is a sit-in from security guards who say they have not been paid,” said the official, who asked not to be named. “We are trying to solve the issue.”

A tanker had been waiting for three days to lift oil from Hariga, located in Tobruk, but the guards did not allow it to do so, the official said. The port was only open for fuel imports and the exports of refinery products, which are marginal, he added.

The closure will lower Libya’s output to around 50,000 bpd or even less, based on previous published figures. The state National Oil Corp (NOC) has not given a production update for a month.

Libya’s oil industry had already been struggling with the closure of the southerly El Sharara oilfield, which used to pump at least 200,000 bpd, because of attacks by gunmen.

A senior oil worker at the field, who asked not to be named, authorities hoped to restart the field within three to four days if the security situation allowed it. But an officer in the Petroleum Facilities Guard (PFG) at the oilfield said gunmen had attacked El Sharara again on Friday.

“There was fighting yesterday between PFG (forces) of the field and invaders, resulting in one wounded PFG member and three killed invaders,” he said. But he said the PFG members had then withdrawn, leaving the remote field to the gunmen.

Some Libyan websites have said the attackers are supporters of the group that seized the capital in August, but Reuters has been unable to confirm this.

The senior oil worker said the El Sharara closure would not affect the Zawiya refinery connected to the field as tanks there had stocks for 17 days. NOC could get fresh supplies from the southwest Libyan field Feel field or via the Es Sider oil port, he added.

The 120,000 bpd refinery supplies the capital Tripoli and western Libya with gasoline.

Libya’s oil industry had been recovering from the past few months from a wave of protests at ports and oilfields that had lowered output to 100,000 bpd in the first half of the year. Output hit 900,000 bpd in September. —Reuters

Kidnapped UNICEF staff freed in Yemen

Sanaa, 9 Nov — A Sierra Leonean employee of the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) who was abducted in Yemen last year has been released through a mediation, according to local media. The Yemen-based al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula still holds an Iranian diplomat, who was kidnapped in July last year, and a Saudi diplomat, abducted in May 2012. —Xinhua

Taleban suicide attack kills one at police HQ

Kabul, 9 Nov — An Islamist Taleban suicide bomber attacked police headquarters in the Afghan capital on Sunday, killing at least one person and wounding six, police and the insurgents said.

A second explosion in Kabul on Sunday killed at least one person and wounded six, police and the insurgents said.

The Taleban claimed responsibility for the police HQ attack on Twitter and said it was carried out by a suicide bomber. Police said they were investigating.

“The attack took place during a meeting between foreign advisers and police inside the police compound,” Taleban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said.

The group has called the new government of national unity led by President Ashraf Ghani a US-backed sham and has vowed to continue fighting after the combat mission led by the United States ended in 2014 after more than 13 years of war. —Reuters
Ban concerned over political deadlock in Pristina

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon

NEW YORK, 9 Nov — In the latest report on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon expressed concern over the political deadlock in Pristina and urged Kosovo’s leaders to intensify efforts to find a solution and resume the dialogue with Belgrade as soon as possible.

“I am particularly concerned by the protracted political deadlock in Pristina and its potential negative impact on the overall achievements thus far in strengthening democratic institutions and processes in Kosovo,” Ban said in the report, which will be discussed by the UN Security Council on 13 November.

“I strongly urge all of Kosovo’s political entities and especially their leaders, to intensify efforts to build on the success of the 8 June elections and ensure that the current impasse is overcome,” says the document on UNMIK activities in the period from 16 July to 15 October, published on the UN website.

“This generation of leaders must continue the historic process of normalisation with Belgrade, reconcile with the past, make use of the opportunities presented by the stabilization and association talks with the European Union and continue structural reforms,” Ban noted. “I congratulate both the Kosovo authorities and the Government of Serbia on the progress towards a common European future. In this light, I encourage the earliest resumption of the high-level meetings on normalization of relations, facilitated by the European Union,” Ban said.

In its 2014 progress report for Serbia, published in October, the European Commission noted that progress in the normalization of Belgrade-Pristina ties is “essential for advancing the European future of both sides,” Ban said. He said that the technical talks have continued and that certain progress has been achieved in integrated management of crossing points, telecommunications, energy and freedom of movement. The confidential document, issued to IAEA members states on Friday, said that since the UN agency’s previous report in September, Iran had “intemmently” been feeding natural uranium gas into a single so-called IR-5 centrifuge at a research facility.

The IR-5 is one of several new models that Iran has been seeking to develop to replace the erratic, 1970s vintage IR-1 centrifuge that it now uses to produce refined uranium. Unlike other advanced models under development — IR-2m, IR-4 and IR-6 — at a research site at its Natanz enrichment plant, Iran had until now not fed the IR-5 with uranium gas.

“Iran may have violated the (interim accord) by starting to feed (natural uranium gas) into one of its advanced centrifuges,” ISIS said in an analysis. “That would only occur if Iran introduced a brand new centrifuge model to the facility and began feeding it uranium,” he wrote in an email.

Iran says it produces low-enriched uranium to make fuel for nuclear power plants. But if processed much further, refined uranium could be turned into the explosive core of a bomb, which the West fears may be the country’s latent goal.

The US experts disagree on whether Iran violated nuclear deal with powers

VIENNA, 9 Nov — A US think-tank said Iran may have violated last year’s interim nuclear deal with world powers by stepping up efforts to develop a machine that could enrich uranium faster, but other experts said they saw no breach.

Iran’s development of advanced enrichment centrifuges is sensitive because, if successful, it could enable the country to produce potential nuclear bomb material at a rate several times of that of the decades-old model now in use.

Western officials were not immediately available to comment on the allegation by the Washington-based Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS), which closely tracks Iran’s nuclear programme. There was no immediate comment from Tehran.

ISIS, whose founder David Albright often briefs US lawmakers and others on nuclear proliferation issues, cited a finding in a new report by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) about Iran. The confidential document, issued to IAEA member states on Friday, said that since the UN agency’s previous report in September, Iran had “intemmently” been feeding natural uranium gas into a single so-called IR-5 centrifuge at a research facility.

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The US experts disagree on whether Iran violated nuclear deal with powers

US experts disagree on whether Iran violated nuclear deal with powers
Japanese donors rebuild medical building in Haiyan-hit Philippines

TAGOLOAN CITY, 9 Nov — A Japanese nonprofit organization and a local medical society in the Typhoon Haiyan-hit provinces of Leyte and Samar in the central Philippines launched the construction of the society’s building to replace the office destroyed by last year’s super typhoon.

Tomo Iwamoto of the Association of Medical Doctors of Asia said the new building is donating the Leyte Medical Society will also be the Okayama-based group’s emergency relief center if the need to set up one arises in the future.

The two-storey building in an uptown village in the Leyte capital Tacloban City, which bore Haiyan’s brunt, is project-ed to cost 10 million yen ($87,000) and is expected to be completed in five or six months.

Most of the funds are from the Japan Medical Association and the Fuku-yama City Medical Association.

Iwamoto said her organization decided to donate a new building to the medical society after it learned, while conducting emergency relief assistance in the aftermath of Haiyan, that the local group’s building did not survive the typhoon.

“If we rebuild their building, we can’t only contribute to the local people through the Leyte Medical Society, we can also potentially contribute more in case another dis-aster happens in the future, because this would now be our main focal place,” Iwamoto said.

Maria Elvira Casal, president of the Leyte Medical Society, said her organization’s 500-strong physician members have their new office for con-ferences and scientific ses-sions and also a venue for future medical missions.

“You re a dream come true for all of us.” Casal told Iwamoto during a groundbreaking ceremony.

The Association of Medical Doctors of Asia conducted medical mis-sions for Haiyan victims beginning in December last year.

It also participated in free medical missions organized by the Leyte Medical Society from March to October this year.

Regarding as the strongest typhoon to hit land, Haiyan left 6,300 people dead, more than 1,000 missing, and some 4.1 million displaced in the central Philippines.

It also caused massive damage to infrastructure, agriculture and others that the government estimates will cost 89 billion pesos (around $2 billion) to re-pair or repair.

Kyodo News

Newly found MH17 human remains transported to Netherlands

THE HAGUE, 9 Nov — Recently discovered human remains of victims in the MH17 crash were transported from Ukraine to the Netherlands on Sat-urday.

The remains, in five coffins, arrived on board a Dutch military transport plane and were carried to waiting hearses in a cere-mony in the southern city of Eindhoven.

Following the ceremo-ny, the five coffins were brought to the Corporal Van Oudheusden barracks in Hilversum, where the re-mains will be investigated, possibly identified and then transferred to relatives.

This is the sixth time a transport of MH17 human remains from Ukraine to the Netherlands took place.

The Malaysia Airlines flight crashed on 17 July, killing 298 passengers and crew members on board, including 10 Dutch cit-izens. On Monday, the Netherlands will hold a na-tional commemoration ser-vice in Amsterdam for the victims.

About 50,000 tons of rice worth more than 300 million yuan were involved in those cases.

Xinhua

Rice-smuggling gang busted in south China

NANNING, 9 Nov — A gang suspected of smugg-ling more than 3,000 tons of rice has been busted in south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Re-gion, customs authorities said on Sunday.

The gang is suspected of smuggling rice worth about 10 million yuan (1.6 million US dollars) and evading 7 million yuan in taxes.

Ten members of the gang were captured last week near the China-Viet-nam border when they tried to smuggle rice into Guangxi, according to Nanning Customs.

The rice was bought in Vietnam, the customs said. Five core members have been detained for criminal prosecution as Nanning Customs continue-digging for evidence against the gang.

The anti-smuggling di-vision of Nanning Customs was tipped off about the gang in August and started to investigate its activities with the help of local police.

This year, Nanning Customs have cracked five organized rice smuggling cases.

About 50,000 tons of rice worth more than 300 million yuan were involved in those cases.

Xinhua

WEATHER REPORT

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 9th November, 2014: Weather will be partly cloudy in Sagaing Region and Kachin State, rain or thun-dershowers will be fairly widespread in Taninthayi Region, scattered in Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Rakhi and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with isolated heavy falls in Taninthayi Region. Degree of certainty is (80%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 - 40) m.p.h.

A boy watches model trains during the 32nd Model Railway Exhibition “Trains 2014” in Burnaby, Canada, on 8 Nov, 2014. This 2-day annual show, in its 32nd year, serves as an exhibition of the model railroading, bringing together experts, enthusiasts, families and those who are just becoming interested. —Xinhua

15 killed in Nigeria after bus plunges into river

LAGOS, 9 Nov — Fifteen people died on the spot when a bus they were travelling in plunged into a river in northern Nigerian Sokoto State, the police said on Sunday.

The vehicle was conveying 17 people at the time of the accident on Friday and only two survived, Al-Mustapha Sani, the state police spokesperson told Xinhua, saying the accident occurred in Rimna area of the state.

The deceased were said to be travelling back to their hometown after a function.

The cause of the accident had not been ascertained, Sani said.

Road traffic accidents are common in Nigeria and are mainly caused by careless driving and poor road conditions. —Xinhua

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**Ellie Goulding engaged?**

**One Direction debuts new song from upcoming album**

**Demi Lovato enjoys role model status**

**Chad Kroeger denies split rumours from wife Avril Lavigne**

**U2 to perform at MTV EMAs**

**Ellie Goulding has sparked engagement rumours with partner Dougie Poynter after she was spotted wearing a sparkler on her ring finger.**

The pop princess, who was not joined by Poynter in an event where she looked sensational in a plunging black shirt dress, reported Contactmusic. Last week it was reported that the couple were completely smitten with each other and friends were convinced it is only a matter of time before he pops the question.—PTI

**The iconic rock band have joined the line-up to perform at the SSE Hydro in Glasgow.**—PTI

**London, Nov — U2 have been confirmed as an additional act to perform at the MTV EMAs in Glasgow alongside Ariana Grande and Ed Sheeran. The iconic rock band have joined the line-up to perform at the SSE Hydro in Glasgow, following the release of their thirteenth studio album Songs of Innocence in September, reported Contactmusic. The ceremony will be hosted by ‘Superbass’ singer Nicki Minaj, and will also feature performances from Ariana Grande, Calvin Harris, Ed Sheeran, and Charli XCX amongst others. ‘The Miracle (of Joey Ramone)’ singers first performed at the annual event in 1997 when it was held in Rotterdam. The ceremony — which awards fan-voted prizes to the biggest names in music — has already announced that Black Sabbath rocker Ozzy Osbourne will be honoured for his contribution to music at the event, picking up the Global Icon Award. U2 — comprised of Bono, The Edge, Adam Clayton and Larry Mullen Jr — were criticised earlier this year when they made their record available for free through all Apple devices. PTI

**London, Nov — Singer Ellie Goulding has sparked engagement rumours with partner Dougie Poynter after she was spotted wearing a sparkler on her ring finger. The pop princess, who was not joined by Poynter in an event where she looked sensational in a plunging black shirt dress, reported Daily Mirror. Last week it was reported that the couple were completely smitten with each other and friends were convinced it is only a matter of time before he pops the question.—PTI**

**London, Nov — Sky-scraper’ hitmaker Demi Lovato prefers to be a role model. The ‘Skyscraper’ hitmaker, who entered rehab in 2010 for a variety of issues, said she can empathize with those people who choose to shy away from setting an example, reported Contactmusic. “I really embraced the whole role model thing, because when I was younger I realized that shying away from it and denying that I was gonna be a role model only made me resent the fact that people were putting boundaries on me of things I can and cannot do. “I think that’s why a lot of people shy from it, rightfully so. People sometimes just want to live their lives. At that moment, I knew I was doing a lot of things that weren’t right and weren’t role model-like until the day that I saw everything in the bigger picture where my voice,” she said.—PTI**

**London, Nov — Musician Chad Kroeger has laughed off rumours of him splitting from Avril Lavigne after one year of marriage. The Nickelback member said that he found the break-up story ‘amusing’, reported Ace Showbiz. “You know my dad calls me up and he’s just like, ‘I haven’t slept in 2 days, what’s going on?’ I’m like, ‘Dad you’re not buying all this crap are you?’ You know, I get to hear all the rumour mill stuff. I find it very amusing,” he said. “When you get out of high school and it’s like, ‘Ugh, okay.’ All that rubbish crap. All that stuff that people say behind each other’s backs is minuscule, pales in comparison to the world of celebrity or being married to a celebrity. That’s high school multiplied exponentially,” he said. Chad laughed the ‘When You’re Gone’ hitmaker a 17-carat diamond ring to celebrate their first wedding anniversary in July.—PTI**

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Prague, 9 Nov — Petra Kvitova and Lucie Safarova put the Czech Republic on the brink of the Fed Cup title with victories on the opening day of the final against Germany on Saturday.

The hosts roared into a 2-0 lead, leaving them requiring just one more victory on Sunday to seal their country’s third victory in the Fed Cup, the premier team tournament in women’s tennis, in the last four seasons.

Playing in front of a capacity 13,000 crowd at the O2 Arena in Prague, the home favourites were given a flying start when inspired Wimbledon champion Kvitova, who led the Czechs to the title in 2011 and 2012, defeated Andrea Petkovic 6-2, 6-4. Safarova then downed Angelique Kerber 6-4, 6-4, prevailing after a see-saw match and a lengthy Germany’s top-ranked player. It left Germany facing an uphill task to win the Cup for the first time since Steffi Graf led them to the 1992 title.

“I couldn’t ask for more than to be leading after the first day. They won in straight sets, which is excellent,” Czech captain Petr Pala said. “But we have to be ready again for tomorrow.”

Kvitova, a winner of three titles in 2014 including a second Wimbledon crown, set the tone swiftly, gaining an early break against Petkovic and taking the first three games en route to winning the opening set. Petkovic, though, showed fight, breaking Kvitova at the start of the second set before surrendering the advantage in the next game.

Causing Kvitova problems throughout the set, Petkovic leveled the score at 3-3 but the Czech hit a pair of drop shot to keep herself ahead. “(Kvitova) was playing amazingly well. I wasn’t playing badly, she was just so much better,” Petkovic said. “The main difference was she served better and returned better. She put a lot of pressure on my serve.”

A double fault from Petkovic set up match point for Kvitova, who quickly closed out the match.

Kvitova and Safarova both said they battled nerves as they went into their first finals matches on home soil since the Czechs won the trophy in 2012.

“It is a privilege to play at home but also pressure,” Safarova said. “I’m happy that Petra and I were the stronger ones on the court today.”

Safarova subdued Kerber on her third match point with a forehand shot to seal her third break of the set after the German had squandered leads of 2-0 and 4-2.

With the reverse singles and doubles matches scheduled for Sunday, Kvitova has the first opportunity to seal a Czech victory when she takes on Kerber. — Reuters

Bayern Munich’s Thomas Mueller (L) scores hat-trick against Eintracht Frankfurt’s goalkeeper Felix Wiedwald during their German first division Bundesliga soccer match in Frankfurt, on 8 Nov, 2014. — Reuters

Bayern Munich’s Thomas Mueller scored a hat-trick as the undefeated champions crushed Eintracht Frankfurt 4-0 on Saturday to open up a 17-point lead in the Bundesliga.

At the other end of the table Werder Bremen moved off the bottom with a 2-0 home win over VfB Stuttgart, leaving last season’s runners-up Borussia Dortmund, who take on third-placed Borussia Moenchengladbach on Sunday, in last spot.

Mueller’s opening goal on the rebound in the 22nd minute was a bad omen for Frankfurt, with the attacking midfielder having scored in previous Bundesliga games of which Bayern had won 47 and drawn three.

The German international doubled the visitors’ lead when he tapped in a Franck Ribery pass in the 64th but Bayern, who booked their spot in the Champions League last 16 this week with a win over AS Roma, never hit top form. Mueller completed his hat-trick three minutes later when he raced clear to beat Felix Wiedwald for his sixth goal of the season.

Xherdan Shaqiri then deflected a Sebastian Rode shot into the goal as Bayern won for the sixth time in seven league games.

“After a Champions League game it is always a bit difficult, “We had our problems at the start,” coach Pep Guardiola told reporters.

“We now have a few days (with the break for international matches) to sit down in peace and quiet and analyse what we can improve further.”

The Bavarians are top on 27 points with second-placed VfL Wolfsburg and Borussia Moenchengladbach in third, both on 20 and in action on Sunday.

Bayern Leverkusen failed to replicate their winning Champions League form from midweek and had to settle for a goalless draw against Mainz 05. They dropped to sixth on 18 points.

Heffelfingen are also on 17 having lost 4-3 to Cologne after coming back from 3-1 down to level with a double from Roberto Firmino in a roller-coaster game. Champions League side Schalke 04 continued their erratic form and slumped to a 2-0 loss at Freiburg to drop to 11th on 14 points.

It was second successive loss for Schalke after going 4-2 down against Sporting in the Champions League.

Bremen earned their third win in all competitions since coach Viktor Skripnik took over with goals in each half from Sebastian Proedl and Fin Bartels to move up to 15th on 10 points.

Second-placed伊was a mystery to leader McDowell

Shanghai, 9 Nov — The name Hiroshi Iwata looked conspicuously out of place surrounded by major champions on the leaderboard after the third round at the WGC-HSBC Champions tournament on Saturday. Iwata was only one stroke behind leader Graeme McDowell at the prestigious event, and the Northern Irishman readily admitted he had never even heard of his closest pursuer.

“Nothing,” McDowell told reporters when asked what he knew of Iwata. “No disrespect, but genuinely never heard of him. I saw him make one swing today and it looked like a beautiful swing (so) I’m looking forward to seeing what it’s all about tomorrow.”

Iwata, 33, is a late bloomer, who this July notched his first victory on the Japan Tour at the Fujisankei Classic. He is third on that tour’s money list. This is his first WGC event but he has looked far from out of oral his depth with three impressive rounds, and a birdie from off the green on the par-five 18th on Saturday lifted him into second place after a four-under 68 at Sheshan. His 10-under total is good enough to see him wedged between leader McDowell and third-placed pair Martin Kaymer and Bubba Watson.

Iwata felt calm, but that might change on Sunday if the world number 127 had a chance at what would be a life-changing victory. “I’m relatively short-tempered,” he said. “I’m pretty famous for that in Japan, so I always try to focus on not getting too angry at myself.

“I’m doing that pretty well at the moment, so I just want to keep that going.” — Reuters

Second-placed伊was a mystery to leader McDowell

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Global New Light of Myanmar
Chelsea “autumn champions”, City fail to win again

LONDON, 9 Nov — Chelsea were declared the “autumn champions” by coach Jose Mourinho as they maintained their unbeaten start to the season with a 2-1 win at Liverpool on Saturday that kept them four points clear of Southampton at the top of the Premier League.

Relentless Southampton beat Leicester City 2-0 at home and there was also a tight 1-0 victory for Manchester United over Crystal Palace although champions Manchester City were held to a 2-2 draw at lowly Queens Park Rangers in the evening game.

What Mourinho really wants is for Chelsea to be crowned champions in May but for the moment he is settling for his self-appointed award after Chelsea’s come-from-behind win thanks to goals from Gary Cahill and Diego Costa.

“I think we have a very, very good chance to win the title but I think we, Arsenal, Manchester United and themselves are all still in the race. All we can say is that we are the champions of the autumn,” he said.

“I think we were very impressive, we want to play, we want to win, we want the ball. The best team by far was the blue team and the team that deserved to win was Chelsea.”

Although he does not think Chelsea can emulate Arsenal’s achievement of 2003-04 by remaining unbeaten for the whole season, he was delighted after his team took the three points back to west London.

“Unbeaten through the season is an impossible job. I think we will lose eventually,” he said.

Chelsea moved on to 29 points from their opening unbeaten 11 games, four ahead of Southampton who made it 11 wins out of 12 in all competitions after Shane Long came on as a 67th-minute substitute and scored with a left-foot shot on 75 minutes and a right-foot effort five minutes later.

Champions Manchester City’s poor run continued when they twice came from behind at QPR to draw 2-2 thanks to two goals from Sergio Aguero who took his league tally to 12 for the season.

Charlie Austin had two efforts disallowed early on before putting QPR ahead in the 21st minute. Aguero made it 1-1 11 minutes later before QPR went back in front after 76 minutes when Martin Demichelis headed into his own net.

Aguero saved City’s blushes with a well worked equalizer seven minutes from the end but City have now only won once in their last six matches in all competitions.

The result meant City dropped two more points behind leaders Chelsea on 21 points, while QPR stayed 19th with eight points.

Elsewhere, goals were scored in short supply as Manchester United ended a three-match run without a win by beating Crystal Palace 1-0 at Old Trafford with a 67th-minute effort from substitute Juan Mata.

The goal was somewhat fortuitous as Palace goalkeeper Julian Speroni, who had an otherwise sound game, allowed Mata’s long-range shot to slip through his hands.

Mata, who had only been on for four minutes before breaking the deadlock, told Sky Sports United needed the win.

“It was massive. It was very, very important after three games without winning. We needed the three points and finally we got them. It was a difficult game, they played very well in the first half, were very compact and had a great chance to take the lead.”

Barney also scored a narrow 1-0 win at home, with a header from Ashley Barnes after 50 minutes at Turf Moor enough to give them the three points against Hull City and their first league win since being promoted back to the Premier League at the end of last season.

They remained bottom on seven points but at least closed the gap on QPR and Leicester, the other two promoted teams also in the drop zone. Since beating Manchester United 3-3 on 21 September, Leicester have only won one point from their subsequent six matches. The most exciting match of the afternoon came in the lunchtime kick-off at Anfield where Emre Can scored his first goal for Liverpool with a long-range shot after nine minutes which took a deflection off Cahill’s shoulder and left Chelsea keeper Thibaut Courtois stranded.

Cahill pulled Chelsea level after 14 minutes — awarded after the Goal Decision System proved the ball had crossed the line even though the defender’s shot was smothered by Liverpool keeper Simon Mignolet.

Costa settled the points in the 67th minute when he put Chelsea ahead with a low, powerful drive, but Liverpool thought they should have had a penalty in the 88th minute when Cahill appeared to handle a Steven Gerrard shot. Their strong claims were denied, though, as they had to contemplate a third defeat in a week.

In the other game West Ham United, who are fourth, drew 0-0 at Upton Park with Aston Villa who ended a run of six straight defeats.

On Sunday, as well as the Swansea-Arsenal match, Sunderland are at home to Everton, Tottenham Hotspur are at home to Stoke City and West Bromwich Albion play Newcastle United.

World No 1 Lee denies cheating, hopes to clear name

KUALA LUMPUR, 9 Nov — Badminton world number one Lee Chong Wei denied cheating or relying on banned substances despite failing a doping test that could lead to a two-year ban. The Badminton Association of Malaysia confirmed on Saturday that one of its players had tested positive for the banned steroid dexamethasone but withheld the individual’s identity. However, the 32-year-old Lee posted messages on his official Twitter and Facebook accounts thanking fans for their support and denying using drugs to gain an advantage.

“I just want to thank every one of you who had faith in me through this difficult time. There are so many unanswered questions and I hope to clear my name soon,” he wrote.

“I never cheated nor will I ever rely on banned substances.”

Lee also posted a link to an interview with a Malaysian sports blogger entitled “My story by Lee Chong Wei”, in which he spoke of his devastation at the positive test, Malaysia’s best-known sportsman. Lee travelled to Oslo last week to have his “B” sample tested after the initial sample showed signs of the steroid, which is used to treat inflammatory conditions.

The samples were taken at the world championships in Denmark in August, where Lee finished runner-up in the men’s singles for the third time.

Under the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code a first doping offence carries a two-year ban, which would rule him out of the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Lee said in April he intended to play on until 2016. He said he would finally win a gold medal to go with the silver from Beijing in 2008 and London four years later.

He is now also likely to at the very least lose the silver medal he won at this year’s world championships.

Malaysia’s Lee Chong Wei stands on a podium during the awards ceremony after his men’s single final match against Hong Kong’s Ho Yun at the BWF World Superseries Japan Open badminton championships in Tokyo on 15 June, 2014. — Reuters

Liverpool’s Raheem Sterling (L) falls after a challenge by Chelsea’s Nemanja Matic during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England, on 8 Nov, 2014. — Reuters

Manchester United’s Juan Mata (R) shoots to score during their English Premier League soccer match against Crystal Palace at Old Trafford in Manchester, northern England, on 8 Nov, 2014. — Reuters

Queens Park Rangers’ Charlie Austin (R) scores a goal past Manchester City’s Joe Hart only to have the goal disallowed during their English Premier League soccer match at Loftus Road in London on 8 Nov, 2014. — Reuters