President U Thein Sein starts official visits to three European countries

**NEW DELHI, 1 Sept—** President U Thein Sein and party left Nay Pyi Taw at 5 p.m. on Monday to pay official visits to Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

The President and party were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, union ministers, senior military officers, deputy ministers and officials.

The president was accompanied by union ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Ye Htut, U Soe Thane, U Ohn Myint, U Nyan Tun Aung and U Khin Maung Soe, deputy ministers Dr Win Myint and U Than Swe and officials.

President U Thein Sein paid visits to Norway, Finland, Austria, Belgium and Italy from 25 February to 8 March in 2013 and Britain and France from 14 to 20 July 2013.

Experts hold talks with diabetes patients for correct information on treatment

**BY KHAING THANDA LWIN**

YANGON, 1 Sept—The Myanmar Diabetes Association-MMDA organized a seminar on preventing diabetes mellitus disease on Saturday in Yangon, focusing on face-to-face discussion with patients rather than educative talks, a source said.

At the seminar, Prof Dr Than Than Aye and medical experts replied to queries on the disease and its related conditions as well as treatment raised by patients with diabetes and interested people.

Dr Aung Pyae, product executive from a pharmaceutical trading company, said diabetes is the fastest growing health problem across the world and that most people are diagnosed with diabetes due to their unhealthy lifestyle, adding that people fail to remember to prevent non-communicable diseases like diabetes.

To reduce diabetes in persons at high risk, the company normally holds educative talks every month in Yangon. It has a plan to extend it to other regions and states across the country, he added.

During the seminar, Prof Than Than Aye urged people with diabetes to follow their doctor’s instructions to achieve full benefits and to go to medical check-ups to prevent diabetes mellitus.

She also gave drug information about Metformin that is used for treating type II diabetes.

Experts also urged attendees to send reports to respective departments if (See page 3)

India-Myanmar-Thailand Car Rally to be held in November

TAMU, 1 Sept—With the aim of promoting friendly relations, social, culture, tourism, economic and trade cooperation among the northeast region of India and ASEAN countries, a plan is underway to hold the India-Myanmar-Thailand Car Rally in November 2014.

The rally will be organized by North East Federation on International Trade (NEFIT), and its route will be the ASEAN Highway, said NEFIT Working President Bijoy Phangcho, adding that about 100 citizens from three countries will participate in the rally with the use of 25 automobiles.

The rally route will start from Guwahati of India to the trilateral highways—ASEAN Highway-1 and ASEAN Highway-2—passing Tamu, Bagan and Myawady of Myanmar.

The trilateral highway construction project will be completed in 2016 under the cooperation of India, Myanmar and Thailand, according to the plan. Upon completion, the highway will be extended to Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, sources said.

As part of cooperation between India and Myanmar, arrangements are being made for running the highway bus along Imphal-Mandalay route in coming October.

At present, the trade volume between India and ASEAN reaches US$80 billion. Both sides plan to increase trade to US$100 billion in 2015.
Union Sports Minister visits sports grounds and gymnasium in Tatkon

**Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Sept** — Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan visited the BMX cycling ground near Mount Pleasant Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday.

The union minister also inspected upgrading of sports ground in Tatkong Township and construction of a concrete road to the ground. He also viewed the site for construction of a gymnasium for Sepak Takraw and volleyball sports, preparation for the 400-m synthetic rubber track and improvement of the sports ground.

He instructed officials to renovate the stands of the football ground and make arrangements for health exercises of the people.

The union minister also inspected construction of a three-unit gymnasium at the sports ground. **MNA**

**Over 300,000 stimulant tablets, heroin block seized**

Myint Aung and Maung Maung Aung have been charged for smuggling heroin and stimulant tablets and possession of weapons and ammunition.—MNA

**Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Sept** — Members of No 42 Anti-Drug Squad and Yangon West District Anti-Drug Squad on 29 August, acting on tip-off, searched a Mark II vehicle driven by Myint Aung together with Maung Maung Aung near Masalarset bus-stop in Thabyegon Ward of Mingala Taungnyunt Township.

According to the investigation, the police raided the house of Ye Tun Kyaw and wife Ma Khin Thanda Win who own Natural Force Co Ltd on Konmyint Yeiktha in Ward 6 of Mayangon Township and seized 201,000 stimulant tablets from two travel bags, one block of heroin weighing 350 grams, one pistol, two magazines and 13 bullets, and one .35 pistol, one magazine and seven bullets.

Mingala Taungnyunt and Mayangon Myoma police stations filed lawsuits against Maung Maung Aung, Myint Aung, Ma Khin Thanda Win and Ye Tun Kyaw under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law. **MNA**

Deputy FM exchanges views on immigration and security issues with Bangladeshi officials

**Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Sept** — A Myanmar delegation led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw attended the 8th Myanmar-Bangladesh Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) in Dhaka of Bangladesh on 28 August.

Both delegations exchanged views on further strengthening the existing friendly relations and immigration issues, border management, security issues, cooperation in energy, trade and commerce, culture and tourism, agriculture, live-stock and fisheries and defence cooperation sectors.

The deputy minister called on Mr Abdul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr Asaduzzaman Khan, MP, State Minister for Home Affairs of Bangladesh. On Monday, the deputy minister also called on Dr Tawfik-e-Elahi Chowdhury, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Affairs, discussing bilateral relations and cooperation. **MNA**

Media accreditation cards for ASEAN Summit to be issued on 29 Sept

**Nay Pyi Taw, 1 Sept** — The 25th ASEAN Summit will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 and 13 November, according to officials.

Media accreditation cards will be issued to local and foreign correspondents who have to register online at www.asean2014.gov.mm not later than 15 October, at Sky Palace Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw from 10 am to 4 pm on 10 and 11 November.

Foreign correspondents are to apply for visa at respective Myanmar embassies. Foreign correspondents may dial 067-412227 and 412057 of the ASEAN Affairs Department for further information of the meeting and local-based foreign news agencies and local journalists 067-412125–6 of the News and Periodicals Enterprise for coverage of news on the meeting. **MNA**

Myanmar introduces e-Visa to all foreign visitors

Yangon 1 Sept— Myanmar formally launched e-Visas on Monday to all foreign tourists to boost the country’s tourism industry.

The introduction ceremony of online electronic e-Visa at Yangon International Airport was held at the Park Royal Hotel here, with a speech of Union Minister for Immigration and Population U Khin Yi. U Khin Yi said, “This is a historic occasion that Myanmar introduced an e-Visa system under the guidance of President U Thein Sein.”

He also said that the President Office has signed the immigration and population ministry as the ‘local ministry’ in July 2012 to manage the entry visa system.

Myanmar is now issuing entry visas to foreigners who arrive at international airports, international ports and border passes. On June 2012, the Southeast Asian country started the system of Visa On Arrival for business visa, entry visa and transit visa at Yangon International Airport for visitors from 27 countries. Similar, such a system was introduced in November 2013 at Mandalay International Airport and at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport in February 2014. Foreigners from 51 countries are eligible for this visa system.

The new e-Visa came after a trial period in August this year for a certain number of applicants.

According to official figures, Myanmar attracted 1.6 million of tourists in the first seven months of this year, up 43 percent from the same period of last year.

The country targets three million tourists in 2015, and over seven million by 2020.

The World Travel and Tourism Council estimated that hotel and tourist sector of Myanmar contributes 3.7 percent of the country’s gross domestic product, and is expected to reach 9.5 percent by the end of 2014. MNA
President U Thein Sein felicitates Vietnamese counterpart, PM

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — On the occasion of the 69th Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam which falls on 2 September 2014, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent felicitations to His Excellency Mr Young Tan Sang, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and His Excellency Mr Nguyen Tan Dung, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. — MNA

Vice Presidents

Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun felicitate Vietnamese Vice President

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — On the occasion of the 69th Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam which falls on 2 September 2014, Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Vice Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, have sent messages of felicitations to Her Excellency Madame Nguyen Thi Doan, Vice President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.— MNA

Union FM sends felicitations to Vietnamese counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept — On the occasion of the 69th Anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam which falls on 2 September 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 His Excellency Mr Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. — MNA

Government staff to cooperate with private sector in doing research

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Sept — Missions and visions of the research-doing departments and organizations and their strategies must be in conformity with the socio-economic goal of the State’s reform process, said Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein at a meeting with officials of Myanmar Science and Technology Research Department in Yangon on Monday.

The departmental personnel are to promote cooperation with private entrepreneurs in conducting research in industries, agriculture, livestock breeding and renewable energy sectors, he added. Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo explained organizational setup of departments under the Ministry of Science and Technology and introduced processes of departments doing research.

The union ministers heard reports on research works presented by the Director-General of MSRTD.— MNA

Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko and senior police officers with officials of EU (IMG Project) seen after holding discussions on crowd management topic for ensuing rule of law in society.— MNA

Experts hold talks with . . .

(from page 1)

They find food stuff unfit for human consumption. Diabetes is one of the most costly diseases and describes a group of metabolic diseases in which the person has high blood glucose as insulin production is inadequate, or because the body’s cells do not respond properly to insulin, or both. It is preventable and controllable disease that commonly occurs at the age of over 40.

According to a UN survey in 2007, more than 200 million people across the world have diabetes and one person dies every ten seconds from the disease, with one becoming disabled every 30 seconds. — NLM

Implementation of national export strategy discussed

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Senior officers share experiences on crowd management

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Sept — The Myanmar Police Force is implementing the reform process for providing technical assistance, according to a recent Ministry of Home Affairs report.

Cash donated to religious, social organizations

YANGON, 1 Sept — A cash donation ceremony to religious and social organizations took place at Sule Shangri-La Hotel in Yangon on Sunday.

Unions Minister U Maung Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and officials accepted cash donations from Shwe Super Light Company Ltd. Also present were Union Minister U Khin Yi and Deputy Minister for Information U Pike Htway.

Malaysia repatriates 20 trafficked Myanmar nationals

YANGON, 1 Sept — A total of 20 trafficked victims arrived back in Myanmar on Monday after they were released by Malaysian authorities following a court case in Malaysia where they had to testify against three traffickers.

The 20 Myanmar people were kept at a detention centre at a Malaysian airport, and sent back to their home country following a request by the Myanmar embassy in Kuala Lumpur to release them despite Monday being a national holiday in Malaysia.

The victims include 14 males and six females, with the youngest a 7-year-old boy and the eldest woman 69.

Among them were 12 holding official visas and eight who were found with fake visas. The Myanmar News Agency quoted one of the victims, Ko Myint Zaw, as saying that, “While we were kept at the detention centre at the airport, officials from the Myanmar embassy visited us. We don’t know the name of the overseas employment agency, but the agent we joined was identified as Ko Myint Zaw. We used tourist visas, but we planned to find a job. But instead we became trafficking victims”.

According to MNA, the youngest victim was an ethnic Chin boy who went to Malaysia with his older brother for education, but was kept at an unidentified place by their agent.— MNA

NATIONAL

Tuesday, 2 September, 2014

New Light of Myanmar

Tuesday, 2 September, 2014

3
**Mechanic course given to farmers in Yinmabin**

**Yinmabin, 1 Sept —** The Yinmabin Township Cooperative Department and Agricultural Mechanization Department jointly conducted a mechanic course for power-tillers at the hall of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department in Yinmabin of Sagaing Region on Monday.

Staff Officer U Myint Kyaw of Township Agricultural Mechanization Department said that ten technicians will give training to 15 trainees from Yinmabin, 10 from Kani, 10 from Salingyi and 10 from Pale townships, totalling 45 in the morning and afternoon training sessions. Sagaing Region government funded the cost for mechanic course.

Most of the trainees are farmers who have purchased power-tillers for their farms.

_Tun Ko Ko (Yinmabin)_

**Computer technicians exchange views at ICT workshop in Mawlamyine**

**Mawlamyine, 1 Sept —** The Mawlamyine Township Education Department and Mon State Computer Professionals Association jointly organized an ICT technology workshop at the hall of No 9 Basic Education High School in Mawlamyine of Mon State on Sunday.

“The workshop aimed at ensuring ICT is friendly for faculty members and contributing to e-government process and research works,” said Secretary of Mon State Computer Professionals Association U Nay Zaw Oo. It was the first-ever workshop of its kind in Mon State, attended by computer technicians and school heads of basic education schools, led by five instructors.

_Ei Ei Soe (ChaungU)_

**RBE train starts operation on Bagan-Mandalay railroad**

**Natogyi, 1 Sept —** A modern RBE train commenced service along the Bagan-Mandalay route passing Natogyi of Mandalay Region on 25 August.

In the past, the Bagan train left Mandalay Station at 9 p.m. and arrived at Natogyi Station at 1.30 a.m., with the RBE now arriving at Natogyi at 12.30 a.m. “I used to travel by bus to Mandalay. The train arrived in Mandalay at 3 p.m. so I could not do anything at the office. Whenever the train arrived in Mandalay late, I faced closing of the office. Now, I can carry out office tasks due to earlier arrival of train,” a staff of the Township General Administration Department said.

“An RBE has four carriages and all are first class carriages. The fare is K950 per passenger from Natogyi to Mandalay. It is smarter than the Bagan train,” said a passenger.

The Bagan-Mandalay RBE train is an improvement for passengers from Taungtha, Myingyan, Natogyi, Myotha, TadaU and Paleik townships.

“We welcome the upgrading of trains along the Bagan-Mandalay railroad,” a townselder said.

_Khin Zar Mon Myint (Law)_

**Power lines launched in two villages of ChaungU Township**

**ChaungU, 1 Sept —** A ceremony to launch power lines on a self-reliant basic was held in Kanzee Village in ChaungU Township in Sagaing Region on 28 August. Monywa District Electrical Engineer U Win Maung, village administrator U Moe and village electrification committee member U Tin Win formally opened the power line.

ChaungU Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Saw Hla Tun launched the power line.

With the new power line, local people can use electronic equipment such as TV, refrigerator and kitchen utensils in all houses, officials said. A similar ceremony was held in Kangyi Village. Kanzee and Kangyi villages are the first two villages of 12 where self-reliant basic electrification tasks are being implemented by Electricity Supply Enterprise in ChaungU Township.

_Ei Ei Soe (ChaungU)_
Philippine gov’t hopes to resume peace talks with leftist rebels

MANILA, 1 Sept — The Philippine government renewed on Monday its call for the leftist rebel group to go back to the negotiation table where there will be clear agenda and timetable. Alexander Padilla, Philippine government chief peace negotiator made the call to the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People’s Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF) as the country celebrates this year’s National Peace Consciousness Month.

“Time and again, we have asked the CPP-NPA-NDF to join us in searching for fair and peaceful solutions to the issues that divide us. We have asked them to engage in talks that have a clear agenda and timetable, to talk not just for the sake of talking, but to reach specific agreements that will lessen if not eradicate the violence on the ground,” he said in a statement.

He said that history has shown that it is through earnest dialogue, not armed violence, that both sides can create peace.

Government’s doors have always been open to peaceful dialogue, Padilla said, stressing that the Aquino administration has not lost hope that both parties will return to the table.

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Japan aims to double India investment in five years — Nikkei

Tokyo, 1 Sept — Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe will tell his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi, at a summit on Monday that Japan aims to double its direct investment in India in five years from some $2 billion last year, the Nikkei business daily reported.

Modi, on his first major foreign visit since a landslide election win in May, arrived on Saturday for a five-day trip aimed at capitalising on a personal affinity with Abe to bolster security and business ties in the face of an assertive China. The two leaders are also likely to agree to speed up talks on a nuclear energy pact, the Nikkei said.

In early steps, Modi has allowed foreign investors to own 100 percent of railway projects with an eye to drumming up interest in building India’s answer to Japan’s high-speed ‘bullet’ trains. He is also courting Japanese investment in an ambitious industrial “corridor” to run between Delhi and Mumbai.

“Japan’s Honda Motor Co Ltd, Suzuki Co Ltd, Sony Corp and Toyota Motor Corp are household names in India. Yet, India accounts for only 1.2 percent of Japan’s total outward foreign direct investment,” the Nikkei said.

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Cambodian, Thai senior officials meet to strengthen ties

PHNOM PENH, 1 Sept — Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen Tea Banh (front L) and visiting new Thai Foreign Minister Gen Tanasak Patimapragorn (front R) inspect guards of honor in Phnom Penh, capital of Cambodia, on 1 Sept. 2014. Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Gen Tea Banh on Monday met with new Thai Foreign Minister Gen. Tanasak Patimapragorn to discuss ways to tighten bilateral relations and cooperation.

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New Light of Myanmar
**Dozens of Turkish police detained over ‘anti-government plot’: media**

ISTANBUL, 1 Sept — Dozens of Turkish police officers, including a former chief of a police financial unit, were detained on Monday in a fresh wave of arrests over allegations that officers were involved in plotting against the government, local media said. Arrest warrants were issued for 33 police “seeking to overthrow the government”, broadcaster NTV reported.

The police force was not immediately available to comment.

Dozens of police have been remanded in custody since July on charges that they formed a criminal organization and bugged phones, part of what new President Tayyip Erdogan has described as a plot against him.

The latest detentions came after Ahmet Davutoglu took over from Erdogan as prime minister last week following Erdogan’s victory in the country’s first direct presidential election on 10 August.

Erdogan accuses US-based cleric Fethullah Gulen of using a network of followers, who have influence in the police, judiciary and other institutions, to try to oust him. Gulen denies plotting against the state.

**Parliament adopts laws necessary for public notary work**

BELGRADE, 1 Sept — The Serbian parliament adopted on Sunday three laws in the justice sector, which allow public notaries to begin their work as of 1 September.

The adopted laws comprise the Law on signature, script and correspondence verification, the Law on real estate sale and the bill of amendments to the Law on court taxes.

The three adopted laws will enter into force on Monday.

The first public notaries in Serbia will completely take over the powers of municipal assemblies and courts in terms of verification of contracts on real estate sale, while signature, script and correspondence verification will be in the jurisdiction of both public notaries and courts in the first six months of law implementation, until 1 March, 2015.

When it comes to international legal assistance, courts will preserve exclusive authority in the cases, while notaries will take over the powers in contentious procedures, probates and similar proceedings.

Serbia is the last country in the region to introduce public notary services.

There are a total of 43 notaries in Belgrade, while the remaining 51 are located in other municipalities in the country. Notary appointments will continue because Serbia needs to reach the figure of 371 notaries.

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**Clockwork heart pacemaker does away with batteries**

BARCELONA, 1 Sept — Swiss engineers, famous for making the world’s finest watches, are turning their hands to cardiology with a prototype battery-less pacemaker based on a self-winding wrist-watch.

Current pacemakers, which help the heart beat more regularly, offer a lifeline for many patients with cardiac problems but the need for battery power is a limiting factor, since replacing them requires a surgical intervention.

Adrian Zurbuchen of the University of Bern’s cardiovascular engineering group aims to get around the problem with his device, using automatic clockwork first developed for pocket watches by Swiss watchmaker Abraham-Louis Perrelet in 1777.

In the same way that an automatic watch winds itself when it moves on the wrist, the clockwork pacemaker generates electrical current using the movement of heart muscle. To do this, it is stretched directly on to the pulsating heart.

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**Pakistan protesters push closer to PM House amid clashes**

ISLAMABAD, 1 Sept — Pakistani protesters wielding sticks and throwing stones marched on government buildings in the capital Islamabad on Monday after weeks of demonstrations demanding Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif’s resignation turned violent over the weekend.

Protests led by Imran Khan, a renowned cricketer before entering politics, and fiery cleric Tahir ul-Qadri, erupted last month and descended into deadly chaos on Saturday, with at least three people killed in clashes with police.

On Monday morning, despite heavy rain, crowds of protesters fought running battles with retreating police forces after breaking the main gate into the Pakistan Secretariat area which houses government ministries as well as Sharif’s residence.

Although they fired occasional teargas canisters, police were seen retreating and showing restraint as protesters, many carrying wooden clubs, pushed closer to Sharif’s house. It was not clear if he was at the residence.

The protesters, many of them visibly angry, could be seen beating motorcyles and cars with their sticks as they advanced closer to their target. They had tried to storm Sharif’s house on Saturday night but were beaten back by police.

The head of Islamabad police and another senior police officer were lightly wounded in the clashes, media reported.

In a nation where power often has changed hands through military coups rather than elections, the army is bound to play a key role in how the conflict unfolds but it has not directly intervened, apart from talking to the protagonists and calling on them to show restraint.

Sharif, who swept to office last year in Pakistan’s first democratic transition of power, has refused to resign. He is due to address both houses of parliament on Tuesday in an apparent effort to show that he is firmly in control.

But Sharif looks increasingly cornered in the conflict, and even if he survives the crisis he is likely to remain significantly weakened for the rest of his tenure and sidelined by the army on key issues such as foreign policy and security.

The protesters out on Monday appeared to be from Qadri’s camp, with Khan, who has refused to hold negotiations and says he would not call off the protests until Sharif resigns, calling on his people to avoid any form of violence.

“I call upon my workers to remain peaceful,” he said from atop a shipping container at the main rally site. “Do not carry out any acts of violence. God has given us victory.”

In a warning to police, the military said any further use of force to resolve an escalating political crisis would only worsen the situation. But it has also said the crisis had to be solved through talks, in a clear message to Khan and Qadri.

As protesters charged towards police lines in the so-called Red zone — home to the prime minister’s house, parliament and many foreign embassies — security forces could be seen retreating, with police huddled in groups and avoiding direct confrontation.

Reflecting concern about security in the capital, all schools were closed on Monday, the start of a new academic year.
Chinese vice premier expects Chinese-Russian energy giants to expand cooperation

MOSCOW, 1 Sept — Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli expressed the hope here Saturday that oil and gas giants from China and Russia will further expand bilateral energy cooperation for even greater successes on the basis of achievements already made.

Zhang made the remarks in separate meetings with Rosneft chief Igor Sechin and Gazprom chairman Alexey Miller. Both Rosneft and Gazprom are Russia’s top oil and gas companies.

Zhang is now in Yakutsk, capital of Russia’s Far East autonomous republic of Sakha-Yakutia, to inaugurate the construction of the Russian part of the China-Russia East Route natural gas pipeline.

Zhang also co-chaired the 11th meeting of the China-Russia Energy Cooperation Committee in Moscow with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich on Saturday.

Zhang is scheduled to attend, together with Russian President Vladimir Putin, the start-of-construction ceremony for the Russian part of the East Route of the China-Russia natural gas pipeline.

During the separate meetings with Sechin and Miller, Zhang said that his current visit to Russia reflects the great importance China attaches to energy cooperation with Russia.

He expressed the hope that Chinese and Russian oil and gas companies will keep deepening and expanding bilateral cooperation on the basis of achievements already made in existing cooperation, and, in accordance with the consensus reached between the two countries’ heads of state, will promote China-Russia energy cooperation toward the achievement of greater successes, to boost economic development in both China and Russia in the interest of the two peoples.

Zhang said energy cooperation between the two nations, especially in the field of oil and gas, has been very fruitful over recent years. The two sides have built oil pipelines connecting the two countries, and crude oil is supplied through both the East and West Routes.

When the presidents of the two countries met in Shanghai in May this year, the two sides sealed a big deal on constructing the East Route of the China-Russia gas pipeline, signifying a historic breakthrough in bilateral cooperation on natural gas, said Zhang.

Zhang noted that relevant companies from both countries have conducted close cooperation and made important contributions to the rapid growth of China-Russia energy cooperation.

During the separate meetings with Zhang, both Sechin and Miller emphasized the great significance of China-Russia cooperation on oil and gas, saying such cooperation is conducive to the economic growth of both countries.

They expressed the readiness of Rosneft and Gazprom to comply with the consensus reached between the heads of state of the two countries, to cooperate closely with Chinese companies to earnstly honor the agreements signed, and secure smooth progress in the execution of joint projects. They also expressed the hope to further explore new fields of oil and gas cooperation with Chinese partners.

According to contracts signed between China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) and Gazprom, the Russian side will launch the construction of the Russian part of the China-Russia East Route gas pipeline on Monday.

In a 30-year period starting from 2018, Russia will export 38 billion cubic meters of gas to China through the pipeline every year.

In addition to oil pipeline deals, the CNPC and Rosneft are also working on a joint venture oil refinery in north China’s Tianjin City. In 2013, China imported 24.55 million tons of crude oil, 27.28 million tons of coal and 3.5 billion kwh of power from Russia. —Xinhua

Three killed, 20 injured as gas pipeline blast in NE India

NEW DELHI, 1 Sept— At least three people have been killed and 20 others critically injured in a gas pipeline blast in northeast India as a state of Assam’s Moran district on Monday, local media reported. A massive fire broke out in the area following the blast. The fire destroyed many houses and standing crop. The pipeline belonged to Assam Gas Company Limited but the cause of the blast is not clear.

The injured have been rushed to Assam Medical College Hospital in Dibrugarh. More details are awaited.—Xinhua

Germany to send Iraqi Kurds enough weapons for 4,000 fighters

BERLIN, 1 Sept — Germany will send enough weapons to arm 4,000 Kurdish fighters in northern Iraq battling against Islamic State (IS) insurgents, whose advances threaten to destabilise the Middle East, the defence minister said on Sunday. The equipment will include armour-piercing weapons like anti-tank rockets, thousands of assault rifles, hand grenades, mine-clearing equipment, night-vision goggles, field kitchens and tents.

“The weapons delivery is enough to supply a brigade of 4,000 soldiers,” said Defence Minister Ursula von der Leyen.

Breaking with a post-war policy of not sending arms to conflict zones, Chancellor Angela Merkel says northern Iraq is an “exception” because of the nature of the Islamic State’s violence.

“The lives of millions of people, the stability of Iraq and the whole region and ... due to the high number of foreign fighters, our security in Germany and Europe are being threatened,” read a government statement after Merkel met some of her ministers to discuss details of the aid to the Kurds.

“It is our humanitarian responsibility and in the interests of our security to help those suffering and to stop the IS,” Germany, like other European countries, is concerned about the prospect of war-hardened radicalised Muslims returning home and posing a domestic security threat.

German intelligence estimates at least 400 Germans have joined the IS. The head of the domestic intelligence agency says there is evidence that five German citizens and residents have carried out suicide attacks for the insurgents in recent months.

Germany has already shipped humanitarian aid to support Iraqi Kurds as well as defensive equipment such as helmets and body armour, but no weapons. It has sent six soldiers to the general consulate in Arbil to help coordinate the effort. —Reuters

Israel claims West Bank land for possible settlement use, draws US rebuke

JERUSALEM, 1 Sept — Israel announced on Sunday a land annexation in the occupied West Bank that an anti-settlement group termed the biggest in 30 years, drawing Palestinian condemnation and a US rebuke.

Some 400 hectares (988 acres) in the Etzion Jewish settlement bloc near Bethlehem were declared “state land, on the instructions of the political echelon” by the military-run Civil Administration.

“We urge the government of Israel to reverse this decision,” a State Department official said in Washington, calling the move “counterproductive” to efforts to achieve a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinians.

Israel Radio said the step was taken in response to the kidnaping of three Jewish teens by Hamas militants in the area in June.

Tensions stoked by the incident quickly spread to Israel’s border with Gaza, which is controlled by Hamas, and the two sides engaged in a seven-week war that ended on Tuesday with an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire.

The notice published on Sunday by the Israeli military gave no reason for the land appropriation decision. Peace Now, which tries regard as illegal under international law and a massive protest in the West Bank, territory the Palestinians regard as their future state, said the appropriation was meant to turn a site where 10 families now live adjacent to a Jewish seminary into a perennial settlement.

Construction of a major settlement at the location, known as “Gevaot”, has been mooted by Israel since 2000. Last year, the government invited bids for the building of 1,000 housing units at the site.

Peace Now said the land seizure was the largest announced by Israel in the West Bank since the 1980s and that anyone with ownership claims had 45 days to appeal. A local Palestinian mayor said Palestinians owned the tracts and harvested olive trees on them.

Israel has come under intense international criticism over its settlement activities, which most countries regard as illegal under international law and a major obstacle to the creation of a viable Palestinian state in any future peace deal. —Reuters

Prefabricated homes are seen in a Jewish settlement known as “Gevaot”, in the Etzion settlement bloc, near Bethlehem on 31 Aug, 2014.—Reuters
The DEAR Strategy of Success

The implicit meaning of Effort is COURAGE, because without courage. No worthwhile effort will be sustainedly crowned with success.

ABILITIES

In any effort, appropriate abilities or capabilities are indispensable. Everything worth its salt must be done in the right way, with the right skills and knowledge; at the right time. The present epoch is the epoch of:

- Corporate Culture
- Customer Value
- Competitive Intensity
- Change & Change Catalyst
- Complexity Without Boundary

So, knowledge, talents and skills are the most important components of professional distinctive capabilities with a winning edge in the pursuit of value adding and wealth creation plus the corporate social responsibilities.

RESOURCES

Personal Resources are:

- Physical Strength
- Mental / Intellectual Strength
- Emotional Strength
- Spiritual Strength
- Life Achievement Strength

Organizational Resources are:

- Human Talents
- Financial

Conclusion

If you have:

- A Definite Desire burning in your heart and guts,
- An Earnest Effort which never gives up & never gives in,
- Cutting Edge Abilities that are always improving,
- And finally, Comprehensive Resources that are always available, you are bound to make a tremendous success in whatever you try to do and to achieve!

Donations given to monasteries in Tatkon Tsp

TATKON, 1 Sept — Students of Buddhist Dhamma cultural course have toured urban areas of Tatkon in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area to accept cash and other donations for Pariyatti Monasteries in Tatkon Township on Sunday.

On 31 August, the students accepted donations along Aung Sae Moe Street in Myawady Ward before handing over the money and goods to Shwein Yeiktha Pariyatti Monastery, Myoyle, Ngwetaung Tawya, Maha Zannekka and Maha Thihana monasteries.

Foreign students of Yangon University of Foreign Languages perform entertainments at regional culture comparing show at the university on Thursday with participation of students from China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Laos, Germany and Cambodia.

(News reported) — MNA
Free clinic commissioned into service in Toungoo

Toungoo, 1 Sept — With the assistance of the Public Health Foundation, the Cetana free clinic and delivery room were commissioned into service in Ketumati new satellite town in Toungoo of Bago Region on 30 August.

Commander of Zabuthiri Township Police Force Police Major Nyi Win and police officers explained prevention against crime through the policing process and dangers of narcotic drugs to the people. After the talk, the police officers and local people exchanged views on community-based policing process. — NLM-022

Thukha Theikdi Ward of the township on Sunday. Deputy Minister for Health Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay attended the ceremony together with Bago Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Kyaw Oo.

From 20 March to 30 August, a total of 45 patients on average received medical treatment every day. So far, the clinic has provided health care services to 2,761 patients. The clinic has assigned duty to two general practitioners and one nurse.

The Public Health Foundation funded K7.8 million for the construction of the clinic. It is the 12th facility of its kind, and the foundation plans to open 32 more clinics across the nation.

“The clinic was established by the Karuna Foundation 15 years ago. Due to a lack of funding, the clinic was closed. As a result, the clinic could not provide any treatment to the local people. Now, the clinic is commissioned into service which is a great thing for the people of this area,” said clinic official U Tin Thein.

“Through the police force and cooperation of the community, the clinic could be commissioned into service. The clinic is very beneficial for the local people,” said police Major Nyi Win.

“Cetana free clinic was commissioned into service under the assistance of the Public Health Foundation and health officers. The clinic is very beneficial to the people of this area,” said Bago Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Kyaw Oo.

Local news

Mandalay, 1 Sept — Under the directives of the Mandalay Region government, the Ministry of Education, the Immigration and National Registration Department and Advanced Myanmar Star Co Ltd jointly organized issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to students over the age of 10 in Mandalay on 30 August.

The department issued cards to 12,124 students of 21 basic education schools at the hall of No 17 Basic Education High School in Mandalay, with Mandalay Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Kyaw Moe presenting the cards to the students.

Thin Hla Aung

Traditional dance performances held in Mandalay

Mandalay, 1 Sept — Mandalay Region government and the Fine Arts Department (Mandalay Branch) of the Ministry of Culture staged a Myanmar cultural dance performance at the National Theatre in Mandalay on 30 August, attended by Mandalay Region ministers, tourists in Mandalay, hoteliers and other interested parties. Before the dances, the globetrotters and people viewed the Myanmar cultural and fine arts works and visited traditional food stalls.

“The Public Health Foundation was established with the participation of former health officers with the assistance of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, regional government, NGOs and universities of medicines to upgrade public health standard,” said public health official U Tin Thein.

“Public Health Foundation provides salary for staff and doctors, medicine and clinic equipment," said clinic official U Tin Thein.

“CSCs issued to students over the age of 10 in Mandalay

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Mandalay, 1 Sept — Organized by Zabuthiri Township Police Force of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, talks on crime prevention and public relations were held at the Dhammayon in Thukha Theikdi Ward of the township on Sunday. Commander of Zabuthiri Township Police Force Police Major Nyi Win and police officers explained prevention against crime through the policing process and dangers of narcotic drugs to the people. After the talk, the police officers and local people exchanged views on community-based policing process. — NLM-022

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Fighting erupts between Syrian army, rebels on Golan Heights

Ein Zivan, (Golan Heights) 1 Sept—Heavy fighting between Syrian army forces and rebels erupted on the Golan Heights on Monday, a Reuters photographer said, but it was unclear if either of the two sides had gained an advantage to control a key frontier crossing.

Rebels of al-Qaeda-linked Nusra Front have been battling the Syrian army in the area and have wrested control of the crossing at Quneitra, which is operated by the United Nations.

Persistent small arms fire and explosions from mortar shells and other munitions could be heard on the Israeli-controlled side of the frontier of the strategic plateau, the photographer reported.

At least one tank belonging to the Syrian army loyal to President Bashar al-Assad was also involved and rebels could be seen a few metres (yards) away from the frontier fence. On Sunday, Israel’s military said it shot down a drone that flew from Syria into Israeli-controlled airspace over the Golan. It was not immediately clear who dispatched the unmanned aircraft or the nature of its mission in an area where fighting from Syria’s civil war has occasionally spilled over into Israel-held territory.

In a statement, the military said the drone was downed by a Patriot missile near the Quneitra crossing between the Israeli-held Golan Heights and Syria.

A contingent of 44 UN peacekeepers from Fiji was detained on the Syrian side of the Golan by Islamist militants on Thursday, and the head of the Fijian army said on Sunday negotiations for their release were being pursued.

More than 70 Philippine troops trapped by Islamists in a different area on the Syrian side of the frontier were extracted to safety, the United Nations and authorities in Manila said. Israel captured the Golan Heights in the 1967 Middle East war and beefed up defences in the area after the outbreak of the Syrian civil war more than three years ago.

Explosion fells building outside Paris, killing at least four

Rosny-Sous-Bois (France) 1 Sept — A building in a Paris suburb collapsed after an explosion on Sunday morning, killing two children and two women, and teams were searching the rubble for four other people still missing by evening.

About 150 emergency workers worked throughout the day, some using sniffer dogs, to try to find four adults still unaccounted for, said the prefect of Saint-Seine-Denis, Philippe Galli.

“The later it gets, the more remote the possibility of finding survivors,” said Galli.

Nevertheless, we still hope to find in a pocket someone who managed to find a way to protect themselves.”

An 8-year-old child was the first victim to be found dead after the explosion, said the prefect of Saint-Seine-Denis, Philippe Galli.

“Everyone were injured in the incident, some of them seriously.”

Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve, speaking to reporters at the scene, said the explosion appeared to have been caused by a gas leak.

“We should be prudent, because there are investigations ongoing. There is no certainty,” he said.

One side of the four-story building in the suburb of Rosny-Sous-Bois was ripped off completely, exposing the interiors of apartments. Local authorities said the structure appeared to have collapsed.

A rescue mission could last up to 48 hours, authorities said.

Local residents who rushed to help in the moments after the blast described a bloody scene.

“We tried to take people out,” said Arafet Brahim, who said he and his friends pulled out some children who appeared to be in good shape.

“But we also took bodies,” he said. “Frankly it was horrible, I don’t know how to describe that moment,” he said.

Libyan armed faction takes over US Embassy annex in Tripoli

Washington, 1 Sept—Members of a Libyan militia have taken over an abandoned annex of the US Embassy in Tripoli but have not broken into the main compound where the United States evacuated all of its staff last month, US officials said on Sunday.

A YouTube video showed the breach of the diplomatic facility by what was believed to be a militia group mostly from the northwestern city of Misrata.

Dozens of men, some armed, were seen gleefully crowded onto the patio of a swimming pool, with some driving in from the balcony of a nearby building.

Libya has been rocked by the worst factional violence since the 2011 fall of Muammar Gaddafi, and a Misrata-led alliance, part of which is Islamist-leaning, now controls the capital.

A takeover of the larger embassy compound could deliver another symbolic blow to Washington over its policy toward Libya, which Western governments fear is teetering toward becoming a failed state three years after a NATO-backed war ended Gaddafi’s rule.

The United States withdrew all embassy personnel from Tripoli on 26 July, driving diplomats across the border into Tunisia, amid escalating clashes between rival factions. The annex, apparently consisting of diplomatic residencies and other facilities, lies about a mile (2 km) from the embassy compound.

All sensitive materials were destroyed or removed from US diplomatic sites in the capital before the evacuation.

Security in Libya is an especially contentious subject for the United States because of the 11 September, 2012, attack on the US mission in Benghazi, in which militants killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Republican lawmakers have kept up steady criticism of President Barack Obama over his administration’s handling of the Benghazi attack, and they have also cited Libya’s latest unrest as another example of what they see as the Democratic president’s failed policy in the volatile region.

“Libya now is collapsed into a failed state,” US Senator John McCain told CBS’s ‘Face the Nation’ programme. “That is what happens when you lead from behind.”
Heart drug launch could be ‘most exciting ever’, says Novartis

The Swiss drugmaker impressed doctors at the European Society of Cardiology meeting in Barcelona at the weekend by unveiling strikingly good clinical trial results for the drug, known as LCZ696, in a keenly awaited clinical trial.

Investigators working on medicines at the company itself believe it has potential to replace drugs that have been central to treating heart failure for a quarter of century, opening up a multibillion-dollar sales opportunity.

“It will be possibly the most exciting launch the company has ever had,” David Epstein told an investor meeting.

The profitability of the drug would also be higher than Novartis achieved when its blockbuster hypertension medicine Diovan was patent-protected, since the cost of marketing LCZ696 will be lower. That reflects the more specialized nature of heart failure, which requires a smaller sales force.

As a result, LCZ696 should become profitable relatively quickly, though Novartis will be investing to ensure a strong launch.

Epstein said he did not expect any increase in the overall sales force because staff would be switched from promoting some older drugs.

In a research note issued by investment bank Leerink on the back of the strong trial results, analyst Seamus Fernandez said that LCZ696 could rack up annual sales of $6-8 billion, with further upside in emerging markets and from new indications.

The study unveiled in Barcelona targeted heart patients with reduced ejection fraction, where the heart muscle does not contract effectively. However, Novartis is also starting a trial in a similar-sized group with preserved ejection fraction, where the ventricles do not relax as they should.

Heart exercises also benefit brain

Toronto, 1 Sept — Exercising to improve your cardiovascular strength may protect from cognitive impairment as you age, according to a new study.

Researchers at the University of Montreal and its affiliated Institut universitaire de gériatrie de Montréal Research Centre studied 31 young people between the ages of 18 and 30 and 54 older participants aged between 55 and 75.

“Our body’s arteries stiffen with age, and the vessel hardening is believed to begin in the aorta, the main vessel coming out of the heart, before reaching the brain,” said Claudine Gauthier, first author of the study.

“Indeed, the hardening may contribute to cognitive changes that occur during a similar time frame.

“We found that older adults whose aortas were in a better condition and who had greater aerobic fitness performed better on a cognitive test.

“We therefore think that the preservation of vessel elasticity may be one of the mechanisms that enables exercise to slow cognitive ageing,” Gauthier said.

The researchers compared the older participants within their peer group and against the younger group who obviously have not begun the ageing processes in question.

None of the participants had physical or mental health issues that might influence the study outcome.

Their fitness was tested by exhausting the participants on a treadmill machine and determining their maximum oxygen intake over a 30 second period. Their cognitive abilities were assessed with the Stroop task.

The Stroop task is a scientifically validated test that involves asking someone to identify the ink colour of a colour word that is printed in a different colour.

A person who is able to correctly name the colour of the word without being distracted by the reflex to read it has greater cognitive agility.

The participants undertook three MRI scans: one to evaluate the blood flow to the brain, one to measure their brain activity as they performed the Stroop task, and one to actually look at the physical state of their aorta.

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UK manufacturing growth cools as export orders slip: EEF

London, 1 Sept — Britain’s main manufacturing trade association trimmed its growth forecast for 2014 on Monday after its members reported the first fall in export orders since early 2013.

The EEF association said its quarterly survey of members showed slowing growth in output and new business over the last three months, and cut its forecast for 2014 output growth to 3.3 percent from 3.5 percent.

This would still be the sector’s fastest expansion since 2010, when output rebounded by 4.2 percent after slumping more than 10 percent in 2009.

But the forecast downgrade adds to signs that the British economy may lose some pace in the second half of this year.

The EEF said that with the euro zone economy stagnating, sterling strong and political risks on the rise, the picture for demand was now more uncertain than for some time, though the overall picture remained positive.

“We’re seeing manufacturers continue to recruit for skilled jobs and increase their plans to invest in the coming year — exactly what the UK economy still needs for balanced growth,” said Lee Hopley, the EEF’s chief economist.

“However, there are clearly increasing downside risks which could make sustaining strong growth and particularly stronger exports more challenging going forward.”

The latest purchasing managers’ index for Britain’s manufacturing sector, a closely watched gauge of industrial activity, is due at 0830 GMT. Economists polled by Reuters expect growth slowed slightly in August from July.

The EEF survey was conducted between 30 July and 20 August, with responses from 298 companies.

Britain’s Barclays to sell Spanish assets to Caixabank

Barclays will make thousands of job cuts in the next three years as part of restructurings and it says it wants to refocus on its British and African businesses, credit cards and investments banking in Britain and the United States.

It has been gradually selling off units it now considers non-core — including its United Arab Emirates retail banking business, sold to Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank in a deal also completed on Sunday — and began sounding out potential buyers for parts of its Spanish business in May this year.

“We remain on track to rebalance Barclays,” Jenkins said in a statement on the result.

Barclays will make a loss after tax on the sale of about 500 million pounds, with 400 million pounds of that to be reported in the third quarter of 2014 and the rest on completion of the deal, it said.

The British bank expanded quickly in Spain in the early 2000s, but a prolonged recession brought losses on corporate loans and it had to close dozens of bank offices and cut jobs. As the country returns to growth and Spanish banks’ fortunes start to improve after they suffered steep losses from a 2008 property crash, some investment banks, such as Citigroup are also jumping at a chance to sell their retail banks.

Barclays parked its retail banking operations in Spain, Italy, France and Portugal in “a bad bank” earlier this year so they could be sold, separated or floated.

Its European retail banking has lost almost 2 billion pounds ($3.4 billion) over the last four years.
**Vucic: Serbia will know how to protect its people, territory**

**Merdare, 1 Sept—** Serbia will know how to protect its people and territory, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic stated on Sunday during the visit to the Merdare base, adding that the Gendarmerie will get new equipment so that they could perform their tasks with maximum efficiency and with added protection.

We cannot allow bandits and crime rings to go on stealing and robbing, carry around automatic weapons and murder members of Serbian security units, Vucic said.

Vucic said that the Gendarmerie member murdered on Thursday wanted to preserve a professional attitude when dealing with terrorists and tried to catch them alive instead of shooting them, and they fired at him from automatic weapons and killed him.

Nobody ever asks about the source of so many automatic rifles and whose forces may have leaked them, which is why this incident eventually occurred, the prime minister said and added that there are intelligence information according to which the criminal ring is organised and there are two checkpoints where they undergo trainings.

Addressing Merdare citizens, Vucic said that they can feel safe and that their safety is guaranteed by Serbian security forces, but at the same time he added that he expects all Serbian citizens to show greater respect for members of the police and Gendarmerie.

Terrorists are conducting organised activities and are interacting with certain bodies in Pristina, the prime minister said.

After visiting the base, Vucic told reporters that the Gendarmerie will get new equipment which would provide better protection for the security forces, and he also announced adoption of new bylaws which aim to ensure faster and more efficient Gendarmerie response. Announcing that the bylaws would be prepared in the next 15 days, Serbian Interior Minister Nebojsa Stefanovic said that his talks with members of the Gendarmerie covered an analysis of the security situation and safety risks, as well as the circumstances in which Albanian terrorists murdered member of the Gendarmerie Stevan Sindjelic.

Stevan Sindjelic (30), member of the Serbian Gendarmerie from the Kraljevo detachment, was killed in an armed attack by several unknown persons, probably ethnics Albanians from KiM.

The attack occurred on Thursday around 3 am on the territory of the village of Orlovac not far from the Merdare crossing on the administrative line between central Serbia and KiM.

Sindjelic was wounded in the head and succumbed to his wounds at the Military Medical Academy in Belgrade during the night.

The Serbian Gendarmerie members were attacked while securing the site where several ethnic Albanians from KiM were spotted illegally felling trees by a patrol from the Kursumlija police station during a regular field visit on Wednesday.

Several people from the group opened fire at the police patrol, and the shootout resulted in an ethnic Albanian getting wounded. Nobody was hurt among the officers.

The forest thieves returned to the same place early Thursday morning to retrieve their weapons, tractor, and other items that they left behind while escaping fire the day before. They attacked the Gendarmerie officers who were conducting an investigation at the site and mortally wounded officer Sindjelic.

**Smartphone use allowed on planes during takeoffs and landings**

**Tokyo, 1 Sept—** Airplane passengers are now allowed to use their smartphones and other electronic devices during takeoffs and landings at Japan’s airports as long as the devices are set to “airplane mode” to suspend their communication functions.

The easing of the regulation Monday followed the lifting of such restrictions by the United States and European countries. The Japanese government had previously banned the use of electronic devices during takeoffs and landings, saying they could have adverse effects on navigation systems. Passengers can now also send and receive e-mails when a plane enters a taxiway after landing, but talking on the phone is still prohibited.

While wireless Internet connections are also allowed under the regulations, airlines are still restricting their use to when planes are airborne.

“Being able to use my personal computer the whole time from takeoff till landing is very convenient,” said a 37-year-old man on an All Nippon Airways Co. flight on Monday from Tokyo’s Hanaeda airport to Osaka.—Kyodo News

**Official from Shanxi investigated for taking bribes**

**Beijing, 1 Sept —** A director-level official from north China’s Shanxi Province is under investigation for allegedly taking bribes, the Supreme People’s Procuratorate (SPP) said on Monday.

Ren Yunfeng was director of the bureau responsible for government offices administration under the Shanxi provincial government, the SPP said.

The SPP did not specify which measures have been taken so far.

Xinhua
New Zealand police hunting for gunman after shooting incident

Wellington, 1 Sept — Police in New Zealand’s South Island town Ashburton was hunting for a gunman after two people were shot dead and another injured at the local Work and Income Office.

The incident began about 10 o’clock in the morning when a man entered the Ashburton Work and Income Office and started shooting.

According to local newspaper Ashburton Guardian, a witness said the man was wearing a black balaclava and shot at two women. Other witnesses tell the newspaper the man was carrying a shotgun and fled on a bike.

Gary Knowles, the superintendent of Canterbury District said the police identified John Henry Tulby, an 18-year-old homeless man, was a person of interest in the case. Tulby had been interviewed by local newspaper a month ago about his struggles to find somewhere to live.

The man remained on the loose after seven hours of the shooting. Ashburton is 90 kilometres southwest of Christchurch and is home to about 30,000 people.

Thailand’s AirAsia X launches first Japan flights

Chiba, 1 Sept — AirAsia X, an affiliate of Malaysian low-cost carrier AirAsia X, launched flights from Bangkok to Japan on Monday, marking the first service to Japan by a Thai-based LCC.

There is growing demand for direct flights between Bangkok and Japan and the company plans to expand its service in the future, said chief executive officer of the carrier at a ceremony at Narita airport, east of Tokyo.

Flights using Airbus A330-300s will operate daily to Narita and five times a week to Kansai airport in Osaka.

“It is so helpful that I can travel cheaply by taking the LCC,” said Asutmsu Suzuki, 22, a university student who took the airline’s first flight from Nari- ta, added, saying he hopes LCCs will offer services to more countries.

Ministry confirms 19 new cases of dengue fever in Tokyo

Tokyo, 1 Sept — Nineteen more people were confirmed by the health ministry on Monday to have contracted dengue fever in Tokyo, following three last week and bringing the total number to 22 in the first cases of domestic infection in Japan since 1945.

None of the sufferers had recently traveled overseas, but all had recently spent time in Tokyo’s Yoyogi Park and are thought to have been bitten by mosquitoes bearing the virus.

The disease is not transmitted directly from person to person.

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare called on anyone experiencing a high fever three to seven days after suffering a mosquito bite to seek medical attention, but noted that severe complications of dengue fever are rare.

Of the 19 confirmed sufferers, 13 are residents of Tokyo, two are from neighboring Kanagawa Prefecture and one each hail from Saitama, Chiba, Ibaraki and Niigata prefectures, the ministry said.

Infection had earlier been confirmed in three others last Wednesday and Thursday; one each from Saitama, Tokyo and Saitama. The health ministry is now investigating whether anyone close to the confirmed sufferers has also been infected.

Two personalities of the TBS television series show “King’s Brunch” are among those thought to have contracted the illness, Tokyo Broadcasting System Television Inc said on Monday.

The 21-year-old Aoki, 25, and 20-year-old Saaya, who goes by her first name, are thought to have been bitten while filming on location in Yoyogi Park on 21 August.

Before the first case came to light last Wednesday, the Tokyo metropolitan government sprayed insecticides in areas of the park on Thurs- day in an effort to eradicate mosquitoes.

Dengue fever, an illness found in tropical and subtropical areas in Asia, Latin America and Africa, is transmitted by tiger and dengue mosquitoes.

Sufferers are struck with a sudden fever around three to seven days after transmission, accompanied by headache and muscle pains and a rash. Most sufferers have mild symptoms, but some may develop significant bleeding which can be life-threatening.
Dozens arrested at Made in America music festival in Los Angeles

Los Angeles, 1 Sept — Seven people were arrested on Sunday at the Made in America music festival in downtown Los Angeles, following an opening day that left more than two dozen people in handcuffs, police said.

During Sunday’s show at Grand Park there were four felony arrests, including one for battery and the rest for possession of narcotics, besides three misdemeanour arrests, including one charge of public drunkenness, the Los Angeles Police Department said.

Another 23 people were given alcohol citations, an LAPD police spokeswoman said.

So far about 27,000 tickets have been scanned for Sunday’s full day of events, including top-billed stars John Mayer and Kanye West later in the evening.—Reuters

Michael Jackson’s children celebrate his birthday in hometown

Los Angeles, 1 Sept — King of Pop Michael Jackson’s children went to his hometown Gary in Indiana to celebrate what would have been his 56th birthday.

The late star’s kids Prince, 17, Paris, 16, and Blanket, 12, took a trip to the city of Gary for an intimate family celebration in honour of their father, reported TMZ online.

The occasion marked the first time the siblings have been seen together for a while as Paris has spent the past year at therapeutic boarding school Diamond Ranch Academy in Utah.

The aspiring actress became estranged from her family following her attempted suicide last June, but doctors wanted her to rekindle her bond with her grandmother Katherine Jackson and Prince and Blanket as they believed it would improve her mental health.

The troubled star, who has grown close to her biological mother Debbie Rowe, was given the all-clear from doctors in May and is reportedly adamant she won’t return to the USD 14,000-per-month private school in the Autumn.

However, Katherine, who is a co-guardian to Michael’s three children alongside TJ Jackson, doesn’t think that’s a very good idea and wants her to return.—Reuters

‘Guardians of the Galaxy’ wins weekend, tops this year’s box office universe

Los Angeles / Hollywood, California on 21 July, 2014.—Reuters

Winter Soldier.”

Cast member Chris Pratt poses at the premiere of ‘Guardians of the Galaxy’ in Hollywood, California on 21 July, 2014.—Reuters

Giant robot sequel “Transformers: Age of Extinction,” which had a 27 June US opening, reigns as the year’s top-grossing film worldwide with more than $1 billion in sales, including a domestic haul of $244.3 million, according to boxofficemojo.

“Guardians” has earned $547.7 million around the globe, distributor Walt Disney Co said.

The big-budget space adventure stars Chris Pratt and Zoe Saldana as leaders of an oddball group of warriors that includes a talking raccoon and a humanoid tree.

In a sign of the film’s staying power, Disney said ticket sales were down only 5 percent from last weekend. But the strength of “Guardians” is a bright spot in a sluggish summer for Hollywood at domestic theaters.

Michael Jackson’s children went to his hometown Gary in Indiana to celebrate what would have been his 56th birthday.—Reuters

Lawrence,” Lawrence’s representative said.

Another photo showing ‘Final Destination 3’ star Mary Elizabeth Winstead naked was also posted. The actress responded to the leak on Twitter.

“Knowing those photos were deleted long ago, I can only imagine the creepy effort they went into this. Feeling for everyone who got hacked,” she said.

PTI

Jennifer Lawrence naked pictures leak online

Lawrence’s

PTI

Guardians

of the

Galaxy

World Premiere

Guardians

of the

Galaxy

to boxofficemojo.

“Guardians” rang up $163.5 million (9.8 million pounds) in US and Canadian ticket sales from Friday through Sunday, topping weekend charts for the third time since its 1 August debut, according to estimates from tracking firm Rentrak. Total domestic sales climbed to $274.6 million, surpassing the $259.8 million, according to the $274.6 million, surpassing the $244.3 million earned by April release, “Captain America: The Winter Soldier.”

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‘Guardians of the Galaxy’ wins weekend, tops this year’s box office universe

Los Angeles / New York, 1 Sept — The “Guardians of the Galaxy” misfits reached a new box office stratosphere over the US Labour Day weekend, soaring past fellow Marvel hero “Captain America” to become the highest-grossing domestic movie of 2014.

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PTI

Jennifer Lawrence naked pictures leak online

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Galaxy

to boxofficemojo.

“Guardians” rang up $163.5 million (9.8 million pounds) in US and Canadian ticket sales from Friday through Sunday, topping weekend charts for the third time since its 1 August debut, according to estimates from tracking firm Rentrak. Total domestic sales climbed to $274.6 million, surpassing the $259.8 million, according to boxofficemojo.

“Guardians” has earned $547.7 million around the globe, distributor Walt Disney Co said.

The big-budget space adventure stars Chris Pratt and Zoe Saldana as leaders of an oddball group of warriors that includes a talking raccoon and a humanoid tree.

In a sign of the film’s staying power, Disney said ticket sales were down only 5 percent from last weekend. But the strength of “Guardians” is a bright spot in a sluggish summer for Hollywood at domestic theaters.

PTI

Jennifer Lawrence naked pictures leak online

Lawrence’s

PTI
Federer marches on as wild weather, upsets hit US Open

New York, 1 Sept — American Russell Henley took the lead but Roger Federer and Caroline Wozniacki marched on through a day of wild weather and upsets.

Henley dominated the par-threes to card a six-under-par 65 and jump to the front at 12-under 201 on a day of low scoring in ideal conditions at the TPC Boston.

He edged one shot ahead of compatriot Billy Horschel (67), while world number one McIlroy made his presence felt with a sizzling 64 to join Australian Jason Day (69) and American Chris Kirk (64) in a tie for third at 10-under.

Northern Irishman McIlroy, seeking his fourth PGA Tour victory in five starts, almost holed out at the 15th and 16th holes, tapping in from inside a foot both times.

McIlroy, whose sizzling summer stretch has included major victories at the British Open and PGA Championship, was clearly back from inside a foot both times.

A stormy day finished on a through with another upset on Arthur Ashe Stadium court as 17-year-old Swiss sensation Belinda Bencic swept past ninth-seeded Serb and former world number one Jelena Jankovic 7-6 (6-1), 6-3.

McIlroy, who has been a casualty this whole year at grand slams, said “I’m just hoping to keep playing in there.”

Golf-Henley leads, McIlroy two behind at Deutsche Bank

NORTON, Mass. on Sunday — Rory McIlroy loomed large, just two strokes behind after the third round at the $8 million Deutsche Bank Championship in Norton, Massachusetts on Sunday.

Rory McIlroy reacts to missing his birdie putt on the 18th hole during the third round of the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament at TPC of Boston on 31 Aug, 2014.— Reuters

Roger Federer of Switzerland listens to the crowd before hitting autographed tennis ball into the crowd after defeating Marcel Granollers of Spain in the men’s singles play following their match at the 2014 US Open tennis tournament in New York on 31 Aug, 2014.— Reuters

Murray looks to continue success against French

NEW YORK, 1 Sept— No one loves beating up on French players quite like Andy Murray.

Until losing to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in Toronto last month, Murray had won 18 straight matches against French players.

Andy Murray (GBR) returns a shot to Andrey Kuznetsov (RUS) on Armstrong Stadium on day six of the 2014 US Open tennis tournament at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center on 30 Aug, 2014.— Reuters

His career record against the French is 67-13 and between losing to Tsonga in the first round of the Australian Open in 2008 and to Richard Gasquet in the Paris Masters in 2012, he compiled a 38-1 record against Frenchmen.

As he and Tsonga prepare for their fourth-round encounter at the US Open on Monday, Murray has a 9-2 career lead.

“I’ve had a lot of close matches with him but I’ve won a lot against him, as well, so yeah, I would say (my game) matches up well,” Murray said.

The Scotsman said he was not concerned by the fact that he has not beaten a top-10 player since his win over Novak Djokovic in the Wimbledon final in 2013.

“Our best chances this week are good, and I’m sure it will happen again, and happen soon,” he said.

Top seed Djokovic takes on Germany’s Philipp Kohlschreiber for the right to play Murray or Tsonga.

Women’s top seed Serena Williams continues her quest for a third consecutive US Open title against Kaia Kanepi of Estonia.

With six of the top eight seeds gone from the women’s draw, Williams is aware of the dangers that can be lurking, not least since she has failed to reach the quarter-finals of any of the grand slams this year.

“I’ve been a casualty this whole year at grand slams,” she said. “I’m just hoping to keep staying in there.”

Reuters
Barcelona, 1 Sept—David Zurutuza struck twice to help Real Sociedad seal a remarkable comeback and beat Real Madrid 4-2 in La Liga on Sunday.

Sergio Ramos headed in a corner after five minutes followed by a delight-ful effort from Gareth Bale who slipped the ball between Gorka Elustondo’s legs inside the area.

It appeared comfortable for Real as they continued to press forward but the home side battled back as the first half progressed.

Inigo Martinez swept home a cross at the far post after 35 minutes and Zurutuza was left unmarked to head the second.

After the break Zurutuza again and substitute Carlos Vela took further advantage of defensive lapses to seal a convincing win over the European champions. Earlier, substitute Sandro Ramirez slot-
ed well but the introduction of fit-again forward Neymar for the final half hour gave them an extra attacking edge. It was Lionel Messi, though, who opened up the Villarreal rearguard with a cross along the goal-line that was turned in by Moscow Pina and Messi again hit the woodwork for either side midway through the second half before Neymar found Messi, who looked up and passed Sandro to score and give the Catal-

nian side the three points.

Arsenal’s Yaya Sanogo (C) is challenged by Barcelona City’s Dean Hammond during their English Premier League soccer match at the King Power Stadium in Leicester, England on 31 Aug, 2014.—Reuters

Barcelona’s Lionel Messi (R) is challenged by Villarreal’s Victor Ruiz during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Madrigal stadium in Villarreal on 31 Aug, 2014.—Reuters

Barcelona’s Marek Hamsik heads the ball past Newcastle United’s John O’Sullivan during their English Premier League soccer match at the St James’ Park ground in Newcastle, northern England on 31 Aug, 2014.—Reuters

Real Sociedad’s players celebrate a goal during their Spanish first division soccer match against Real Madrid at Anoeta stadium in San Sebastian on 31 Aug, 2014.—Reuters

Arsenal dominated for long spells but appeared to miss the presence of last season’s top scorer Oliver Giroud, who faces up to four months on the side-

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