President U Thein Sein meets German President Mr Joachim Gauck

BERLIN, 4 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met with President Mr Joachim Gauck of Germany at the Presidential Palace in Berlin on Thursday morning.

The German president warmly welcomed President U Thein Sein and they posed for a documentary photograph in front of the presidential palace.

Then, President U Thein Sein signed on the visitors’ book at the presidential palace.

Also present at the meeting were Union Ministers U Wunna Maung Lwin, U Ye Htut, U Soe Thane, U Ohn Myint, U Nyan Tun Aung and U Khin Maung Soe and Myanmar Ambassador to Germany U Soe Nwe.

German president Mr Joachim Gauck visited Myanmar from 9 to 12 February 2014.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein and President Mr Joachim Gauck of Germany holds discussions about reform in Myanmar.—MNA

Rakhine Chief Minister urges foreign aid agencies to exert effort on welfare of locals

SITTWE, 4 Sept—Steps are being taken to stabilize and develop the region on all fronts, the Rakhine State Chief Minister told a meeting with UN organizations and INGOs here on 2 September.

U Maung Maung Ohn said the government, as well as UN agencies and INGOs, directs efforts on the welfare of local people.

UN agencies and INGOs should take into consideration the feelings of Rakhine nationals in operating their activities successfully, he said.

Speaking of refugee shelters, he stated that the number of Bengalis is higher than that of Rakhine nationals.

He called for foreign aid agencies not to neglect Rakhine national villagers who he said are living in extreme poverty, with some living in a situation far worse than in refugee shelters.

He also urged them to assign duty to local people, adding that arrangements are underway to extend cooperation and protection for their safety and accommodation.

State IPRD

International exhibitors of food, drink and pharmaceutical processing and packaging industries gather at ProPak Myanmar 2014 & Plastic and Rubber Myanmar 2014

YANGON, 4 Sept—More than 185 exhibitors from 23 countries, and three international pavilions from Singapore, China, Taipei and Thailand, gathered Thursday at Myanmar Convention Centre in Yangon to introduce Myanmar businessmen to their products at ProPak Myanmar 2014 & Plastic and Rubber Myanmar 2014.

Bangkok Exhibition Services Ltd organized the two trade events—ProPak Myanmar 2014 & Plastic and Rubber Myanmar 2014.

It is aimed at offering potential for developing domestic businesses and enabling Myanmar business people to realize the prospects of food, drink and pharmaceutical industries in Myanmar, and Plastics & Rubber Myanmar 2014, the first international plastics and rubber materials and technology trade exhibition for Myanmar.

By Ye Myint

Products of over 185 exhibitors from 23 countries on display at ProPak Myanmar 2014, the first-ever international processing and packaging exhibition for Myanmar’s food, drink and pharmaceutical industries, held alongside Plastic and Rubber Myanmar 2014 at MCC Hall in Yangon. PHOTO: YE MYINT
President U Thein Sein holds discussions with German Chancellor Angela Merkel

BERLIN, 4 Sept — President U Thein Sein attended the working luncheon hosted by Chancellor Angela Merkel on Wednesday afternoon.

They held discussions on political, economic and administrative reforms, rural development, poverty reduction, electricity generation, infrastructure development, development of small and medium enterprises, development of vocational education, development of agriculture and livestock breeding, prospects for cooperation in education sector, media development, press freedom and ethics, state constitution and elections, peace, stability and development of Rakhine State and ASEAN and regional relations.

President U Thein Sein visited Wind Park (Energy Sufficient Feldheim Village) in Berlin in the same evening and studied generation of electricity with wind turbines which supply 25 percent of electricity need of Germany.

Then, the president went to parliament building and held discussions about reform process in Myanmar, check and balance among three pillars of legislative, administrative and judicial branches of the state in accordance with the provisions of the state constitution, power distribution among the union government, region/state governments and self-administered zones in Myanmar, constitutional reform and free and fair elections with Lower House Speaker Mr Norbert Lammert. (See page 3)
In the evening, the president attended the dinner hosted by President Mr Christian Wriedt of Korber Foundation, a non-political think tank.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein met with Ambassador of Myanmar to Germany U Soe Nwe, staff, families and Myanmar students in Germany at the residence of the ambassador and explained political, economic, administrative and private sector reforms and efforts to promote the international relations.

On Thursday, the president met with programme presenter Ms Amrita Cheema of Deutsche Welle News Agency at the library of the Intercontinental Hotel and responded to questions concerning the reform in Myanmar. — MNA

Myanmar, Thailand discuss to resume Dawei special economic zone

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept — Myanmar and Thailand met at the Ministry of Transport here on Thursday to discuss the resumption of Dawei special economic zone and its related projects, sources said.

Ernst & Young, a multinational professional services firm with its headquarters in London, which has been assigned to calculate expenses of the projects already undertaken by the Italian-Thai Development Company, submitted its ‘final due diligence report’ at the meeting.

The meeting also discussed the resumption of initial projects which include the construction of a two-lane motorway, a jetty, an industrial zone, a power station, a housing estate, water supply and communications facilities.

The Dawei special economic zone is located in Nabule, 17 miles northwest of Dawei in Taninthayi Region. Despite the projects which started in November 2010 in accord with the framework agreement between the Myanmar Port Authority and the Italian-Thai Development Company, the project has faced long delay, which called for governmental cooperation between the two governments. Plans are under way to resume initial projects in the first week of November this year. — MNA

Union minister attends ONS summit

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept — Union Minister for Energy U Zeyar Aung and delegation, at the invitation of Minister of Petroleum and Energy He Mr Tord Lien of Norway and Minister of State for Trade and Investment of Britain HE Lord Livingston, visited Norway and Britain.

During his trip, the union minister attended the Offshore Northern Seas Summit where about 900 officials and experts held discussions about energy supply, importance of oil and gas, new exploration technologies, climate change, emission of carbon dioxide and environmental conservation.

At the summit, the union minister discussed with ministers from Norway and Britain, and a number of officials from oil companies and the EIFTI. — MNA
Ancient artifacts found in Magway Region

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept — While digging a pitch for getting earth to make bricks, Ko Maung Maung Aye found numerous ancient artifacts on 23 June. They, on their own volition, donated the artifacts to Archaeology and Museum in Nay Pyi Taw on Wednesday. The items include Buddha images, earthen spoon, gong, pot, bells and bricks. Than Naing (Zabu Thiri)

Trucks park in restricted areas to be punished as from 9 Sept

YANGON, 4 Sept — Trucks which park in restricted areas from parking will face penalty in accordance with the Yangon City Development Act as from 9 September.

Terminals and parking areas for 3-ton and above trucks and container trucks have been set up in Yangon, however, they parked for hours on Kyimyindaing and Strand roads and roads in downtown which are restricted for trucks from parking, causing traffic congestion and traffic accidents frequently, according to the announcement of the YCDC.

According to the 2013-Yangon City Development Act, a person who violates the regulation which prohibits 3-ton-and-above trucks and container trucks from parking in the restricted areas in Yangon shall be punished by imprisonment for one year, or by a fine of K10,000 or KK500,000 or by both that fine and imprisonment.

The number of road accidents in Yangon grew more than 19 percent in the first seven months of 2014 over the same period last year.

According to the Yangon Region Traffic Police Force, 99 per cent of traffic accidents are caused by human error.— Aye Min Soe (District IPRD)

Concrete water tank, medicines donated to Pyapon Home for the Aged

PYAPON, 4 Sept — Pyapon Township Development Supporting Committee Chairman U Raju and wife Daw Nilar Moe and family donated 1.5 million kyat worth concrete water tank with a storage capacity of 400 gallons to Kandawmin-galar Home for the aged on Tuesday. They also donated medicines for the aged.

The home was established on 27 March 1991 and now is accommodating over 20 old persons. They are now preparing to celebrate the centenary birthday of Daw Pwashin who has been staying at the home from the establishment of the home and still alive and kicking.

Those who wish to donate cash and kind may contact phone numbers: 09 495560, 09 8590589 and 09 250123120.

Thuzar Nwe (Pyapon)

Self-reliant library opened in delta

HINTHADA, 4 Sept — With the aim of disseminating knowledge to the people, a self-reliant library was opened on 31 August in Letpazu village, Hinthada township in Ayeyawady Region. The RC type two-storey library, 30 feet in length and 44 feet in width, was named Nye-inchanaye (Peace and Prosperity). It was built at a cost of 28 million kyat.

Kyaw Kyaw (District IPRD)

Finishing touches put on monsoon paddy cultivation

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept — To be able to put farmland under cold season crops, efforts are being made to complete monsoon paddy cultivation on the model plot of farmer U Hla Hpe in Zeyar Thiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area on Wednesday. The plot was put under Pearl Thwe GW-1 strains with the use of GAP system.

In the township, target is set to raise the living standard of farmers through introducing mechanized farming. Officials planned to put 12007 acres of land under paddy and the target exceeded by planting paddy on 12133 acres. — Min Min Latt

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**REGIONAL**

**Thai PM vows reform council to include people from all walks of life**

BANGKOK, Sept —Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha on Thursday set out broad criteria for the selection of a 250-member council to draw up sweeping political reforms and approve a new constitution, saying people from all walks of life would be included.

Prayuth was speaking in Bangkok to mark the beginning of a selection process for the National Reform Council. It will draft political and economic reforms, including reshaping energy policy, education, public health, the media and other matters, he said.

“We want people who can really work and we won’t exclude anyone. We want people from all walks of life,” Prayuth said, adding that the council would be set up by 2 October.

“Committees will have to choose people carefully and transparently.”

The aims of the council mirror demands made by pro-establishment, anti-government protesters who took to the streets of Bangkok for six months from late last year to try to oust then Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

They wanted sweeping political reforms and an unelected council of notable worthies to oversee the changes.

Yingluck, the sister of self-exiled former premier Thaksin Shinawatra, was forced from office by a court ruling in May and her government was ousted in a military coup days later.

The Shinawatras’ supporters say the reforms are partly aimed at ending the political influence of Thaksin, a former telecoms tycoon who upset the establishment with populist policies that won him the popular vote.

Many group leaders have gone to ground and some have left Thailand.

Since taking control, Prayuth has rolled out a temporary constitution that will allow the military absolute power.

The army denies accusations that it sided with anti-government, staunchly royalist protesters whose action led to Yingluck’s downfall but it has also gone after Yingluck’s supporters from the pro-Shinawatra “red shirt” movement.

The military coup days later.

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Many group leaders have gone to ground and some have left Thailand.

Since taking control, Prayuth has rolled out a temporary constitution that grants the military absolute powers and hand-picked an interim parliament stacked with military figures that subsequently appointed him prime minister last week.

Prayuth, whose speeches are tinged with nationalist overtones, sees himself as the guardian of “Thainess” which, by his definition, means embracing the trilogy of nation, religion and king.

But critics say his rhetoric, including talk of orchestrating “social harmony” and the preservation of moral order and his wide-ranging reform plans, are unrealistic and unsustainable. Prayuth has said that a general election will be held around October 2015, which gives him time to tackle a host of troubles.

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**Five suspected leftist rebels killed in N Philippines**

MANILA, April 5—Five suspected leftist rebels were killed in a clash with government troops in northern Philippines on Thursday morning, a military official said.

Major General Benito Antonio De Leon, commander of the Philippine Army’s 5th Infantry Division, said the firefight between the soldiers and members of the New People’s Army (NPA) erupted in Guiuanabang village, Lacub town in Abra Province. Soldiers recovered five high-powered firearms from the encounter site. No casualty was reported on the government side.

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**Thai Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha.**

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**Thailand PM Visits India to Sign Lucrative New Uranium Deal**

**KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Sept — Malaysian Transport Minister Liow Tiong Lai said on Wednesday night that a preliminary report on the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 tragedy would be released by the investigation committee based in the Netherlands this month, Malaysian state news agency Bernama said.

It is important to provide a guide for a more detailed investigation to find out the cause of the tragedy, Liow said when attending a party function in Jasim of Malacca.

“There will only be one report, that is from the investigation committee which we (Malaysia) are part of, no other reports will be issued, not from Malaysia or any other country that is involved,” he said.

Liow also said the remains of another Malaysian victim had been identified by the investigation committee, which made the number of Malaysian victims identified so far amount to 33.

On 17 July, MH17, a Boeing 777 en route from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur, went down in eastern Ukraine, killing all 298 people on board.”

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**Australian PM Visits India to Sign Lucrative New Uranium Deal**

**CANBERRA, 4 Sept — Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott started a two-day trip to India on Thursday with plans to sign a nuclear cooperation agreement that will allow Australia to sell uranium to New Delhi.

“I am hoping to sign a nuclear cooperation agreement that will enable uranium sales by Australia to India,’ Abbott said before leaving.

“My hope is to deepen the friendship between Australia and India at a time of renewed optimism in India under the new government of prime minister Modi,’ he said.

The trip is Abbott’s first visit to India as Prime Minister.”

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**Philippine govt condemns beheading of militant man in S Philippines**

MANILA, April 5—The Philippine government on Thursday condemned the beheading of a paramilitary man in the southern Philippines province of Basilan.

Presidential Communications Operations Office Secretary Hermino Coloma, Jr said Philippine authorities have already launched an investigation into the incident.

“We will not tolerate such incidents. This is now being thoroughly being investigated by our authorities,” Coloma said in a news briefing in Malacanang, the presidential palace.

The victim, Hadji Al-dam, was a member of the Special Civilian Armed Auxiliary. He was allegedly beheaded by the al-Qaed-linked Abu Sayyaf Group in Basilan Province. A photo of Aldam’s beheading circulated on a social network site, apparently similar to what the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) militants did when they killed American journalist James Foley.

The Abu Sayyaf Group victimizes locals and foreigners and has been involved in a number of high-profile criminal activities in southern Philippines.

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**Singaporean President Tony Tan Keng Yam (2nd R) shakes hands with Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono during the conferment ceremony of the award of Order of Temasek (First Class) in Singapore’s Istana on 3 Sept, 2014.—XINHUA**

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**Preliminary report on MH17 to be released this month**

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**Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott.**

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**Friday, 5 September, 2014**

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UN denies Golan peacekeepers ordered to hand arms to Syria rebels

The UN's under-secretary-general for peacekeeping, Hervé Ladsous, denied that any such order was given.

The fighters then turned against UN blue helmets from a peacekeeping force that has patrolled the ceasefire line since 1974. After 45 Fijians were captured on Thursday, 72 Filipinos were besieged at two other locations for two days by militants before they escaped.

The militants, believed to be part of an al-Qaeda-linked group known as Nusra Front, are still holding the 45 Fijian members of the United Nations' UNDOF Golan Heights force.

Philippine Armed Forces chief General Gregorio Pio Catapang Jr gestures as he speaks during a forum with members of Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines (FOCAP) in Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila on 2 Sept. 2014. (Reuters)

One UN official told Reuters that no force commander would order his troops to hand over weapons to rebels. If that were to happen, the official said, the commander would “be out of a job” since countries that supply weapons and materiel to the force would be reluctant to re-supply the mission.

Philippine Armed Forces chief General Gregorio Pio Catapang Jr gestures as he speaks during a forum with members of Foreign Correspondents Association of the Philippines (FOCAP) in Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila on 2 Sept. 2014. (Reuters)

UNDOF troops were kiddnapped twice last year and in both cases were released unharmed. (Reuters)
Britain considering arming, training Kurdish forces

London, 4 Sept — Britain is considering providing arms and training to Kurdish forces to help its fight against Islamic insurgents, Prime Minister David Cameron said on Thursday. Britain has so far carried out aid drops and surveillance and transported military supplies to Kurdish regional forces allied with the Baghdad central government. Other European countries, including Germany, France and Italy have already agreed to send Kurdish forces a quantity of light weapons to use against the militants who have swept into northern Iraq. “We’re prepared to do more and we’re considering actively whether to give them arms ourselves and whether we can more directly to train Kurdish militia, we’re already playing a role there but we can do more,” Cameron told ITV.

Dutch national pleads guilty in US to running online narcotics bazaar

Los Angeles, 4 Sept — A Dutch national who created and ran an elaborate online marketplace for the buying and selling of narcotics has pleaded guilty to users in the United States and dozens of other countries. Marc Willems, 45, of the Netherlands pleaded guilty on Tuesday to the charges, prosecutors said.

“Dunya TV said that six members of a family including two women and two children and 10 others injured when a double-storey house collapsed due to heavy rains in the provincial capital of Lahore.”

18 killed, 26 injured in rain-related accidents in East Pakistan

Islamabad, 4 Sept — At least 18 people were killed and 26 others were injured in separate rain-related accidents in Pakistan’s east Punjab province on Thursday, local media reported.

UAE calls for ‘unified effort’ against militancy in region

Dubai, 4 Sept — The United Arab Emirates (UAE), one of Washington’s closest allies in the Middle East, has called for a “unified effort” to root out radical militancy in regional hotspots including Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Somalia and Afghanistan.

Ivanovic: Charges monstrous, politically motivated

Belgrade, 4 Sept — The leader of the Citizens’ Initiative Serbia, Democracy, Justice Oliver Ivanovic has dismissed the charges raised against him as monstrous, totally fabricated and politically motivated.

Ivanovic said that seven months or fifteen years ago he could not have even imagined that he might end up in prison, because the life he had led ruled out such a scenario altogether.

“No one who knows me even just a little can believe the charges, which are monstrous and totally fabricated. My confidence that this will be proved before the public is what is giving me strength... The support from the Serbian government and the entire public, which did not let the case be covered up, is very important to me,” Ivanovic said.

Ivanovic said that he was most afraid of the possibility of the indictment being delayed indefinitely, and cited the example of Orahovac Mayor Andjelko Kolasinac, who spent more than four years in detention before being eventually cleared of all charges.

“At this point, that is not possible in my case—the court will either drop the charges, which may even be dismissed by the prosecutor himself, as he is aware that my lawyers and I will put up a strong fight to discredit the indictment, as well as the prosecutor, whose motives for such an indictment will we not go into for the time being. It is apparent that the motives are of political nature,” Ivanovic said.

The inhumane treatment has failed to break me and the Serbian government reacted vehemently, while Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic spoke about the case before the UN Security Council—there was comprehensive media coverage and 17,000 signatures were collected in a week, which all encouraged me, Ivanovic said.

“I have whom to fight for, because this, most of all, is a fight to clear myself of the disgrace and stigma—at the same time, my defence is a fight to prove that justice at the end of the road is possible in my case—there is no sense whatsoever,” Ivanovic said.

Tanjug
Four drivers of change for capacity development

By Kyaw Thura

It is encouraging to witness that the world has come together to initiate capacity development as a pragmatic concept, with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) identifying four drivers of change based on its empirical work on the ground.

These four drivers of change are institutional arrangements, leadership, knowledge and accountability, all of which need strategic interventions to bring about long-term gains on capacity.

In the first place, institutional arrangements will require governments and organizations to adopt policies to legislate, plan and manage their activities efficiently, let alone coordinating with others. Incen- tives include supporting merit-based recruitment criteria and remuneration packages, and promoting a result-based management culture through mutual interac- tions.

The second driver is concerned with leadership. One thing important to note however is that leadership has nothing to do with a position of authority. Leadership is in fact informal and can be held at many levels. Leadership involves taking the lead in pushing for public administration reforms and bringing about society-wide change. Building leadership skills covers priority setting, strategic planning, risk management skills, and policies for succession planning.

Knowledge, as the third driver, should be shared rather than fostered at individual levels. Or- ganizational learning strategies are essential for shar- ing knowledge through vocational training or organi- zations. Knowledge sharing demands the development of education systems as well as educational policy re- form. In doing so, investment should be made in re- forming university and technical education to ensure long-term capacity development.

The fourth driver, accountability can be sim- plified as a situation in which “rights holders are able to make duty bearers deliver on their obliga- tions”. Accountability can be found in the relationship between a government and its people, between an organization and its workers or customers and so on. Accountability is best practiced by means of strengthening stakeholder feedback mechanisms through monitoring and evaluation systems as well as independent review mechanisms.

Write for us

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

Due to limitation of space we are only able to publish articles that do not exceed 500 words. Should you submit a text longer than 500 words please be aware that your article will be edited.

Opinion

Making A Living and Making A Life

Kyi Mun

“ I make a living by what I can get and I make a life by what I can give.”

—Winston Churchill

For making a living, the following four things are most wanted; and for making a life, the following noblest things are sought after.

To Make A Living

Money

Love / Sex

Ego Food

Health

The Priority Factor

The crucial factor is to decide which is more important in your life – to make a living or to make a life. In fact, both are important but you have to give, by your personality type, priority to some areas in your life. It all depends on your age, your education, your habit and attitude and your talent.

Money

To make a living, money is indispensable. Although it is said that money makes everything, and money is the second God, I don’t think, money is the most important thing in life – in fact money is a good servant, but a bad master. It is said in the Bible that: “the love of money is the root of all evils.” It is also said that: “you can’t serve God and Mammon at the same time.”

Love Sex

I think love as well as sex is the mainstay of human life. Without love, the world will be in chaotic disorder; and without sex, the human life will be a humdrum existence. It is said that love is the nectar, and sex, the milk of life.

Ego Food

Man is egocentric. Man is largely selfish. Man is ego-centric. Man always thinks “what is in it for me”. But, when wisdom and right-mindedness prevails, altruism can assert itself and sense of self-importance, pride, greed for power, possessions and thrust for fame more or less recede or dimin- ish.

Health

It is said that: “Health is the greatest gain”. Life will be futile without reasonably good health. Health largely depends on the lifestyle, beside genetics. Health can be nurtured and cultivated by the right / positive mental atti- tude, diet and exercise.

Contentment

It is said that: “Contentment is the greatest wealth”.


Friendliness

It is said that: “Friendliness is the best relative”. If there is no friendliness between family members, there would be no happiness and joy in all. I think friendliness or fondness is the spice of life. In other words, loving kindness, compassion, sympathetic joy are the manifesta- tions of the blessedness of life.

Peace of Mind

It is said that Peace of Mind is the Best Reward of Life. Peace of mind is a simple product of the purity of mind. You can have peace of mind only when you ardently practice DILIGENCE AND FRUGALITY, and PLAIN LIVING AND HARD STRUGGLE. Peace of mind can only be at- tained when you have a very strong MODE OF SATTVĀ which means MODE of LIVING IN SERENITY.

Making A Living and Making A Life

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

Robotic exoskeleton for people with spinal cord injuries

By JennVirskus

The global health technology industry is booming as popula- tion levels and life expectan- ties increase around the world. From a battery-pow- ered set of legs, to mobile app to connect diabetes pa- tients, Israel is leading the global health technology industry. Forbes recently named its picks for the top-10 most important health companies, from a start-up that enables doctors to pro- vide patients with personal- ized instructions via easy-to-understand videos, to a robotic exoskeleton that helps people with spinal cord injuries to walk. Five of the 10 companies have ties to Israel. “It’s amazing that Israel – a country of only 8 million people – pro- duces so many leading health technology compa- nies,” David E. Williams, president of the U.S.-based Health Business Group, told From the Grapevine.

“Ireland’s highly educat- ed technical and medical workers are reared in a soci- ety that prizes problem solving and innovation and thatplaces tremendous val- ues on curing illness and sav- ing lives,” Williams added. “These conditions have generat- ed a virtuous cycle that draws venture capital and contributes to a rich ecosystem that speeds innova- tion, lowers costs, and in- creases the likelihood for companies to succeed.”

The ReWalk system is a wearable exoskeleton that helps those with spinal cord injuries to walk using pow- ered hip and knee motion. It was designed by Israeli en- trepreneur Amit Goffer, who himself suffered an in- jury that left him in a wheel- chair for life.

The ReWalk system was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administra- tion earlier this summer. “This revolutionary product will have an immediate, life-changing impact on in- dividuals with spinal cord injuries,” said Larry Jasini- ski, CEO of ReWalk Ro- botics in a recent press release.

14 factories get final warnings to improve waste water treatment system

YANGON, 4 Sept—Out of 14 factories which received final warning from authorities to improve their waste water treatment sys- tem by 31 August, eight have upgraded the system and six are still undergoing. The Environmental Conser- vation Division under the Yangon City Development Committee sent the final warning to the factories on 15 August to upgrade their waste water treatment sys- tem as the laboratory tests show that quality of the wa- ter they dumped have not met with the required stand- ard.

The Environmental Conservation Division found 25 factories which need to upgrade the waste water treatment systems during the inspection of the factories in industrial zones in Yangon in June. The factories were or- dered to complete the improve- ment of the system by July. Of them, 11 factories have upgraded their system meeting the set standard while the remaining did not pass the laboratory tests. Most of the factories which cannot carry out waste water treatment meet- ing the set standard are food stuff factories, according to YCDC.

Waste water from fac- tories is tested under five criteria, and if the waste water dumped by a factory does not meet the required standard, a license of the factory shall be revoked or the factory shall be shut down temporarily as pun- ishment, according to YCDC. YCDC began the inspec- tion work in the 2012-2013 fiscal year with the ar- rangement of the Yangon Region Government and the committee will carry out the work two times per year, an official of the Environmental Conservation Division said.—Aye Min Soe
**Vice president and diplomats visit relief camps in Rakhine State**

**SITTWE, 4 Sept —** Chairman of the Central Committee for Stability and Development Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, together with Union Ministers U Khin Yi and Dr Than Aung, deput y ministers, ambassadors and officials from INGOs arrived at the office of the Emergency Coordination Centre in Sittwe on Thursday morning and met with officials of 23 UN and international organizations in Rakhine State.

At the meeting, the vice president heard reports on work of the emergency coordination committee and delivered a speech. In his speech, he thanked the UN agencies and INGOs in Rakhine State on behalf of the government and said that all displaced people are safe in relief camps due to the efforts of the government and the assistance of UN agencies and the international community. It is necessary to relocate the displaced people in areas where security and stability can be guaranteed and that are close to their former places in one way or another on their own volition so that they can work for their living or do social and business activities, the vice president added. The government is waiting for the best time when the two communities can accept the same conditions for stability and the citizenship scrutiny measures being taken by the government is the initial step for the resettlement project, the vice president said. In conclusion, the vice president urged UN agencies, international community and development partners to provide development assistance for Rakhine State.

Then, ambassadors of Turkey and Brunei, the representatives of the Bangladesh Embassy, UNOCHA and UNICEF exchanged their views on development and stability of Rakhine State and urged the government to help overcome the challenges in cooperation for humanitarian aids.

After the meeting, the vice president and party went to Mrauk-U and paid homage to historic pagodas there. Then, the vice president continued to the Mrauk-U Hotel and heard reports on maintenance of Mrauk-U heritage site and Mrauk-U hotel zone.

During the tour, the vice president and visited the relief camps in Minbya and Mysaybon, where the diplomats accompanying the vice president raised questions and officials replied their queries.

**International exhibitors of food, drink and pharmaceutical processing . . .**

(from page 1)

Visitors to the events will be able to see new products and machines that can benefit their businesses, become more aware of technologies and solutions in the sectors of packaging, filling, processing, quality assurance, testing and measurement, automation, transportation, storage, refrigeration and labeling and network with industry professionals from different countries.

During the exhibition, participants in the “National Conference on Development of Food Science and Technology in Myanmar” organized by Food Science and Technology Association (FoSTA) will gain market knowledge and insight from industry experts, exchanging views and learning the latest industry topics, trends, regulations and solutions.

“As the Myanmar market is getting bigger and stronger, we can find new potential customers to buy our machines through this exhibition,” said Vandy Sin of Long Durable Machinery Co., Ltd.

**Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann cordially greets an elder in Pyu.**

**NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept —** Speaker of the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Thura U Shwe Mann met with members of township development supporting committee, township security, community, education, health, social security and stability committee, township management committee, township development committee and elders in Pyu on Thursday morning.

Present at the meeting were Chief Minister of Bago Region U Nyan Win and officials in the region.

At the meeting, Thura U Shwe Mann urged the attendees to properly and correctly use the democratic rights which were previously unavailable and to participate in the efforts for flourishing of democracy. Then, Chief Minister U Nyan Win reported on poverty reduction and development tasks in the region and assistance for flooded paddy fields in Bago Township.

The meeting concluded with the remarks by the Pyithu Hluttaw speaker.

After the meeting, Thura Shwe Mann viewed the photographs of the model of the city hall to be constructed in Pyu.—MNA

**Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, ambassadors and officials of foreign missions in Myanmar meet those living at relief camp in Myebon Township in Rakhine State.**

**MNA**
In northeast Syria, Islamic State builds a government

BEIRUT, 4 Sept — In the cities and towns across the desert plains of northeast Syria, the ultra-hardline al-Qaeda offshoot Islamic State has insinuated itself into nearly every aspect of daily life.

The group famous for its beheadings, crucifixions and mass executions provides electricity and water, pays salaries, controls traffic, and runs nearly everything from bakeries and banks to schools, courts and mosques.

While its merciless battlefield tactics and its imposition of its austere vision of Islamic law have won the group headlines, residents say much of its power lies in its efficient and often deeply pragmatic ability to govern.

Syria’s eastern Province of Raqqa provides the best illustration of their methods. Members hold up the province as an example of life under the Islamic “caliphate” they hope will one day stretch from China to Europe.

In the provincial capital, a dusty-old city that was home to about a quarter of a million people before Syria’s three-year-old war began, the group leaves almost no institution or public service outside of its control.

“Let us be honest, they are doing massive institutional work. It is impressive,” one activist from Raqqa who now lives in a border town in Turkey told Reuters.

In interviews conducted remotely, residents, Islamic State fighters and even activists opposed to the group described how it had built up a structure similar to a modern government in less than a year under its chief, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Reuters journalists are unable to visit the area for security reasons.

The group’s progress has alarmed regional and Western powers—last month US President Barack Obama called it a “cancer” that must be erased from the Middle East as US warplanes bombarded its positions in Iraq.

But Islamic State has embedded itself so thoroughly into the fabric of life in places like Raqqa that it will be all but impossible for US aircraft—let alone Iraqi, Syrian and Kurdish troops—to uproot them through force alone.

Last year, Raqqa became the first city to fall to the rebels fighting to overthrow President Bashar al-Assad. They called it the “Bride of the Revolution.”

A variety of rebel groups ranging from hardline Islamists to religious moderates held sway in the city, although Islamists clearly dominated. Within a year, Islamic State had clawed its way into control, mercilessly eliminating rival insurgents.

Activists critical of the group were killed, disappeared, or escaped to Turkey. Alcohol was banned. Shops closed by afternoon and streets were empty by nightfall. Communication with the outside world—including nearby cities and towns—was allowed only through the Islamic State media centre.

Those rebels and activists who stayed largely “repented,” a process through which they pledge loyalty to Baghdadi and are forgiven for their “sins” against the Islamic State, and either kept to their homes or joined the group’s ranks.

But after the initial crackdown, the group began setting up services and institutions—stating clearly that it intended to stay and use the area as a base in its quest to eradicate national boundaries and establish an Islamic “state”.

“We are a state,” one emir, or commander, in the province told Reuters. “Things are great here because we are ruling based on God’s law.” Some Sunni Muslims who worked for Assad’s government stayed on after they pledged allegiance to the group.

The civilians who do not have any political affiliations have adjusted to the presence of Islamic State, because people got tired and exhausted, and also, to be honest, because they are doing institutional work in Raqqa,” one Raqqa resident opposed to Islamic State told Reuters.

Since then, the group “has restored and restructured all the institutions that are related to services,” including a consumer protection office and the civil judiciary, the resident said.

Thirteen people hurt in chemical explosion at Nevada museum

RENO, (Nevada), 4 Sept — Thirteen people were hurt, including several children, in a chemical explosion on Wednesday at a museum in Reno, Nevada, where presenters demonstrating a so-called smoke tornado caused the blast with a faulty mixture, officials said. Seven children and two adults with non-life threatening injuries were transported to a local hospital, and another four people were treated and released at the Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum in Reno where the explosion occurred, said Reno police spokesman Tim Broadway.

The people who were hospitalized had suffered burn injuries, said Matthew Brown, a spokesman for the city of Reno.

Presenters at the museum were trying to create a “smoke tornado” in a visual demonstration they had done before when a faulty mixture of alcohol and boric acid caused the blast, Brown said. The museum is aimed mainly at children and offers interactive exhibits in geology, astronomy, history and other subjects.

Officials said they did not immediately have details on the ages of the children hurt in the explosion, which they said did not light anything on fire at the museum.—Reuters

Saudi court jails 24 men on terrorism charges

RIYADH, 4 Sept — A Saudi court on Wednesday sentenced 22 Saudi citizens, an American and a Yemeni to jail terms of between two and 27 years on terrorism charges, according to the official news agency SPA.

The court said charges ranged from “the establishment of a terrorist cell planning to targeting oil pipelines,” having weapons, and planning attacks and at home and in neighbouring Bahrain.

The US citizen, who was not identified, was sentenced to 17 years backdated to the start of his detention six years ago for “cyber crimes”, the court said without elaborating. He will be deported on completion of his sentence. Unrest by the Shi’ite minority in the oil-rich kingdom has bubbled since the 2011 Arab uprisings, and Saudi Arabia has lent its support to allies in Bahrain to quash anti-government protests mostly led by Shi’ites.

Reuters
German July orders rebound in strongest rise in over a year

BERLIN, 4 Sept — German industrial orders rose far more than expected in July in their sharpest increase in more than a year, driven by robust demand for capital goods from abroad, and raising hopes for a rebound in Europe's biggest economy in the third quarter.

Economy ministry data released on Thursday showed a 4.6 percent month-on-month increase in orders in July. Way over the Reuters consensus forecast for a 1.5 percent increase. “After the uncertainty caused by geopolitical developments and a weaker economy in the second quarter, the strong rise in orders is an encouraging signal for the industrial economy,” said the ministry in a statement.

The ministry said big-ticket items had played a role in the increase but underlying activity was also positive. “Finally some sign of relief. German new orders rebounded sharply in July, providing evidence that the euro zone’s largest economy should return to growth in the third quarter,” said ING economist Carsten Brzeski.

Germany’s economy shrank by 0.2 percent in the second quarter due to weak investment and slow trade. Some economists fear Europe’s economy will slip into recession in the third quarter.

Markit’s composite Purchasing Managers’ Index (PMI) showed on Wednesday that Germany’s private sector expanded at its slowest pace in 10 months in August as manufacturing grew at a weaker rate. Orders for capital goods rose 8.5 percent, driven by a 1 percent increase in demand from countries outside the euro zone while contracts from members of the single currency rose just 2.9 percent.

Reuters

‘Made in China’ clothing sales may shrink under Pacific trade pact

WASHINGTON, 4 Sept — “Made in China” will be a less frequent sight in US clothing stores if the United States has its way in a new trade pact negotiated among 12 Pacific Rim nations. Washington aims to engineer a deal where Vietnam, set to be one of the big winners among the members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), would win apparel market share from China and other seabed as the world’s most ambitious trade agreement, will destroy that business model, which has helped the sector rebound from a decade-long slump and sustains more than 1.5 million regional jobs.

A US official who spoke on condition of anonymity said tools such as rules of origin, which say how much local content is required to win duty-free status, and different timetable for tariff cuts could protect regional interests while also providing value for Vietnam.

People in the United States familiar with the negotiations are confident Vietnam could take considerable market share from China and other countries without trade preferences.

“If damage is done to Central America by the TPP, that has a devastating effect on the industry here,” said Bill Jasper, chief executive of synthetic yarn maker Unit (UFLN).

“If structured properly and intelligently negotiated I think the majority of the impact is going to be on China and not on this region.”

Clothing is a priority for Vietnam, which is host- ing a round of negotiations on the pact this week, but is just one of many issues for other countries, which may seek concessions in other areas in return for siding with Washington on textiles.

The other TPP countries are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru and Singapore.

In practice, different treatment of sectors depending on their US economic impact could mean longer wait for tariff cuts on cotton garments like underwear and men’s knit shirts, where Central America has greater market share.

Reuters

Labourers work at a factory of Viet Huy garment company in Thuong Tin district, south of Hanoi in this on 4 Jan, 2012 file photo.— Reuters

India battles HIV/AIDS drug shortage as some firms halt supply

MUMBAI, 4 Sept — India is facing a shortage of HIV/AIDS drugs provided under the government’s free medicine programme after some drugmakers halted supplies due to delayed payments, leaving thousands of patients without treatment, activists said.

India’s National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), a unit of the healthcare ministry, procures antiretroviral drugs for treating HIV/AIDS from companies through a tender process and supplies the drugs to healthcare provid- ers across the country. Some drugmakers stopped participating in the government’s tender process over the past year because of delays in getting paid, creating a shortage, said Leena Menghaney, an activist with the medical charity Medics Sans Frontieres (MSF).

India had the third-largest number of people living with HIV in the world at the end of 2013 and accounts for about four out of 10 people living with HIV in the Asian region, according to the UN AIDS programme UNAIDS. “The supply chain has broken down, tenders have not been filled. As a result there are not enough drugs in the program to meet the needs of the people. Patients have been told to fend for themselves,” Menghaney told Reuters. “No manufacturer who supplies to the national programme, where the margins are miniscule, should have to be faced with payment delays. But the way to deal with that is not to boycott the programme.”

Officials at NACO in New Delhi were not available to comment.

Delhi Network of Positive People, a trust that works with HIV/AIDS patients, is planning to file a lawsuit against the government over the shortage of the life-saving drugs in various states, said its president, Vikas Ahuja.

India has been providing free antiretroviral drugs for HIV treatment since 2004, but only 50 percent of those eligible for the treatment were getting it in 2012, a report last year by the World Health Organization showed. — Reuters

UN says $600 million needed to tackle Ebola as deaths top 1,900

WASHINGTON, ICONN, KORY, 4 Sept — The United Nations said $600 million in supplies would be needed to fight West Africa’s Ebola outbreak, as the death toll from the worst ever epidemic of the virus topped 1,900 and Guinea warned it had penetrated a new part of the country.

The pace of the infection has accelerated, and there were close to 400 deaths in the past week, officials said on Wednesday. It was first detected deep in the forests of southeastern Guinea in March.

The hemorrhagic fever has spread to Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Nigeria, and Senegal, and has killed more people than all outbreaks since Ebola was first uncovered in 1976. There are no approved Ebola vaccines or treatments.

An experimental Eb- ola vaccine that Canada said it would give to the World Health Organization for use in Africa was as of Wednesday still in the lab that developed it as official- ists are puzzled over how to transport it.

Ottawa said on 12 Au- gust that it would donate between 800 and 1,000 doses of the vaccine, being held at Canada’s National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg.

“We are now working with the WHO to address complex regulatory, logis- tical and ethical issues so the vaccine can be safe and ethically deployed as rapidly as possible,” Health Canada spokesman Sean Upton said in a statement.

“For example, the logistics surrounding the safe delivery of the vaccine are complicated.” Upton said one of the challenges was keeping the vaccine cool enough to remain potent.

Human safety trials are due to begin this week on a vaccine from GlaxoSmith- Kline Plc and later this year from NewLink Genet- ics Corp. — Reuters
UN chief tries to kick-start sagging enthusiasm for climate deal

LONDON/ WASHINGTON, 4 Sept — United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon this month hopes to reinvigorate the years-long effort to forge a global climate deal, even as concerns grow over whether the final pact will be rigorous enough to address threats to the environment.

Ban wants heads of state at a 23 September gathering in New York to outline how their countries will contribute to a mutual goal to contain rising temperatures, said Selwin Hart, the Barbadian diplomat helping to spearhead the conference. The final deal is due to be signed in Paris in 2015.

Hart said the event will avoid some of the thornier questions surrounding the ultimate outcome of the Paris summit, but should give a good indication of how serious countries are.

“What we are looking for is countries to signal a commitment to a universal and meaningful global deal, and signal their ambition,” Hart told Reuters. The summit will feature “unprecedented” participation of non-government organizations and the private sector, Hart said. Several hundred leaders from major banks, the oil and gas industry, and the agricultural sector will attend and are expected to make major “financial contributions.” These contributions will centre around eight key action areas identified by Ban. They include cities, energy, transportation and climate resilience.

President Barack Obama is expected to be among the 100 or so heads of state at the summit, but observers worry that the goal of securing a global deal in 2015 could be in peril if certain other high profile leaders decide to skip the meeting.

Tony de Brum, foreign minister for the Marshall Islands, one of several low-lying South Pacific nations vulnerable to rising sea levels, was alarmed by recent reports that China’s President Xi Jinping and India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi were not planning to attend.— Reuters

IAEA report expected to show little headway in Iran nuclear investigation

VIENNA, 4 Sept — The United Nations nuclear watchdog is expected to issue a report this week showing little progress is being made in its long-running investigation into suspected atomic bomb research by Iran, diplomats said on Wednesday.

They said the quarterly International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) report on Iran was likely to confirm, as Reuters reported last week, that Tehran failed to meet a late August deadline for answering questions about its atomic activities.

Western officials may see the lack of movement as a setback for broader efforts to end a decade-old dispute over a nuclear programme which Iran says is peaceful but which they fear may be aimed at developing a nuclear weapons capability.

They say Iran must address the IAEA’s concerns if there is to be any chance of success in parallel diplomatic negotiations with six world powers aimed at curbing the country’s nuclear work in exchange for a gradual ending of sanctions on Tehran.

The IAEA is expected to issue its confidential report to member states on Thursday or Friday, ahead of a 15-19 September meeting of the IAEA’s 35-nation board of governors. There was no comment from the Vienna-based UN agency on Wednesday.

Iran has promised to cooperate with the IAEA since Hassan Rouhani, seen as a pragmatist, was elected president in 2013. It agreed in May to carry out five specific steps by 25 August to help allay international concerns. Iran promised to provide information on two issues that are part of the IAEA’s inquiry into the possible military dimensions of the country’s nuclear programme: alleged experiments on explosives that could be used for an atomic device, and studies related to calculating nuclear explosive yields.

Brasil, 4 Sept — Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff has gained some ground against opposition candidate Marina Silva whose surge in voter support for the October elections has ended, two new polls showed on Wednesday.

Both polls still project the popular environmentalist as the favourite to beat Rousseff in a second-round runoff, though by a narrower margin than surveys done last week.

The numbers appear to show Rousseff’s attacks on Silva, launched in a presidential debate on Monday, are beginning to pay off, while campaign mistakes by Silva could have halted her meteoric rise since entering the race just two weeks ago.

According to the survey by polling institute Ibope, Rousseff picked up three percentage points in voter support for the 5 October election, and her government’s approval rating rose two percentage points to 36 percent, welcome news for a president who appeared to be against the ropes.

Polling firm Datafolha confirmed that Rousseff’s bleeding has stopped, with her support rising one percentage point to 35 percent since last week, while Silva remained at 34 percent.

Silva is still projected to win the expected 26 October runoff by 48 percent against 41 percent for Rousseff, a margin that has narrowed from 10 points last week, Datafolha said.

Silva was thrust into the election race when her party’s candidate Eduardo Campos was killed in a plane crash.

A popular anti-establishment figure, she is threatening to end the 12-year rule of the Workers’ Party in the election, which is being watched closely by investors hoping that a change of government will bring more market-friendly policies that can stir an economy that slipped into recession this year.

In a first-round vote, support for Rousseff rose to 37 percent from 34 percent in the previous poll, while Silva’s support rose to 33 percent from 29 percent in the last poll, Ibope said. Support for market favorite Aecio Neves, who was pushed into third place by Silva, has fallen to 15 percent from 19 percent.

In other good news for Rousseff, the president’s re-election, or the percentage of voters who say they would never vote for her, fell to 31 percent from 36 percent last week.

Silva’s rejection rate is much lower, but rose slightly to 12 percent from 10 percent in the previous poll, Ibope said. That would indicate that Silva has not suffered significant damage from two embarrassing revisions to her party platform that withdrew support for nuclear energy and same-sex marriage. The commitment to back legislation for gay marriage was dropped after an uproar by evangelical pastors that threatened to undermine support for Silva, a fervent Pentecostal Christian, among a growing religious constituency.

Silva, who vows to clean up Brazil’s discredited political establishment, has also been dogged by media reports that allege the plane that crashed with Campos on board was acquired in a shady campaign donation of the kind that she has denounced.— Reuters
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV JIN YI VOY NO (099)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIN YI VOY NO (099) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of the Port of Yangon, signee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws of the Port of Yangon.
Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 1:20 pm and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.
No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

天气预报
Bay Inference: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.
Forecast Valid Until Evening of the 5th September, 2014: Rain or thunderstorms will be scattered in Kachin State, fairly widespread in Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Bago Regions, Shan and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Mandalay and Ayeyarwady Regions, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).
State of the Sea: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) m.p.or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (100%).

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Two Chinese officials investigated after fatal kindergarten bus accident
CHANGSHA, 4 Sept — Two officials are being probed for their roles in a kindergarten bus accident that left eight children dead in July in central China’s Hunan Province, according to local authorities.
Yang Qiang and Zhang Hua, suspected of dereliction of duty, are being investigated by procurators, a spokesman with the provincial work safety administration said late on Wednesday.
Yang is in charge of school bus management in the education bureau of Yuhu District in Xiangtan City, and Zhang works with the district’s traffic police brigade, said the spokesman.—Xinhua
Jason Aldean’s sixth album to release on 7 October

Los Angeles, 4 Sept — Country music singer Jason Aldean has announced that his sixth album ‘Old Boots, New Dirt’ will be out on 7 October this year. The 37-year-old ‘She’s Country’ hitmaker has said he wants to explore new territories with his new music, reported Aceshowbiz.

“With this new album, it’s definitely the same old me. But, I like to mix things up and try new sounds and go into territory I’ve never explored before, so I do a little bit of that too. That’s why I named the album ‘Old Boots, New Dirt’.

“I’m almost 10 years into this crazy ride, but in a lot of ways, I feel like I’m just getting started. I think my fans have come to expect some surprises from me, and we’ve got another big one coming tonight. You’ll have to pay attention or you could miss it in a flash,” he said.

Disney to make short follow-up to ‘Frozen’

New York, 4 Sept — Disney will make a short film, a follow-up to its hit movie ‘Frozen’.

The studio has confirmed that the ‘Frozen Fever’ will premiere in 2015 and will see the return of all the main original characters, reported Huffington Post.

Released last year, the Oscar-winning animated film ‘Frozen’ is a story of a fearless princess who sets off on a journey to find her estranged sister.

“In ‘Frozen Fever’, it is Anna’s birthday and Elsa and Kristoff are determined to give her the best celebration ever, but Elsa’s icy powers may put more than just the party at risk,” reads a plot description for the film provided by Disney.

The movie will also have a song from Oscar winners Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez, while Jennifer Lee and Christophe Beck are set to return to direction with it.—PTI

Sofia Vergara is highest paid TV actress at $37 million—Forbes

New York, 4 Sept — For the third consecutive year, Colombian actress Sofia Vergara, one of the stars of the hit ABC comedy “Modern Family,” is the highest paid actress on US television, with estimated earnings of $37 million (22.5 million British pounds), Forbes magazine said on Wednesday.

Like last year, Vergara, who earns $325,000 for each episode of “Modern Family,” outpaced Mariska Hargitay, the Emmy-winning star of NBC’s “Law and Order: Special Victims Unit,” who came second in 2013 with $15 million. Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting, 28, of CBS’s “The Big Bang Theory,” came third, with $11 million.

“At 42, the ‘Modern Family’ star continues her streak in large part due to her business savvy,” said Forbes.

In addition to her TV work, Vergara has endorsement deals with beverage, cosmetic, clothing and other companies. She also co-founded Latin World Entertainment, a talent, management and entertainment marketing firm.

Hargitay, the 50-year-old star of the longest-running drama series currently on TV, earns $450,000 per episode and builds up her earning through syndication profits.

KATE HUDSON slams eating disorder rumours

Los Angeles, 4 Sept — Actress Kate Hudson has slammed past eating disorder rumours in the October 2014 issue, saying she will never have such health hazard.

The ‘Something Borrowed’ actress, who stuns on the cover in a black and gold dress, stressed her desire to be a good role model to young women, reported Us magazine. “If there is one thing I will never have, it is an eating disorder,” the mother of two said.

“I won’t have girls — even if it is just one or two who care thinking that. Because it is a serious sickness, not something to plaster on the cover of a magazine. And I am the opposite,” she added.

The 35-year-old daughter of Goldie Hawn also addressed how, after gaining 70 pounds during her first pregnancy, she realises how important it is to feel loved.

“I want girls to love themselves. I want them to feel good about who they are... The thing is, I’m lucky because I was loved (during that time). But I have seen so many young women who can’t feel good about themselves because they just don’t have that love.”—PTI
Nishikori battles past Wawrinka to reach US Open semifinals

New York, 4 Sept — Kei Nishikori became the first Japanese player in 96 years to reach the semifinals of the US Open men’s singles tournament on Wednesday after defeating No 3 seed Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland 6-4, 7-5, 7-6(7), 6-7(5), 6-4 in a 4-hour, 14-minute duel at the year’s last Grand Slam event.

The 10th seeded Nishikori, coming off another marathon five-setter in Monday’s round of 16, outlasted Wawrinka to advance beyond the quarterfinals at a major for the first time in his career. It was also Nishikori’s first triumph in three matches against the big-serving Swiss, who won the Australian Open in January and is currently ranked No. 4 in the world.

“I feel amazing,” Nishikori said. “I don’t know how I finished the match, but I’m very happy.”

The Japanese ace, who has just returned from a month’s layoff due to an injury to his right big toe, got off to a slow start against Wawrinka. He dropped the first three games en route to losing the first set, but played more aggressively in the second set to remain on serve through 11 games. The set fell his way when Wawrinka, trailing 6-5, lost serve in the decisive game with a costly double-fault.

“I started out a little bit tight, but as the match went on I grew more confident,” Nishikori said.

Momentum continued to build for Nishikori in the third set, though he squandered a 5-2 lead and barely held on to win the set 6-4.

Nishikori would level the match at 5-5 in the fourth set, squandered a 5-2 lead and barely held on to win the set 6-4.

“Even though we dropped the second set, we were able to stay in control and do what we needed to do in the third set,” Date-Krumm said.

“The opponent in the next round will also be tough, so we will do our best to prepare.”

The pair will meet fourth-seeded Russian duo Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina in the semifinals.

Kyodo News

Mongolian, Russian development banks agree on further cooperation

UlanBator, 4 Sept — The Development Banks of Mongolia and Russia on Wednesday signed a note of obligation to strengthen cooperation.

The note of obligation was signed by directors of the two banks during the working visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin to Mongolia.

The two banks agreed to promote high-level cooperation between them, fund trade projects of the two countries and trade with national currencies on some items. According to the agreement, the Russian Development Bank will provide approximately 74 million US dollars of investment for the extension of Mongolia’s Thermal Power Plant-4.

Putin arrived in Ulan Bator earlier Wednesday for a one-day working visit.

Xinhua

Hainan Airlines launches flights to Paris

Beijing, 4 Sept — Hainan Airlines announced on Wednesday the launch of a route from eastern China’s Hangzhou, via northwestern city of Xi’an, to Paris, its fifth route to Europe. The new route will provide a more convenient bridge for further Sino-French exchanges in all respects, as this year marks the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and France. Currently, Hainan Airlines also fly to European destinations Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Brussels and Berlin.
Djokovic wears down Murray to reach last four

NEW YORK, 4 Sept — World number one Novak Djokovic wore down his old foe Andy Murray in a typically gruelling encounter under the lights at Flushing Meadows on Wednesday to reach the semi-finals of the US Open.

In a repeat of the 2012 final, which Murray won, the pair combined for some stunning long rallies before Djokovic pulled away for a 7-6 (1), 6-7, 6-2, 6-4 victory to set up a semi-final against Kei Nishikori of Japan.

“I think we played a very physical match in the first two hours,” Djokovic said. “I am very glad to get through to another semi-final.”

“We both gave our best. At times, the tennis was not that nice, we made a lot of unforced errors but that’s due to a very physical battle we had in the first two sets,” Djokovic added.

“I knew coming into the physical battle we had in the first set that he was going to go for his shots and the one who was the most aggressive would win. I am glad I managed to stay fit in the end and pull through.”

Murray ended the match struggling a little with his movement and required a hot compress for his back midway through the fourth set. But he produced arguably his best tennis since having back surgery 11 months ago and gave the top seed a real scare.

In the end, the Scot was left to rue a series of missed break point chances, taking just four of 16 in all, while Djokovic was successful on seven out of 10.

In their 21st meeting, Djokovic dropped serve in the opening game but surged ahead 4-1 only for Murray to hit back, prompting the Serb to smash his racket on his chair at the change of ends.

He regained his focus to take the tiebreak 7-1 and when he led 3-1 in the second set, he looked as if he would run away with the match.

But Murray suddenly began cracking forehands with huge power and recovered to force another tiebreak, also winning it 7-1.

The start of the third set proved crucial as Djokovic broke again for 3-1 but this time held his advantage to move ahead.

Although Murray hung in well for much of the fourth set, despite a sore back, Djokovic broke in the 10th game to advance to the last four.

Di Maria dazzles as Argentina crush Germany

DUESSELDORF, (Germany), 4 Sept — A brilliant performance from Angel Di Maria spurred Argentina to a crushing 4-2 friendly win over world champions Germany on Wednesday in an entertaining rematch of July’s World Cup final.

Despite the absence of injured captain Lionel Messi, Argentina ran circles around the World Cup winners on their home turf in the first match for both teams since Germany’s 1-0 extra-time victory in the final in Brazil.

So impressive was the performance of the Argentine winger, who had missed the final through injury, in the Dusseldorf arena that even many of the German fans applauded his performance when he was replaced late in the match.

Germany coach Joachim Loew put only four of the starting 11 that won Germany’s fourth World Cup on the pitch in the warm-up match for their Euro 2016 campaign that starts on Sunday against Scotland.

Captain Philipp Lahm, striker Miroslav Klose and defender Per Mertesacker, who all retired following the World Cup triumph, were hailed by the sell-out crowd of 51,132 while several other key players were missing through injury.

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The inexperienced Germany defence could not contain new Manchester United signing Di Maria in the first half but also left lots of open space for lightening counter-attacks by moving deep into Argentina’s territory.

Di Maria set up the first goal in the 21st minute with a pinpoint lob to the penalty spot where Sergio Aguero slipped away from his marker and beat Manuel Neuer with an unstoppable volley from point-blank range.

Nineteen minutes later Di Maria broke free on the right near the goal line where he lofted a cross back to Erik Lamela, standing in for the injured Lionel Messi, who smashed a fine volley past an outstretched Neuer.

Central defender Federico Fernandez headed the third two minutes after the intermission from Di Maria’s free kick before the winger made it 4-0 with a superb chip in the 50th minute.

“Di Maria is one of the best four or five players in the world and so his performance didn’t surprise me,” said Argentina’s new coach Gerardo Martino, adding he could have possibly made a difference had he been on the pitch in July.

“His absence there was noticeable,” Martino told a news conference looking back to the World Cup final.

But Loew later told reporters he did not think Di Maria would have made a difference in the final. “We would have beaten them on 13 July even if Di Maria had been playing,” Loew said, a statement that prompted some German reporters to applaud. “He couldn’t have been at his best today.”

Germany came into the match still aglow after their World Cup win in Brazil but were facing a rout when they fell behind 4-0.

Serena Williams of the United States returns a shot during women’s singles quarterfinal match against Flavia Pennetta of Italy at the 2014 US Open in New York, the United States, on 3 Sept, 2014. Williams won the match 2-0.—Xinhua