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President U Thein Sein meets KOICA's President, Vietnamese Minister

President U Thein Sein with President of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Mr. Kim Young Mok and party after discussing further strengthening friendly relations between Myanmar and Republic of Korea.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — President U Thein Sein met President of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Mr. Kim Young Mok and party on Monday at the Presidential Palace here to discuss promotion of diplomatic ties

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6th UPWC-NCCT meeting seeks compromise over remaining points to finalize text for nationwide ceasefire deal

Participants to the sixth UPWC-NCCT meeting that will take for six days gather at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon on Monday to seek compromise on five points left to be discussed to finalize the single text for nationwide ceasefire agreement.—PHOTO: YE MYINT

By *Ye Myint*

YANGON, 22 Sept — The Union Peace-Making Work Committee (UPWC) and Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team (NCCT) held the sixth meeting for drafting a single text document for a nationwide ceasefire agreement at Myanmar Peace Centre in Yangon on Monday, with the third draft single text approved and the remaining five points discussed.

"A consensus on the remaining five points could be reached at the sixth meeting which is due to take for six days," U Hla Maung Shwe, MPC senior adviser, told the media before the start of the meeting.

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Myanmar wins first two gold medals in 17th Asian Games

YANGON, 22 Sept — The Myanmar women's team secured the first gold medal and the Myanmar men's team, the second gold medal in the Sepak Takraw event for the nation at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon of the Republic of Korea on Monday.

In the women's double regu final match, Myanmar routed Laos 2-0 (21-16) and (21-15). Likewise, Myanmar won over host South Korea 2-0 in the men's double regu event.

Chairman of the Myanmar Olympic Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan together with players of Myanmar women's and men's teams and officials celebrated their victory of bagging two gold medals.

Laos stood second and Japan and Vietnam, joint third in the women's event while host Korea was second and Japan and Singapore, joint third in the men's event.—*SPED*

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan and victoruous Myanmar Sepak Takraw athletes celebrate their victory in 17th Asian Games.—SPED

Pyithu Hluttaw Ministry to offer technical assistance to small private refineries

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — The Pyithu Hluttaw Session on Monday raised questions on technical assistance for small private refineries and Moe Pwint Project implemented to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to citizens, and whether the special order of the government the Union of Myanmar 1955 has been abolished and officials concerned responded to the questions.

Concerning the technological assistance for small private refineries, Deputy Minister for Energy U Myint Zaw said that the ministry can help those who want to establish small private refineries based on the design of the refinery, the production process, environmental impacts and standards of the finished products.

As for the Moe Pwint Project, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Win Myint said that the project will be carried out without interruption as it has been a project supported by the people.

The deputy minister also responded to the third question.

Then, the representatives who want to discuss the amendment bill of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Development Fund Law are invited to register to do so.

The representative approved the Myanmar aviation bill.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw One-stop services for third party injury available at Htaukkyant

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — The Amyotha Hluttaw session on Monday raised six questions, submitted one bill and put one proposal on record. Concerning a question on insurance for third party injury, Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Maung Maung Thein said that one-stop services for third party injury insurance have been provided at Htaukkyant since August and arrangements are underway to provide the services at other places. Deputy Minister for Education U Thant Shin responded to questions concerning the upgrading to two schools. He said that there is no plan to upgrade the schools at present but they will be put in the list of schools to be upgraded. The session agreed to discuss the law translation commission bill.

The Amyotha Hluttaw session put the proposal expressing condolences for the death of Representative U Win Maung of Constituency-7, Magway Region, on record. —*MNA*

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing pays goodwill visit to Japan

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — A delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing left Nay Pyi Taw by air on Monday to pay a goodwill visit to Japan at the invitation of General Shigeru Iwasaki, Chief of Staff of the Japan Self-Defense Forces.

The Senior General and party were seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) Vice-Senior General Soe Win and wife, Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win and wife, senior military officers, Japanese Ambassador Mr Tateshi Higuchi and officials.

The Senior General was accompanied by his wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Lt-Gen Mya Tun Oo and Lt-Gen Thaung Aye of the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, Chief of Staff (Navy) Rear-Admiral Tin Aung San, Chief of Staff (Air) Maj-Gen Lwin Oo, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Commandant of Command and General Staff College Brig-Gen Aung Thu and senior military officers.—*Myawady*

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing being seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airport by senior military officers on his departure for Japan.

MYAWADY

Vietnamese minister meets Myanmar counterparts to discuss communication sector

Union Ministers U Myat Hein and U Ye Htut hold talks with Vietnamese minister for Information and Communications Nguyen Bac Son to discuss cooperation in the information and telecommunication sector between Myanmar and Vietnam.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Myat Hein and Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut received Vietnamese minister for Information and Communications Nguyen Bac Son at the headquarters of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology here on Monday. At the meeting, both sides discussed cooperation in the information and telecommunication sector between the two countries, and possible Vietnamese investments in Myanmar.

MNA

Education ministry, JICA jointly hold discussions on development of education programme

YANGON, 22 Sept— The Ministry of Education and the Japan International Cooperation Agency on Monday held discussions here to develop teaching methodologies and teacher training programme based on the school curricula.

The event held in Diamond Jubilee Hall on Pyay Road was attended by Union Minister for Education Daw Khin San Yi, director generals of ministry of education and responsible persons, veteran teacher U Than Oo, the patron of Implementation Committee for Development of Education, parliamentarians the country director Masahiko Tanaka of JICA and its staff members, rectors from relevant universities and heads of education colleges.

At the meeting, U Zaw Htay, director-general of Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) under the Ministry of Education and Masahiko Tanaka made speeches of the programme.

Local and foreign educational experts in this programme will discuss development of basic education curricula, teaching methodologies and the four-year teacher training programme.—*MNA*

President U Thein Sein felicitates King of Saudi Arabia

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept — U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Majesty Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 September 2014.—*MNA*

Vice Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham, U Nyan Tun felicitate Saudi Arabian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 23 Sept — Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Vice Presidents of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, have sent messages of felicitations to His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 September 2014.—*MNA*

President U Thein Sein . . . .

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between Myanmar and the Republic of Korea.

They also discussed providing both financial and technology assistance to Myanmar as well as cooperation for development of rural regions.

Development of information, technology and communications sectors between Myanmar and Vietnam, and opportunities of cooperation between the two countries were discussed at Monday's meeting between the President and Vietnamese Minister of Information and Communications Nguyen Bac Son at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.—*MNA*

***President U Thein Sein greets Vietnamese Minister Nguyen Bac Son.*—MNA**

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham attends opening of National Library (Nay Pyi Taw)

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham urged staff from the National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) on Monday to provide better services to the readers as well as to arrange an online catalogue that plays a crucial role indeveloping information systems meeting the library standard of ASEAN region.

Librarian staff are to uplift capacity for library management for providing better services to the readers, said the vice president.

At the opening ceremony of the library (second phase), the vice presidentalso urged them to promote knowledge management in their workplace.

During the ceremony, Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Swe awarded prizes to winners of library's contests and Deputy Minister for Culture Daw Sanda Khin presented a certificate of honour to a donor.

As part of public service effort, the National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) opened its first phase in May 2013, keeping more than a thousand of knowledgeable books and publications.—*MNA*

***Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham views round librarian tasks inside National Library (Nay Pyi Taw) at the opening ceremony.*—MNA**

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw

Local authorities fail to address land confiscation issues: Pyidaungsu Hluttaw's commission

NAY PYI TAW, 22 Sept — Authorities are not doing enough to address land grab problems as recommended by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, a representative who is a member of the investigation commission for land confiscation issues reported on her findings to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw session on Monday.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw commission recommended that land owners should be compensated for land confiscated for expansion of regiments at prevailing prices, that land should be confiscated just as much as the expansion of regiments and units required, that confiscated land should not be rented instead of returning to land owners and the confiscated land that does not share borders with regiment compounds should be returned to land owners.

It also recommended that land owners should be compensated for land confiscated for urbanization and industrial zones at prevailing prices and that confiscated land that is no longer needed as the intended projects have been cancelled should be returned to land owners.

The representative said that authorities are required to tackle the problem as recommended by the Pyidaungsu Hlutaw, but the problems persist as the recommendations approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw are not implemented by local authorities.

The commission forwarded 2,689 complaints over land confiscation to the Ministry of Defence and 6,559 complaints to region/state governments. Among them 583 complaints about the Ministry of Defence and 299 complaints about state/region government have been addressed so far, according to the representative.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Session today approved the labour dispute resolution bill, the political parties registration amendment bill and the Myanmar architecture bill.

At today's session, U Ye Htut and Dr Than Aung assigned duties as Union Minister for Information and Union Minister for Health, took oath in the presence of the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

MNA

Entrance road to dam under maintenance

NATOGYI, 22 Sept— The government is striving for equitable development of urban and rural areas.

District Deputy Commissioner U Myint Thin Aung and departmental officials inspected maintenance of the road leading to Khetlan Dam in Natogyi Township of Mandalay Region.

The 6,000 feet long road passes Hsongon, Ywathit, Tanpei and Thedawkan villages.

Upon completion, the road will contribute much to improvement of transport and businesses of the local people.

Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

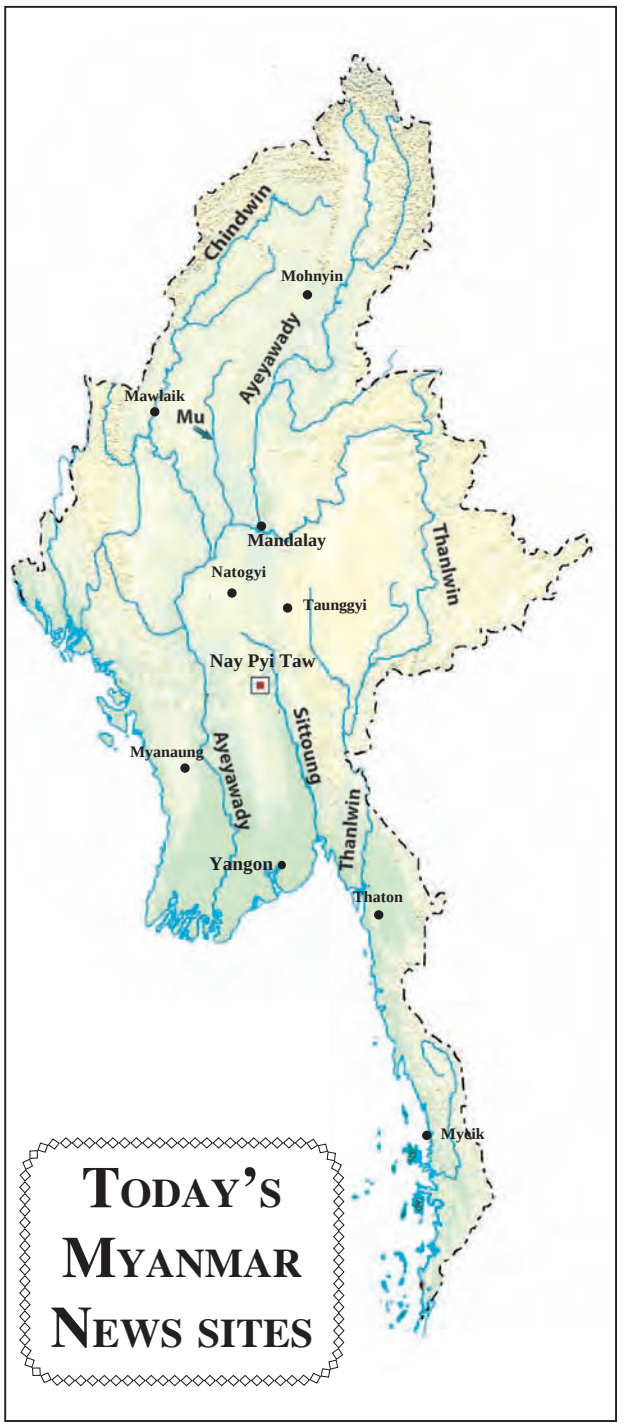
Low-price SIM cards on sales in Myeik

MYEIK, 22 Sept — As the low-price SIM cards distributed by Myanma Posts and Telecommunications are on sales in Myeik of Taninthayi Region as of the first week of September, mobile phone shops are crowded with buyers.

Myitnge Ward development supportive committee members and ward administrator sell one SIM card worth K 1,500 to each household at the ward office on 21 September.

The ward authorities sell the cards to the local people in a queue.

Khaing Htoo (Myeik District IPRD)



Students join conclusion of learning for 2013-14 academic year

THATON, 22 Sept — Institute of Agriculture in Thaton of Mon State held the prize presentation for 2013-14 academic year at its mess hall on 20 September, with remarks by Mon State Minister for Agriculture U Myo Nyunt and Head of State Agriculture Department U Aung Kyaw Oo.

Officials presented prizes to outstanding students in studies, training and sports events.

Principle of the institute U Toe Nyunt and students spoke words of good bye for their academic year.—*Thet Oo (Thaton)*

Library put into service in Chanayathazan Tsp

MANDALAY, 22 Sept— Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint attended the opening of Nan Ein Thu library in Tampawady Ward of Chanmyathazi Township in Mandalay on Sunday with the aim of contributing to human resources development and raising literacy rate.

Mandalay Region Minister for Development Affairs Mayor U Aung Moung, officials and AKM purified drinking water plant owner Dr Hla Kywe formally opened the library.

Head of Mandalay Region Information and Public Relations Department U Kyaw Than Tun donated books and one set top box and wellwisher Dr Hla Kywe and family, books to the library.

The library building is 30 feet long and 15 feet wide with K1.5 million funded by the region government and K3.7 million by wellwisher Dr Hla Kywe and family.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

LOCAL NEWS

WVO presents cash assistance to offspring

MAWLAIK, 22 Sept — A ceremony to present cash assistance delivered by the Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Committee to offspring of war veterans was held at the hall of Township War Veterans Organization in Mawlaik Township of Sagaing Region on Sunday.

On behalf of the chairman of the township WVO, Head of District Planning Department U Aung Kyaw Zan made a speech. Officials presented K395,000 to 26 students of war veterans.

Kyaw Pwar (Mawlaik)

Vocalists to sing Myoma Nyein's songs to mark 105th anniversary of well-known composers

MANDALAY, 22 Sept — Literati and musicians held a meeting to establish the well-known song composer Myoma Nyein's music and fine arts centre at the hall of Myama House at the corner of 20th and 86th streets in Pale Ngweyaung Ward in Aungmyathazan Township of Mandalay on 20 September.

Chairman of Myoma Association Dr Hla Khaing extended greetings, and Vice Chairman U Shoon Myaing explained establishment of the well-known song composer Myoma Nyein's music and fine arts centre.

Literati, musicians and artists participated in establishment of the centre with suggestions.

In commemoration of the 105th anniversary of Alinka Kyawswa song composer Myoma Nyein, vocalists U Min Naung, Than Myat Soe, Yi Yi Thant, Hnin Yi Thant, Po Thauk Kya and Ei Ei Chun will sing the songs of Myoma Nyein at the studio of Radio Myanmar to the accompaniment of the State Orchestra in Tatkon of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in the early October.—*Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)*

Free health care given to rural people in Myanaung Tsp

MYANAUNG, 22 Sept — Helping Hands social association gave free health care services to the local people in Tagwa Tegyigon Village in Myanaung Township of Ayeyawady Region on Sunday.

The association was formed with 180 members in March 2014 to provide health care service to the local people twice a month. The association presented K20,000 each to five patients who need to get treatment at hospital.

The association plans to make field trips to villages of Tagwa and Htan village-tracts in the future, said Tagwa Tegyigon Village-tract administrator U Khin Zaw Thein.

Win Bo (Myanaung IPRD)

Healthcare, foods provided to schoolchildren

BAGO, 22 Sept — Donors sponsored healthcare and feeding refreshments to students at Pangyangon Basic Education Primary School in Kyaukphugon Ward of Bago on Sunday. A philanthropic group led by Bhaddanta Kitti of Parahita Monastery in Taungthusu Village in Bago Township performed personal hygienic activity for 84 students and fed foods with the assistance of Headmistress Daw Khin Thida Win and students.

Min Sit Thu (Bago)

Heavy rains destroy houses, killing cows in Indaw Tsp

MOHNYIN, 22 Sept — Heavy rain hit the northern part of Myanmar on 18 September morning.

The heavy rains and overflowed water eroded two houses in Mawlu Village of Indaw Township, killing two cows.

The bridges in the villages were floated into the water, and lamp-posts collapsed in the floods.

Fortunately, there was no injured of local people, said U Ni Toe of Mawlu Village.

NLM-001

Volunteer youths organizations in Shan State get Cash assistance

TAUNGGYI, 22 Sept —The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement provided cash assistance to volunteer organizations in Taunggyi, Loilem and Langkho districts of southern Shan State for 2014-15 fiscal year and opened the volunteer course No 18/2014 for disaster risk reduction at the city hall in Taunggyi of Shan State on 20 September, attended by Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin and Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat of Shan State.

Director-General U Soe Kyi of Social Welfare Department explained volunteer youths project for social welfare tasks and Director-General U Soe Aung of Relief and Resettlement Department, volunteer youths for disaster risk reduction activities.

The Union minister and the chief minister presented cash assistance to the associations through officials.

Sai Than Kyaw (Taunggyi)

Abe leaves for UN General Assembly, summit talks in NY

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (2nd from L) and his wife Akie (2nd from R) wave as they leave Tokyo's Haneda airport on 22 Sept, 2014, for New York to attend UN General Assembly.—Kyodo News

Tokyo, 22 Sept — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe left Japan on Monday for a series of UN General Assembly meetings and summit talks with his counterparts in New York, as Japan stepped up its diplomatic efforts to seek reform of the UN Security Council.

"I'd like to send a message that Japan aims to take leadership in revamping the United Nations as it marks its 70th anniversary next year into something more in tune with the 21st century," Abe told reporters at Haneda airport in Tokyo.

For Abe, the trip is an opportunity to show Japan is promoting female empowerment and to try to expand its role as a contributor to global peace.

In his address to the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday in New York, Abe is expected to pledge $50 million in humanitarian assistance to the Middle East, which will also be used to help address the humanitarian crisis caused by the rise of the Islamic State militant group, government sources have said.

The 69th session of the General Assembly comes as world leaders also grapple with tensions between Ukraine and Russia over Crimea, and the outbreak of the Ebola virus in Africa.

Abe also plans to vow Japan will make contributions to creating a framework for cutting greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2020.

The prime minister is expected to hold talks with UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, and the leaders of France, Australia and Egypt before returning to Japan on Saturday.

Kyodo News

Cambodia, China's Yunnan Province ink deal on information cooperation

Phnom Penh, 22 Sept — Cambodia and China's Yunnan Province signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) here on Monday on media cooperation and exchanges.

The deal was inked by Buth Bovuth, chief of the Cambodian Information Ministry's General Department of Information and Broadcasting, and Wu Jingbo, deputy chief of the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China's Yunnan Provincial Committee, with the presence of Cambodian Information Minister Khieu Kanharith and Ge Guangzhi, deputy director of Department No 6 of the Information Office of China's State Council.

"Under the deal, the two sides will further promote cooperation in media and broadcasting between Cambodia and China," Khieu told reporters after the signing ceremony. "Information cooperation between Cambodia and China's Yunnan Province will contribute further to enhancing Sino-Cambodian relations."

The two sides would also exchange mutual visits in order to enhance cooperation between their media organizations, he added.

Meanwhile, the minister also expressed thanks to China for helping train Cambodian information officials.

"So far, we have sent a lot of Cambodian officials to study in the fields of information and broadcasting in China," he said. " And we will send more to study in the majors of digital television and electronic engineering."

Ge said China would continue assisting Cambodia in informatization, stressing that the sector played a vital role in further boosting bilateral ties.

The MoU was signed during a visit by a media delegation from China's Yunnan Province.

Xinhua

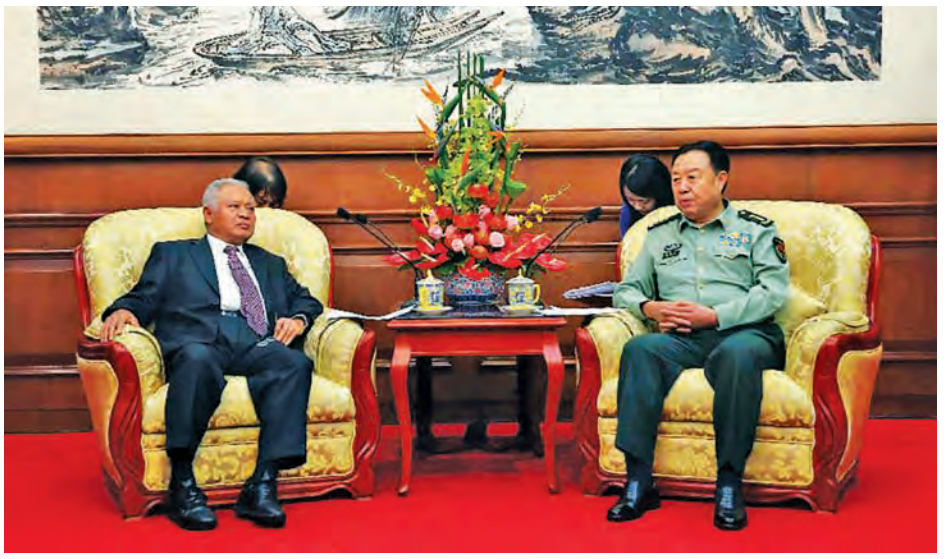
Chinese military official meets Indonesian defence minister

Beijing, 22 Sept — Fan Changlong, vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, met with visiting Indonesian Defence Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro.

Fan said China and Indonesia share a long-standing and vigorous ties. Bilateral relations are currently in an important era of rapid and all-round development, and the two sides should continue to deepen friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation, realize common development and jointly maintain regional peace and stability.

Fan spoke highly of the contribution that Purnomo has made to the growth of relations between the militaries of the two countries.

He expressed the wish that the two militaries will continuously enhance mutual trust, expand friendly exchanges, deepen practical cooperation and conduct close coordination on multilateral issues so as to add fresh vigour to the sustained, stable growth of the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries.



Fan Changlong (R), vice chairman of China's Central Military Commission, meets with visiting Indonesian Defence Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro in Beijing, China, on 21 Sept, 2014.—Xinhua

Purnomo said that in recent years, Indonesia and China have seen rapid growth of exchanges and cooperation in all areas. The two countries enjoy a solid foundation of defence relations. The Indonesian side will continue to work on strengthening high-level contact and practical cooperation between the two militaries so as to advance bilateral and military-to-military relations in a comprehensive and extensive way. This was the second time that senior military officials of the two countries met so far this year. Fan and Purnomo met in Jakarta in July as Fan paid a three-day official visit to Indonesia.

Xinhua

Islamic State-linked militants in Indonesia claim responsibility for murder

Jakarta, 22 Sept — An Indonesian militant group allegedly linked to Islamic extremists in Iraq and Syria on Sunday claimed responsibility for the murder of a man on Sulawesi Island.

On Saturday, five men in military uniforms attacked and killed Fadli, 50, a local farmer in a village in Central Sulawesi Province's Poso Regency, where some militants were recently arrested.

The assailants, most of whom wore balaclavas to hide their faces, cut Fadli's neck, almost beheading him. They fled after his wife screamed for help.

In a statement posted on a website used by militants, the Mujahidin Indonesia Timur group said the man was slain for giving information to a counter-terrorism police unit that recently moved against the group's members, killing two of them. It warned that anybody else found helping the authorities will also be killed.

Saturday's incident occurred only a few hours after Detachment 88, a counter-terrorism police unit, nabbed five people in town of Bima on Sumbawa island for alleged involvement in the shootings of three policemen over the past six months, according to police.

Another suspect was shot dead by police during that operation, in which Islamic State flags were confiscated, local media reported. Last week, counterterrorism police arrested four foreigners and three Indonesians believed to be connected with the Islamic State militants in Syria and Iraq as they were on their way to Poso. The foreigners carried Turkish passports but later confessed to be members of China's ethnic Uyghur minority.

Police said the foreigners wanted to join the Mujahidin Indonesia Timur group led by Santoso, who has been linked in the past to Jemaah Islamiyah, a militant group regarded as the Southeast Asia wing of al-Qaeda. He has since declared his group is linked to the Islamic State, also known as ISIS or ISIL.

Last year, Santoso, one of the most-wanted terrorist suspects in Indonesia, appeared in a YouTube video calling for a "holy war" against Detachment 88.

Kyodo News

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung delivers a speech during the launching of the expressway connecting Noi Bai in capital Hanoi and the northwestern Lao Cai Province, in Lao Cai Province, Vietnam on 21 Sept, 2014. Vietnam's longest expressway connecting Noi Bai and Lao Cai province, bordering China, with a total length of 245 kilometres, officially opened to traffic on Sunday.

Xinhua

Abe proposes talks with Putin on sidelines of APEC summit in Nov

TOKYO, 22 Sept — Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has proposed holding direct talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of an annual summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum to be held in November in Beijing, the top government spokesman said on Monday. The proposal, made during their telephone talks Sunday, appears to indicate Abe's eagerness to maintain bilateral dialogue despite difficulties in arranging Putin's visit to Japan in the fall after Tokyo imposed sanctions on Moscow over the crisis in Ukraine.

In the teleconference, Putin also expressed his willingness to hold talks with Abe, but did not elaborate on the timing of the meeting, according to a government source. "The prime minister told President Putin that it is important to hold dialogue between Japan and Russia on the occasion of international conferences, including the APEC summit," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said at a press conference. "Both leaders agreed that the continuation of bilateral dialogue is important," Suga added.

Tokyo is expected to announce additional sanctions against Russia soon in a bid to show that the country is in step with the United States and Europe over Moscow's annexation of Crimea, government sources have said. Abe has been put in the difficult position of working together with other Group of Seven nations and fostering a personal relationship of trust with Putin so Japan's long-standing territorial dispute will be resolved over four islands off Hokkaido, called the Northern Territories in Japan and the Southern Kurils in Russia.

On Monday morning, Abe said during a program meby public broadcaster *NHK* that Putin's Japan visit "has not yet been decided."

Kyodo News

Afghan election body names Ghani president-elect

KABUL, 22 Sept — Afghanistan's election commission on Sunday named former Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani as the country's president-elect in announcing the final result of June's second round runoff vote.

"The Independent Election Commission of Afghanistan declare Dr Ashraf Ghani Ahmad as the president of Afghanistan," Independent Election Commission chairman Ahmad Yousuf Nuristani said, according to *Reuters* news service.

He did not give the final percentages and took no questions, *Reuters* said.

Earlier in the day, Ghani and former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah signed an agreement on the formation of a national unity government, ending months of wrangling over the election result.

Under the agreement, Ghani, a former World Bank official, will be named president, while Abdullah will be appointed to a new post of "chief executive officer" with powers equivalent to those of a prime minister.

The signing ceremony was held at the presidential palace in the capital Kabul as outgoing President Hamid Karzai watched.

The preliminary results announced in July showed Ghani got 56.44 percent of the votes cast, while Abdullah received 43.56 percent.

However, Abdullah's camp rejected the outcome, alleging he was the victim of "industrial-scale" ballot box stuffing.

In the initial voting, Abdullah received 44.94 percent of the vote but failed to win a majority, forcing the runoff with Ghani.

Kyodo News

The rivals in Afghanistan's disputed presidential election — former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah (L) and former Finance Minister Ashraf Ghani — hug each other after signing an agreement on the formation of a national unity government at the presidential palace in the capital Kabul on 21 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

Dacic: Serbia backs fight against terrorism

BELGRADE, 22 Sept — Serbia backs the fight against global terrorism and has a clear political position on the matter, Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic said on Sunday ahead of a trip to New York, where he will attend the upcoming session of the UN General Assembly.

"We are making changes to legal regulations that will enable us to punish people involved in conflicts around the world," Dacic said, adding that Serbia will strongly support the international fight against terrorism, including action against the Islamic State.

Speaking at a press conference, Dacic said that Serbia cannot take part in anti-terrorist air raids, but that it can assist the fight against terrorism in other ways — primarily through legislative changes, cooperation with the relevant security services of other countries, and possibly with arms shipments as well.

Serbia is not the right place for arguments between the ambassadors of Russia and the United States because it is not an international organization where such opinions can be voiced, Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic said on Sunday.

Asked to comment on a recent verbal conflict between the two ambassadors, Dacic said that the world is in a grave crisis of trust, and that Serbia, as the country that will chair the OSCE next year, will insist on an ease in the tensions between big powers.

"Fortunately, Serbia is not part of that conflict and is not a subject of disagreements between big powers. Serbia is not the right place for raising such issues, because the ambassadors of Russia and the United States are the representatives of those countries in Serbia, and Serbia is not an international organisation where such opinions can be voiced," Dacic told a Press conference.

In the past few days, the Russian and US ambassadors to Serbia, Alexander Chepurin and Michael Kirby, got involved in a discussion on commemorations of anniversaries of historical events.

When the US ambassador asked why Russian President Vladimir Putin, rather than the president of some other former Soviet republic, should come to Belgrade on the anniversary of the city's liberation in World War II, Chepurin responded that Kirby demonstrated an incredible lack of knowledge of history by saying that the USSR had 12, rather than 15 republics.

Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic

Kirby then responded by saying that the United States never acknowledged Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania as Soviet republics because it did not believe that Hitler had the right to give those countries away.

Serbia has the obligation to align its foreign policy to Brussels by the end of its EU accession talks, but it is not realistic to achieve that alignment now, Serbian Foreign Minister Ivica Dacic said on Sunday.

Speaking about objections by some EU member states that Serbia's state policy is not aligned to the one pursued by Brussels, Dacic told a press conference that negotiations on this matter are yet to start.

"We also believe that Serbia should become an EU member immediately, but that is not realistic," Dacic said, noting that the EU membership is a priority for Belgrade, but that so is maintaining the best possible relations with countries outside that organization.

Dacic also said that Serbia is under no obligation to halt the construction of the South Stream gas pipeline and that no one can impose this on it.

Asked whether the LGBT pride parade will go ahead in Belgrade on 28 September, Dacic responded that it would be a foreign policy plus for Serbia, but that the holding of the parade does not depend on the Foreign Ministry, but on the security assessments that will be provided by the relevant authorities.

He reminded that an earlier parade did go ahead during his tenure as interior minister, but that many police officers and protesters were injured at the time and that the material damage caused was great.

Tanjug

Kerry meets Iranian FM one-on-one over nuclear issue

NEW YORK, 22 Sept — US Secretary of State John Kerry on Sunday met his Iranian counterpart, Mohammad Javad Zarif, in New York over the current round of nuclear talks.

Kerry said the resumption of talks between Iran and six major powers is an opportunity to work toward a comprehensive agreement on Iran's nuclear programme, a senior US State Department official said.

According to the official, Kerry and Zarif met for over an hour. They reviewed the status of the current negotiations on Iran's nuclear programme and discussed the progress and future efforts.

During the meeting at a hotel in New York, Kerry and Zarif met one-on-one and later were joined by other officials from both sides. The two agreed to meet further as needed while in New York this week. Iran and six countries — Britain, China, France, Germany, Russia and the United States — started a new round of talks over Iran's nuclear programme on Friday at the UN headquarters. The talks are expected to last a week.

In July, Iran and the six countries agreed to extend negotiations over Iran's controversial nuclear programme for another four months till 24 November as they could not narrow the significant gaps on core issues during the past six months.

Kerry and Zarif also talked about the threat of the Islamic State, which has seized vast territory in northern Iraq since June and announced the establishment of a caliphate in areas under its control in Syria and Iraq, the official said.—*Xinhua*

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 23 September, 2014

Volatility of fuel prices is fundamental barrier to stability and economic growth

By *Aung Khin*

The link between rising fuel prices and that of food prices is not a coincidence. Any increase in oil prices has negative impacts on consumers, through the subsequences of high inflation.

The volatility of fuel prices is a fundamental barrier to the stability of society and economic growth around the world. Oil seems to play an even greater role in the global economy. Sufficient provision of food, water and fuel is a necessary condition for civilized society. These are fundamental factors for the survival of the human species. The prices of food and fuels have increased dramatically at the global level in recent years, turning out devastating economic and social consequences.

Prices of these essential goods or commodities determine the reproduction of economic and social life in every global country. Especially, under developed and developing are more vulnerable to increasing prices of food and fuels. Governmental or intergovernmental regulation or intervention should focus on the provision of food and fuel, with a view to alleviating poverty or averting the outbreak of famines.

Sometimes, the dramatic price hikes of food and fuels is not haphazard, but because of a process of deliberate and simultaneous market manipulation. In many countries, at the heart of the food crisis is the rising prices of food items coupled with an increase in the price of fuels.

For example, Arab spring hit a serious blow on global oil markets, triggering and spreading unrest in middle-east region.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimated oil prices will reach at least US$215 per barrel by 2035. It also suggested that governmental and intergovernmental cooperation will be fundamental to the management and reduction fuel price volatility.

While subsidies are needed for energy sector in the short-term, measures should be taken to reduce reliance on fossil fuels because they have a limitation amount and largely relate with global issues. Moreover, the volatility of fuel prices should be tackled for the stability of society.

Write for us

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

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

Bridging the Critical Gaps: India-Myanmar

By *Sonu Trivedi*

After years of isolation, India's eastern neighbour Myanmar is now seen as a link to new markets. So far as India's interest in Myanmar is concerned, it is stepping up its development cooperation in the light of Myanmar's continuing reform process and its historical and cultural ties. It is trying to leverage on 'soft' power diplomacy and fostering deeper economic and business links. As compared to Chinese loan which are more commercial in nature, India has kept its focus on 'Development Cooperation' Projects. These projects are supported by India through training, provision of expert knowledge, line of credits and grant-in-aid. India has been particularly instrumental in setting up of Centres for industrial training and enhancement of IT skills and other capacity building programmes.

In the backdrop of the end of Myanmar's isolation in the nineties and engagement with India in recent years, economic cooperation has made significant progress and it has almost reached 1.92 billion. The range of areas covered by Indian projects is remarkable and includes roads, railways, telecom, power, energy, hydrocarbons, remote sensing, agriculture, industry, IT and education. The two countries have also signed a number of economic-cooperation and bilateral investment promotion agreements to facilitate their venture in each other's country. As of April 2014, India's investment in Myanmar reached $300 million, ranking 11th in the line-up of foreign investors. Number of Indian companies are already pitched in and thriving in Myanmar. These include, among others, the state-owned ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), Jubilant Oil and Gas, Century Ply, Tata Motors, Essar Energy, RITES, Escorts, Ranbaxy, Cadila Healthcare Ltd, Dr. Reddy's Lab., CIPLA, and Apollo. Myanmar's oil and gas has attracted the largest foreign investment. Several Indian companies are involved in this sector—ONGC, GAIL, Oil India, Jubilant, Reliance Industries and Essar Oil Limited. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) for India's $500 million credit line was signed between Export-Import Bank of India and Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank during the visit of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in May 2013. Funding some of the projects under technical and economic cooperation programme has been another feature of Indo-Myanmar partnership. Defense cooperation has also been marked by regular exchanges of high level visits and bilateral military exercises.

Education is a crucial area where India exercises competitive advantage in Myanmar for building a sustainable academic partnership between both the countries. Decades of isolation and poverty have taken a toll on education in the country. Myanmar, today attaches importance to education sector development and is calling for increased investment. Building up an effective workforce in Myanmar requires higher centres of education and learning. Enhancing a strong academic links between institutions of India and Myanmar will help in human resource development and may contribute to Myanmar's social and economic transformation. Best learning practices from Indian universities may be replicated for education sector reforms in Myanmar.

Nevertheless, before any meaningful participation moves ahead, bridging the critical gaps in India-Myanmar relations require immediate intervention. These entail security and stability at the borders which has been a flourishing ground for drug trafficking, illegal arms and insurgency. Another gap is in regard to connectivity with the Northeast India which has the potential of forging closer economic and political partnership with Myanmar and beyond. Finally, one of the weakest links has been the low intensity at which the border trade has been operating between the two countries. Most of this border trade is negligible and largely illegal and unaccounted for. Addressing these critical areas may go a long run strengthening partnership and boosting ties for the two countries.

In the wake of the regime transformation and the new political dynamics emerging in Myanmar, India will now have to push more vigorously to expand its economic interests before the West starts making its presence felt. India's economic involvement in Myanmar, largely through the public sector, has not been up to the mark with complaints about implementation delays and quality controls. This gap, however, must be filled by the Indian private sector who wants to move in as opportunities expand in this hermit kingdom. Building of rail-road connectivity through Myanmar to Southeast Asia and reviving old rail-road links from Assam to Vietnam demands immediate attention. Investment in agriculture, industry, banking sector, education, health, transport and communication is urgently required by India, besides its existing share in pearls and pulses, timber, oil and natural gas projects. Business conclaves, delegations and trade fairs may also give boost to developing business to business contact and strengthening bi-lateral relations between the two countries. Last but not the least, Track II diplomacy at the level of civil society, cultural and academic exchange may go a long way in strengthening people to people contact between the two countries.

Changes in the regime structure has been a guiding factor in the oscillating relationship between the two countries, but however, people to people contact has continued with this civilisational neighbour in the form of cultural and spiritual exchanges. In spite of the strains and misgivings that we had for a brief period during the military rule and reallocation in our attitude during the decade of 80s and 90s, we have remained as brothers in a common family overcoming all adversities and treating each other sincerely.

(The author teaches Political Science in Zakir Husain Delhi College, University of Delhi)

Letter to the Editor

Sir,

The article "Terrorism is enemy of the nation" of 21st. Sept. was most informative and inspiring.

This well-intentioned contribution is appreciated and the author 'Maung Thitsar' should be lauded for his effort towards the well-being and harmony of all citizens regardless of race or religion.

While congratulating him I would like to suggest that the article be shared in Myanmar journals.

Thanking you again
Geo Bern

Police donate blood at Magway Region People's Hospital

MAGWAY, 22 Sept — In commemoration of the golden jubilee anniversary Myanmar Police Force Day, a total of 66 police led by Commanding Officer Police Lt-Col Aung Ko Win of No 25 Security Police Branch (Magway) donated blood at Magway Region People's Hospital in Magway on 20 September.

Medical officers of the hospital performed medical checkup at the police before donating blood.

Later, Police Lt-Col Aung Ko Win and officials fed refreshments to the blood donors.

Zayyatu (Magway)

Ministry of Transport observes World Maritime Day 2014

Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung addresses ceremony to mark World Maritime Day-2014.—MNA

Yangon, 22 Sept — The World Maritime Day 2014 was observed at Parkroyal Hotel on Alanpya Pagoda Road in Yangon on Monday morning, with an address by Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung.

The representative of International Maritime Organization read the message sent by the secretary-general of the IMO. Next, the video clips were presented to attendees.

Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein, the director-general of Directorate of Marine Administration, officials and students of Myanmar Maritime University and Mercantile Marine College joined the commemorative ceremony.

MNA

Union FM sands felicitations to Saudi Arabian counterpart

Nay Pyi Taw, 23 Sept — On the occasion of the National Day of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which falls on 23 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 Royal Highness Prince Saud Al-Faisal Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.—*MNA*

Deputy minister attends ASEAN-China Environmental Conservation Forum

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Sept — Union Deputy for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung attended the ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum and the 11th ASEAN-China Expo held from 16 to 18 September in Nanning, China.

The deputy minister delivered a speech at the forum highlighting green economy and green environment.

After the forum, the deputy minister visited the waste-water treatment plant in Nanning.

MNA

OCA presents honorary medals to MOC Joint Secretary

Incheon, Republic of Korea, 22 Sept — Chairman of Myanmar Olympic Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan and members attended the 33rd General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia at Songdo Convensia in Incheon of the Republic of Korea on 20 September.

After the meeting, the president of the OCA presented honorary medals to Joint Secretary of MOC U Khin Maung Lwin, three from the Republic of Korea and two from Kuwait and the International Olympic Committee president, certificates of honour.

The OCA awarded the medals to them for outstanding performance in sports activities and enhancement of sports standard for many years.

The Union minister attended the ceremony to sign the wrestling federation in Myanmar. Director-General U Myo Hlaing of the Sports and Physical Education Department and the President of World Wrestling Federation signed the agreement for forming the World Wrestling Federation.

The Union minister watched the final match between Myanmar and Japanese teams in the men's double regu event.

MNA

Union Minister U Tint Hsan seen with U Khin Maung Lwin who won honorary medal awarded by Olympic Committee of Asia.—MNA

Bringing light to towns in Rakhine

Nay Pyi Taw, 22 Sept — Rakhine State boasts a long coastal beach, a wealth of natural resources, and a repository of cultural heritage and historical value. When provided with immediate infrastructure such as transportation and electricity, Rakhine will turn out to be an economic hub.

Two years back, a conflict broke out between two communities, resulting in huge damage to property and forcing hundreds of people to leave for relief camps, a local recalled, with the government making all-out efforts to restore stability in the region.

According to government officials, the region has now had access to electricity from national power grids, in the towns of Thandwe, Taungup and An.

They went on to say that steps are being taken to supply electricity to four new areas, for which infrastructure building has been 40% complete.

U Thura Aung Bo and U Min Naing, two chief engineers, said that the construction of power lines started in Rakhine State in January 2013, but the projects met some difficulties due to its geographic location.—*MNA*

Rakhine State Electrical Engineer U Thura Aung Bo explains plans for electricication in Rakhine State to develop social economic status of the local people.

6th UPWC-NCCT meeting . . . .

(from page 1)

He expressed his view that the fourth draft could be finalized and is expected to be translated into a final one for the ceasefire deal. The planned meeting might be extended for another day if no consensus could be reached at the end of the 6-day meeting, he added.

So far there have been five meetings between UPWC and NCCT, reducing the number of points in the single text to be discussed from 104 to a few points. Moreover, both sides reached the third draft of the single text for a nationwide ceasefire agreement that will pave the way for holding a political dialogue with the participation of all stakeholders.

The meeting began with greetings of the leaders from both sides, including Union Minister U Aung Min, UPWC vice chairman and U Naing Han Tha, NCCT leader. The two leaders highlighted the importance of peace for the country, acknowledging that comprises on the proposed points were made due to strenuous efforts of the two sides.

According to the meeting agenda, both sides presented implementation of the decisions laid down in the previous meeting to each other, approved the third draft of the nationwide ceasefire agreement and held discussions on the remaining points at the sixth meeting.

As results of the previous UPWC-NCCT meetings in nearly one year of drafting the single text for the ceasefire deal, only five points are left to finalize the 104-point single text. Moreover, both sides have agreed to establish a joint monitoring committee to strengthen the ceasefire and jointly organize a political dialogue.

Leaders of UPWC and NCCT at the sixth meeting expressed hope for bringing fruitful outcomes of the meeting to reach a nationwide ceasefire deal between the government and ethnic armed groups. The meeting is held from 22 to 27 September.

NLM

More than 130,000 Syrian Kurds fleeing Islamic State crossed into Turkey: Deputy PM

A Turkish soldier helps Syrian Kurds with their luggage after they crossed into Turkey, at the Turkish-Syrian border near the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province, on 20 Sept, 2014. —Reuters

Istanbul, 22 Sept — More than 130,000 Syrian Kurds fleeing an advance by Islamic State militants have crossed into Turkey in the past three days and the authorities are preparing for more, Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus said on Monday.

"We are prepared for the worst scenario, which is an influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees," Kurtulmus told reporters in the capital Ankara.—*Reuters*

Syrian air strikes in northwest kill more than 40—monitoring group

Beirut, 22 Sept — At least 42 civilians including women and children have been killed in Syrian government air strikes on rebel-held territory in the country's northwest, a monitoring group said on Monday.

The attacks hit territory in and around the towns of Saraqeb and Ehsim in Idlib Province on Sunday, the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

One struck an area outside Saraqeb where people who had fled earlier assaults on the town itself were taking shelter, the Observatory said.

It was not immediately clear what the attacks were targeting but an activist in the area said there were no rebel fighters near the positions they struck.

The Observatory, which monitors violence through a network of sources in Syria, said at least 16 children and 11 women were among the dead.

At least 17 people from one family were also killed, it added.

One activist in Saraqeb said people had been fleeing to nearby farmland to escape the bombardment, but on Sunday warplanes also struck the farms which had been "packed with familes".

"This is what led to the high number of deaths," the activist said.

The Observatory said the death toll from the strikes was expected to rise because many people were still in critical condition.

Reuters

Islamic State urges more attacks on Egyptian security forces

Cairo, 22 Sept — Islamic State (IS) called on insurgents in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula on Monday to press ahead with attacks against Egyptian security forces and to continue beheadings, an appeal likely to deepen concerns over ties between the militant groups.

Egyptian officials, including the foreign minister, have acknowledged coordination between the two groups but have said there are no IS fighters in the country. IS controls swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria where it has proclaimed a caliphate.

Egypt has faced an Islamist insurgency since the army ousted President Mohamed Mursi of the Muslim Brotherhood last year.

"Rig the roads with explosives for them. Attack their bases. Raid their homes. Cut off their heads. Do not let them feel secure," IS spokesman Abu Muhammad al-Adnani said in a statement released online.

He praised Egyptian militants for carrying out "blessed operations against the guards of the Jews, the soldiers of Sisi, the new Pharaoh of Egypt".

President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who as army chief last year led Mursi's ouster following mass protests, has expressed concerns about Islamist militants in Egypt and in other parts of the Middle East.

A militant from the Sinai-based Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, which has killed hundreds of Egyptian security forces over the last year, has told *Reuters* IS has provided instructions on how to operate more effectively. On Sunday, a bomb attack beside the Egyptian foreign ministry in Cairo claimed by a militant group killed three policemen, including a key witness in a trial of Mursi.—*Reuters*

A car drives near a flag belonging to Islamic State militants at the end of a bridge in southern Kirkuk on 23 Aug, 2014.—Reuters

Chinese militants get Islamic State 'terrorist training': media

Beijing, 22 Sept — Chinese militants from the western region of Xinjiang have fled from the country to get "terrorist training" from Islamic State fighters for attacks at home, state media reported on Monday.

The report was the first time state-run media had linked militants from Xinjiang, home to ethnic minority Uighur Muslims, to militants of the Islamic State (IS), a radical Sunni Muslim group which has seized large parts of Syria and Iraq.

China's government has blamed a surge of violence over the past year on Islamist militants from Xinjiang who China says are fighting for an independent state called East Turkestan.

"They not only want to get training in terrorist techniques, but also to expand their connections in international terrorist organizations through actual combat to gain support for escalation of terrorist activities in China," the Global Times cited an unidentified Chinese "anti-terrorism worker" as saying.

In the latest violence in Xinjiang, state media said two people were killed and several injured in at least three explosions on Sunday. *The Global Times*, which is run by the Communist Party mouthpiece, the People's Daily, said militants from Xinjiang had recently been involved in IS activities in Syria and Iraq as well as with IS "branches" in Southeast Asia.

The newspaper said in the report on its website that four suspected militants from Xinjiang were arrested in Indonesia this month. Indonesian police said last week four foreigners were being questioned but did not identify them.

The four fled to Cambodia from China, and then went to Thailand where they obtained fake Turkish passports, before flying to Indonesia through Malaysia, the newspaper said.

Indonesia has raised concern about a possible spillover of IS support after revelations that Indonesian citizens had traveled to Syria and Iraq to join fighters there.

"Terrorists, separatists and extremists" from Xinjiang have often slipped abroad through mountainous provinces in southern China with porous border areas, because border control in Xinjiang was strict, the newspaper said.

Reuters

Australia seeks broad new security powers after anti-terror raids

Sydney, 22 Sept — Australia's government is seeking broad new security powers to combat what it says is a rising threat from militant Islamists, the prime minister said on Monday, on the heels of sweeping counter-terrorism raids last week.

Under the tough legislation, which Prime Minister Tony Abbott said would be introduced into parliament this week, it would be a crime for an Australian citizen to travel to any area overseas once the government has declared it off limits.

Although the United States and several European countries are weighing legal measures to stop their citizens fighting in conflicts in the Middle East, Australia's proposed law appears to go farther than any other in actually barring entire regions.

Australia is concerned over the number of its citizens believed to be fighting overseas with militant groups, including a suicide bomber who killed three people in Baghdad in July and two men shown in images on social media holding the severed heads of Syrian soldiers.

"My unambiguous message to all Australians who fight with terrorist groups is that you will be arrested, prosecuted and jailed for a very long time, and that our laws are being changed to make it easier to keep potential terrorists off our streets," Abbott told parliament.

"The only safe place for those who have been brutalised and militarised by fighting with terrorists is inside a maximum security prison."

Abbott offered as an example of a "designated area" the city of Raqqa in northern Syria, where a photograph of a young boy holding the decapitated head of a slain Syrian soldier was reported to have been taken earlier this year. The boy was believed to be the son of an Australian jihadist.

Police talk as they guard a house that was involved in pre-dawn raids in western Sydney on 18 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Attorney General George Brandis said the legislation would carve out exemptions for some Australian citizens, provided they can prove that they have a valid reason for being there, such as journalists or visiting family members.

Legislation requiring telecommunications providers to keep metadata and to make it available to police and security agencies will soon be introduced as well, Abbott said, granting the government broader access to its citizens' communications.

Abbott said that at least 60 Australians were in the Middle East fighting Islamic State or other militant groups, and a further 100 Australian citizens supported the groups.

At least 20 are believed by authorities to have returned to Australia and pose a security risk, and earlier this month the national security agency for the first time raised its four-tier threat level to "high".

More than 800 police were involved in a security operation in Sydney and Brisbane last Thursday, which authorities said had thwarted a plot by militants linked to the Islamic State group to behead a random member of the public.

On Friday Abbott ordered security boosted at Parliament House in Canberra, after he said that intelligence "chatter" had revealed a plot to attack the building and politicians on orders from overseas militants.

US President Barack Obama is expected to use a speech to the UN Security Council on Wednesday to call for more countries to join his coalition of more than 40 nations in fighting the Islamic State.—*Reuters*

New Zealand prime minister aims for flag change vote next year

New Zealand's National Party leader and Prime Minister-elect John Key celebrates a landslide victory with his wife Bronagh (R) and son Max (L) at the National election party during New Zealand's general election in Auckland, on 20 Sept, 2014. — Reuters

Wellington, 22 Sept — New Zealand may vote next year on changing its flag, newly re-elected prime minister John Key said on Monday, as the country looks to assert an identity independent of colonial ties to Britain.

Key's centre-right government was returned for a third three year term on Saturday in a resounding win, promising to continue steady economic management and controls on spending, and possible tax cuts in three years.

Asked about his promise of a referendum on a change of flag, Key said he wanted it to be the subject of a referendum next year, including finding an alternative and then putting that up against the current flag.

"I'm obviously a big supporter of the change, I think there are a lot of strong arguments in favour of the change," he said on the Radio Live network.

Key has previously said he wants a flag uniquely New Zealand in character that would be recognizable around the world.

The current flag was adopted at the start of the 20th century and features the British Union Jack in the top-left corner with the four red stars of the Southern Cross on a blue background.

It is often confused with the similar looking Australian flag.

Key, who has backed a new flag with a silver fern on a black background, acknowledged there would be strong arguments to retain the current flag.

The group representing returned soldiers has been a vocal opponent of change, saying the move would disrespect those who had fought and died defending it.

New Zealand sports teams, notably the world champion All Blacks rugby team, often compete under a silver fern motif, and the national carrier Air New Zealand has put it on its aircraft tails. A survey in March showed 52 percent of respondents did not see any need to change the flag.

Reuters

Three Afghan soldiers missing from Massachusetts training exercise

Cape Cod, (Massachusetts), 22 Sept — Three Afghanistan National Army soldiers have been reported missing from a joint military training exercise taking place in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, officials said on Sunday.

The officers were reported missing from US Central Command's Regional Cooperation exercise at Joint Base Cape Cod late on Saturday by base security, said Massachusetts National Guard spokesman Lieutenant Colonel James Sahady.

The three soldiers, Major Jan Mohammad Arash, Captain Mohammad Nasir Askarzada and Captain Noorullah Aminyar, were last seen at a nearby mall and were not considered a threat to the public, Sahady said.

"They were sent here to participate in this exercise. There's no reason we have to believe that they are any threat," Sahady said, adding that they did not have access to weapons as part of the exercise.

Base authorities, state, and police were involved in the search for the missing soldiers on Sunday, Sahady said.

The annual event is a way to foster better cooperation and military readiness between participating countries and has been running since 2004.

Roughly 200 soldiers from six nations, including 15 from Afghanistan, were participating in this year's exercise, Sahady said.

The week-long exercise is scheduled to end on Wednesday.

CBS News reported on Friday that two Afghan policemen were found after going missing from a separate training exercise held by the US Drug Enforcement Administration in Quantico, Virginia.

Reuters

Iran foreign minister hails "new chapter" in Saudi ties

DUBAI, 22 Sept — Iran Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said a meeting he held with his Saudi counterpart on Sunday would bring a new chapter in ties between their countries, Iran's official *IRNA* news agency reported.

Ties between the two rival Gulf powers have long been strained on a wide variety of issues.

"Both my Saudi counterpart and I believe that this meeting will be the first page of a new chapter in our two countries' relations," the agency quoted Zarif as saying after an hour-long meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal.

Reuters

Large-scale climate march staged in New York ahead of UN meet

NEW YORK, 22 Sept — An estimated 400,000 people marched on Sunday in Manhattan to highlight the need for increased measures to curb global warming ahead of the UN climate summit on Tuesday, organizers of the demonstration said.

Coordinated demonstrations around the world, including the New York march, have drawn a total of 670,000 people, they said, with similar events taking place in more than 160 countries including Britain and France.

In New York, the march was joined by UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, actor Leonardo DiCaprio, who has just been named a UN messenger of peace for climate change, and former US Vice President Al Gore, a Nobel peace laureate recognized for his climate action.

Kyodo News

***An estimated 400,000 people march in Manhattan, New York, on 21 Sept, 2014, calling for increased measures to curb global warming ahead of the UN climate summit to be held on the following day.*—KYODO NEWS**

UN chief lauds Cuba for sending medical workers to fight Ebola

UNITED NATIONS, 22 Sept — UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Sunday thanked Cuba for its medical assistance to West Africa in the fight against the Ebola crisis.

Ban expressed gratitude in his meeting with Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla, who is in New York for the UN climate change summit, which opens on Tuesday. During the meeting, "they addressed the current Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and the secretary-general thanked Cuba for its important contribution of medical doctors as part of international efforts to address the crisis," Ban's spokesman told reporters.

The Caribbean nation, known for its high medical level, decided in early September to send 62 doctors and 103 nurses to Ebola-hit African countries.

The Ebola virus has killed at least 2,500 people in West Africa and nearly twice as many have been infected since an outbreak in March, according to the World Health Organization. The number of cases is doubling every three weeks.

Ban and the Cuban minister also discussed current economic changes in Cuba, climate change and Cuba's role in hosting the Colombian peace talks, the spokesman added.

Xinhua

***Lantern works are seen at the Botanical Gardens, Montreal, Canada, on 20 Sept, 2014.* —XINHUA**

Blasts in China's Xinjiang kill two; govt censures officials

SHANGHAI, 22 Sept — Two people were killed and several more injured in at least three explosions in China's troubled far western region of Xinjiang on Sunday, state media reported, but gave few details.

The blasts came as China punished 17 regional officials and police "for being accountable" for a 28 July attack by masked militants that led to almost 100 deaths of police, officials and civilians, and for the subsequent killing of a pro-Beijing imam.

The government has blamed a surge in violence over the last year in Xinjiang, home to the Muslim Uighur people, on Islamist militants or separatists, who want an independent state called East Turkestan, it says.

State media say hundreds of people have been killed in the past year's violence, including some police.

Tight security makes it difficult for foreign journalists to visit the area, rendering it almost impossible to reach an independent assessment of the situation.

An explosion in Luntai county, on the northern edge of the Taklamakan desert in central Xinjiang, hit a shop in the county seat, while with two more blasts occurred in nearby townships on Sunday, news website www.ts.cn, which is run by the Xinjiang Communist Party committee, said.

The wording of the report suggested there were other explosions but it gave no details.

"At present, all the injured have been sent to hospital for full treatment, local social order is normal, and the cases are being investigated," it said.

Separately on Sunday, the Xinjiang party branch punished several police, county and town officials and an official of an Islamic association in the city of Kashgar over the 28 July attack and the killing two days later of the imam of Xinjiang's biggest mosque, the official *Xinhua* news agency reported.

It did not say in what way the 17 officials and police were held to be accountable.

The government said 37 civilians were killed in the 28 July attack and 59 "terrorists" were gunned down by security forces in two towns in Shache county in Xinjiang's far south. Police arrested 215 people, *Xinhua* said.

Shache's party boss was demoted and stripped of his role, with others sacked, demoted or given warnings, *Xinhua* said, while adding that a former town-level lawmaker was promoted for his "timely reports and good performance" during the attack.

On 30 June, three suspected Islamist militants armed with knives and axes killed Juma Tayir, a well-known pro-government Uighur who led prayers at the Id Kah Mosque in the old Silk Road city of Kashgar.

Exiled Uighur groups and human rights activists say the government's repressive policies in Xinjiang, including curbs on Islam, have provoked unrest, a claim Beijing denies.

"China's policies are leading people to adopt fierce measures of resistance to maintain their dignity and justice," said Dilxat Raxit, spokesman for the exiled World Uyghur Congress. "The turbulence in the region and China's policies are directly related."

The government also announced guidelines on Sunday to specify what actions legally amount to terrorism or support to terrorists. State media said the guidelines were issued earlier in the month.

Reuters

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MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (017N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV PAC AQUILA VOY NO (017N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of B.S.W where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S VISA SHIPPING LINE PTE
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
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Consignees of cargo carried on MV NINOS VOY NO (1022W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 22.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am 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.

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AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES
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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
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AGENT FOR: M/S MOL (S'PORE) PTE LTD
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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (407)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA RESTU VOY NO (407) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S ADVANCE CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (056N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV WEST SCENT VOY NO (056N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 23.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am 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.

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S INTERASIA LINES
Phone No: 2301185

Forty migrants missing after raft sinks near Libya — Italy coast guard

ROME, 22 Sept—Forty migrants were missing after the raft that carried them sank around 30 miles (48.28 kilometres) from eastern Libya, an Italian coast guard official said on Sunday.

Italian authorities sent boats to the scene and 55 people have been rescued, but survivors said there were around 95 people in total on the raft, the official said.

The sinking will likely add to a death toll from such incidents in the waters between Italy and North Africa which the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said last week had risen to nearly 3,000 since the beginning of this year.

Droves of people, many fleeing war in Syria and military conscription in Eritrea, have attempted the perilous passage this year, bringing the number of people successfully arriving in Italy by sea to around 130,000 in 2014, compared with 60,000 last year, according to the UN refugee agency.

A breakdown of order in Libya has made it almost impossible to police the traffickers who pack people into rickety boats and charge them some $1,000 each for the passage.

Italy launched its "Mare Nostrum" or "Our Sea" search and rescue mission last year after 366 people drowned in a shipwreck just a mile from the southern Italian island of Lampedusa.—*Reuters*

NOTIFICATION

1. Under the leading of Yangon City Development Committee, and under the aegis of Myanmar PGA and Myanmar Golf Federation, YCDC Cup Championship 2014 Golf Tournament is to be held on from 1-10-2014 to 3-10-2014 and City Golf Club members Golf Tournament on 4-10-2014 to 5-10-2014 at the Yangon City Development Committee Golf Resort respectively with the main sponsor by Max Energy Co., Ltd.

2. So, it is notified that golf players who like to participate in the competition must make register on the deadline 2:00 hr, 26-9-2014 at Myanmar Driving Range in the corner of Ookalar street and Airport street, Mayangone Township, Tel:09 2037671, 09 420017835, and 09 73130474, and those who like to contend in City Golf Resort Members Tournament must make register on the dead line, 16:00 hr, 30-9-2014 at the Reception Counter, Tel:09 421119932,09 250532668, and 09 30090884 respectively with Self-Handicap.

Golf Tournament Organizing Committee

Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro shows a T-shirt during a sports walk commemorating the International Peace Day in Caracas on 21 Sept, 2014. Nicolas Maduro approved on Sunday the National Disarmament Plan, aiming to lower the country's crime level and consolidate the Peace Territories.
XINHUA

Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 23rd September, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin and Kayin States, scattered in Bago, Yangon, Ayeyawady Regions, Shan, Rakhine and Mon States and isolated in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region and Kachin State. Degree of certainty is (80%).

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Kylie Jenner wants to become a singer

Los Angeles, 22 Sept—Reality TV star Kylie Jenner reportedly wants to carve out a singing career. The 17-year-old 'Keeping Up with the Kardashians' star, who is rumoured to be dating 'After Earth' actor Jaden Smith, has started taking vocal lessons, as she wants to become the next Katy Perry, reported Radar online.

"Kylie has found her calling in life — to be a singer! Kylie is now working on her first single! She is telling everyone that she knows she is going to be the next Katy Perry," a source said.

The reality TV star and fashion designer is working with Jaden's sister Willow Smith's singing coach, Tim Carter, who is giving her private lessons at her mother Kris Jenner's house. Kylie hopes that her brother-in-law Kanye West, who is married to her older half-sister Kim Kardashian West, will assist her in the recording studio.—*PTI*

***Kylie Jenner has started taking vocal lessons, as she wants to become the next Katy Perry.*—PTI**

***Singer Lauryn Hill performs during Amnesty International's "Bringing Human Rights Home'' concert in the Brooklyn borough of New York on 5 Feb, 2014.*—Reuters**

I once slit my wrist to prove my love for Ozzy: Sharon Osbourne

Los Angeles, 22 Sept—TV personality Sharon Osbourne has revealed that she once slit her wrist to prove her love for her husband Ozzy.

Sharon, 61, said that the story was only known by Ozzy and she never told their three children, reported Ace Showbiz. "I've never discussed it out of embarrassment of how stupid I was at the time to do such a thing to myself. I was 27, I was just going out with Ozzy at the time… and when we first got together, we would drink a lot together.

"We had a session of partying… and it's about 4 in the morning and he says to me, 'How much do you really love me?'… And I'm saying, 'I'd do anything for you, anything, I absolutely adore you… I'd give my life for you'," she said.

***TV personality Sharon Osbourne has revealed that she once slit her wrist to prove her love for her husband Ozzy.* PTI**

Sharon additionally said, "I'm like, 'I'll show you how much I love you, I'd die for you'… so I went to a room service table… and there was a steak knife. I get the knife and I'm like, 'I love you so much' and slash, slash, slash on my wrist'."—*PTI*

Sigma top British singles chart for second time this year

London, 22 Sept—Drum and bass duo Sigma topped the British music singles chart on Sunday with their track "Changing" featuring soul singer Paloma Faith, the Official Charts Company said.

The British pair, Cameron Edwards and Joe Lenzie, became the first act this year to score two consecutive number ones that have sold more than 100,000 copies in their first week of release, according to the Official Charts Company.

Last week's chart topper, Calvin Harris's "Blame" featuring John Newman, slipped to second place. Another former number one, Lilly Wood and Robin Schulz's "Prayer In C" was in third place.

The Script secured their third UK number one album as "No Sound Without Silence" went straight into the top spot.

Barbra Streisand was a new entry at number two with her duets album "Partners", which includes collaborations with Lionel Richie, John Legend, Michael Buble and Elvis Presley, making it her highest charting album in Britain since 2009.

Meanwhile last week's number one album, Sam Smith's "In the Lonely Hour", dropped to third place.—*Reuters*

Singer Lauryn Hill comeback gets off to rocky start in London

London, 22 Sept—Lauryn Hill's five shows in Britain this month were billed as a rare treat for fans of the elusive singer-songwriter, coming less than a year after she was released from US federal prison where she served three months for tax evasion. But a late start, angry tweets and poor reviews marred her first sell-out gig at the Brixton Academy in London.

The 39-year-old singer, famous for her 1998 album "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill", arrived on stage with a five-piece band and three backing singers at 9:58 pm on Saturday.

The show, with tickets selling for 55 pounds, had been advertised to start at 9 pm, with doors opening at 7 pm.

Management of the 4,900-seater venue took to Twitter a few minutes before her arrival to apologize to disgruntled fans, some of whom had started booing before her arrival.

"We apologize for the delay which is out of our control," read a statement on Twitter. "Lauryn Hill will be on stage very soon."

When she arrived, Hill spent 80 minutes performing a combination of re-worked hits from her debut album, the only solo studio album she has made, and delving into pop and rock territory.

Songs from "The Score", another award-winning album Hill recorded as part of the Fugees in 1996, were left largely untouched, along with a number of tracks from her 2002 MTV Unplugged 2.0 album.

Hill also performed covers of "Bang Bang (My Baby Shot Me Down)" by Nancy Sinatra, The Flamingos' "I Only Have Eyes for You" and a few Bob Marley classics, including "Soul Rebel", "Jammin'" and "Is This Love".

After the show, a number of fans took to Twitter to complain.

Yuichi Miyama, a 31-year-old paralegal from London, said on Twitter: "Lauryn Hill is the most disappointing concert I have ever been to. That's heart-breaking." He explained to *Reuters* at the concert that he didn't recognise a lot of the songs Hill performed.

"The bottom line is Lauryn Hill is a singer and there are a lot of songs on that album that she sings certain things in such a beautiful way," he said.

"And I felt I didn't catch any of it in anything she sang. And a lot of the songs were so far away from the original."

Critics also were nonplussed by some of her song choices.

"The former Fugees star Lauryn Hill gave us bafflingly obscure reinterpretations of her best songs," James Hall wrote for The Telegraph.

The Guardian agreed. "'Ex-Factor', her soulful dissing of former Fugee and ex-lover Wyclef Jean, deserves better than to be reduced to a funk-metal workout," Ian Gittins wrote.

"When Hill does an acoustic guitar for relatively sensitive readings of MTV album songs such as 'Mr Intentional', you wish she'd apply the same courtesy to her better material."

But some fans defended the singer's performance, saying it showed her growth as an artist.

Reuters

Lampard goal, United defeat highlight astonishing day

Manchester United's Wayne Rooney (L) and Radamel Falcao (C) challenge Leicester City's Wes Morgan during their English Premier League soccer match at the King Power stadium in Leicester, northern England on 21 Sept, 2014.
Reuters

London, 22 Sept—Chelsea icon Frank Lampard scored for Manchester City to end his old club's perfect start to the Premier League season while Leicester City came from 3-1 down to beat Manchester United 5-3 on a remarkable day in the Premier League on Sunday.

Lampard, Chelsea's record scorer with 211 goals in his 13 years at Stamford Bridge and still looking out of place in City's light blue shirt after years in Chelsea's royal blue, came on as a late substitute and scored to give the champions a 1-1 draw against the league leaders but did not celebrate the goal that earned his side a point.

He left the pitch to a standing ovation from the Chelsea fans as well as applause from the City supporters. Earlier United, who raced into a 2-0 lead at Leicester City and then led 3-1 with 33 minutes to play, ended up beaten 5-3 in a game that will live on as one of Leicester's most unlikely victories of modern times.

But the shocks did not stop there with West Bromwich Albion winning 1-0 at Tottenham Hotspur for their first league win of the season while Crystal Palace, also without a league win, came from behind to beat Everton 3-2 at Goodison Park.

After the dust settled, Chelsea remained top with 13 points from their five matches, followed by Southampton and Aston Villa on 10 points.

City were sixth on eight points, level with Leicester who climbed from 13th to seventh, leaving United languishing in 12th spot. West Brom and Palace, who started the day in the bottom two positions, climbed up to 15th and 16th behind Everton in 14th leaving Newcastle bottom on goal difference from Burnley. While the most dramatic events of the day unfolded at Leicester's King Power Stadium, the most poignant personal event took place at the Etihad Stadium, when Lampard, on a short-term loan at City from his MLS side New York City, replaced Aleksandar Kolarov with 12 minutes to play and City trailing Chelsea 1-0.

Chelsea's Cesc Fabregas (C) challenges Manchester City's Sergio Aguero during their English Premier League soccer match at the Etihad stadium in Manchester, northern England on 21 Sept, 2014.
Reuters

City were also down to 10 men following the 66th minute dismissal of Pablo Zabaleta for a foul on Diego Costa and they were also a goal down to Andre Schurrle's 71st minute far post tap-in following a swift break.

Enter Lampard. Not only is he Chelsea's all-time top scorer but he is also third on their all-time appearance list but when James Milner crossed, Lampard struck and his low volley flew past Thibaut Courtois for City's equaliser.

"It's a really difficult one. I'd be unprofessional if I came on and didn't do my job so I'm mixed with it," he told Sky Sports.

"The Chelsea fans were singing my name and it was an emotional day. It's not how I expected to say goodbye to the Chelsea fans. I woke up this morning and didn't know what I wanted from today so I'm glad it's out of the way. I guess this is a happy medium."—*Reuters*

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(23-9-14 07:00 am~ 24-9-14 07:00 am) MST

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Injury-plagued Nadal pulls out of new league

Rafael Nadal of Spain

New Delhi, 22 Sept—Fourteen times grand slam winner Rafa Nadal has dealt a big blow to organizers of this year's International Premier Tennis League (IPTL) by pulling out of the inaugural event citing health problems.

"We regret to announce that due to health reasons, #RafaelNadal will not be playing in the #IPTL. We're rooting for you, #GetWellSoonRafa!" IPTL said in a tweet Monday. The 28-year-old Spaniard also pulled out of the US Open last month, after failing to recover from a right wrist injury he sustained in practice.

Nadal and retired American Pete Sampras, who also has 14 grand slam wins, were slated to team up for the Indian franchise in the four-team event, scheduled to be held from 28 November to 13 December across.

Philippines, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates are home to the other teams and will each host a leg of the competition, styled on cricket's Indian Premier League and offering prize money of $29.7 million.—*Reuters*

Ivanovic beats Wozniacki for Tokyo title

Tokyo, 22 Sept—Former world number one Ana Ivanovic brushed aside Caroline Wozniacki to win the Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo on Sunday and move closer to sealing a berth for the season-ending WTA finals in Singapore.

The 6-2, 7-6 (2) win in the $1 million tournament also gave the Serb her fourth WTA title of the year and the 26-year-old is projected to move from the eighth spot to fifth in the race for Singapore.

After trading early break of serves, third seed Ivanovic breezed through the first set against the former world number one Danish, who won the tournament in 2010.

Wozniacki, the finalist at this year's US Open, fought back to take a lead early and was up 3-1 in the second set but Ivanovic regained momentum and won five of the next eight games to force a tie-breaker, which she completely dominated.

"Caroline played a great match today," Ivanovic said after her win. "It was a really good battle out there — there were some very tough moments, especially in the second set.

"But I just tried to take it one point at a time, and I'm really happy to make it through. It's just an amazing feeling to win this title."

Reuters

Ana Ivanovic (L) of Serbia and Caroline Wozniacki (R) of Denmark look at their trophies during an award ceremony after their Pan Pacific Open women's singles final tennis match in Tokyo on 21 Sept, 2014.—**Reuters**

The New Light of Myanmar

Hagino crashes Sun and Park's party, lifters break records

Gold medallist Kosuke Hagino (C) of Japan poses with silver medallist Sun Yang (L) of China and bronze medallist Park Tae-hwan of South Korea on the podium after the men's 200m freestyle final swimming competition at the Munhak Park Tae-hwan Aquatics Centre during the 17th Asian Games in Incheon on 21 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Kazakhstan's Zulfiya Chinshanlo attempts to break her own world record for the clean and jerk on her third attempt in the women's 53kg weightlifting competition at the Moonlight Garden Venue during the 17th Asian Games in Incheon on 21 Sept, 2014.—Reuters

Incheon, 22 Sept—Japan's Kosuke Hagino gate-crashed the much-hyped showdown between Olympic champions Sun Yang and Park Tae-hwan to win the 200 metres freestyle gold at the Asian Games on Sunday, while four more weightlifting world records fell on the second day of competition in Incheon.

A day after North Korean Om Yun Chol lifted more than three times his bodyweight to break the world clean and jerk record, compatriot and fellow Olympic champion Kim Un Guk set new marks in the snatch and total lift to win gold in the 62kg category.

"This is something that all athletes wish for in weightlifting," said the triumphant Kim. "I already broke the world record at the London Olympic Games. I also broke the world record here so I am happy."

Kazakh and Taiwanese lifters also set world records in the women's 53kg event as Asian weightlifters proved they will be hard to beat at the Summer Olympics in two years' time.

South Korean sharpshooter Kim Cheong-yong will only be 19 when Rio rolls around and who knows how many titles the high school student will have accumulated by then.

Kim has idolised Olympic champion Jin Jong-oh since first picking up a pistol in middle school, but on Sunday sentiment was shot to pieces as the 17-year-old won 10m air pistol gold.

Despite proving the sharpest shot in Incheon, Kim, who along with Jin and Lee Dae-myung also won gold in the team event on Sunday, said his mentor still had so much to teach him.

"There are so many things to learn from him. As shooting is not done so much by your physicality as it is by your mind, he gave me much precious advice," added Kim, who won a silver at the recent Youth Olympic Games in Nanjing.

A springboard to success for many of the region's emerging athletes, the Asian Games witnessed the emergence of Chinese stars Sun Yang and Yi Shiwen in Guangzhou four years ago and on Sunday another young swimmer made a huge splash.

The 20-year-old Hagino has surfaced as the new rising star of a powerful Japanese men's swim team that won six gold medals at the Pan Pacific Championships in Australia last month.

While South Korean and Chinese media focussed squarely on the clash between Sun and Park, Hagino slipped under the radar and steamed past his two big rivals to win gold. The win was no fluke.

Hagino took down Olympic great Michael Phelps in Australia last month and all signs point to a career filled with world and Olympic titles.

"I cannot say I have gained a lot of confidence by winning today but I will continue this momentum for the remaining games," said the 20-year-old Japanese student.

Sun and Park both had their excuses.

China's 400 and 1,500 Olympic champion said he had a sore thumb, while South Korean Park, who won gold in Beijing, said he had struggled under the weight of expectation.

"They are both great swimmers. Just being able to compete with them meant a lot to me," said the gracious Hagino.

Japan's Daiya Seto proved the class act of the men's 200m butterfly, Ryosuke Irie roared to gold in the men's 100m backstroke, while China's women also won three golds at the Munhak Park Tae-hwan Aquatics Centre.

Zhang Yuhan touched first in the 400m freestyle, Shi Jinglin won the 100m breaststroke and Yi Shiwen led her team to gold in the 4x100 freestyle relay.

At the end of the second day of competition, China are tied with South Korea on 12 golds, with Japan in third place on seven.—*Reuters*

Shin Alam (R) of South Korea competes against Xu Anqi of China during the women's epee individual round of 16 match of fencing at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 22 Sept, 2014. Shin Alam defeated Xu Anqi 15-13.—Xinhua

Wang Di of China performs during the nanquan competition of men's nanquan\nangun all-round Wushu event at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea, on 22 Sept, 2014. Wang Di claimed the title with 19.55 points.—Xinhua

Medals table of the Asian Games after Saturday's events

	G	S	B	Total
China	12	9	11	32
South Korea	12	10	9	31
Japan	7	8	11	26
Mongolia	2	2	4	8
Kazakhstan	2	1	5	8
Vietnam	1	2	4	7
North Korea	2	0	3	2
Taiwan	1	1	2	4
Hong Kong	1	0	3	4
India	1	0	2	3
Indonesia	0	2	1	3
Singapore	0	0	3	3
Kuwait	0	2	0	2
Macau	0	2	0	2
Malaysia	1	1	0	2
Uzbekistan	0	0	2	2
Lebanon	0	1	0	1
Turkmenistan	0	1	0	1

Editorial Section — + 95 01-8604529
Advertisement & Criculation — + 95 01-8604532
thenewlightofmyanmar@gmail.com
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