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Pagodas in Nay Pyi Taw being crowded with devotees

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— Pagodas and Buddha images in Nay Pyi Taw saw a huge crowd of devotees on the fullmoon day of Thadingyut.

Devotees offered flowers, light, water and joss sticks to Buddha image with various forms of Mudra on the platform of Uppatasanti Pagoda. Day alms were offered to Buddhist monks at Uppatasanti Pagoda to mark 5th "Abhidhamma Day" and non-stop Maha Pathana recitation ceremony. Other pagodas and Buddha images in Pyinmana and Lewe Townships also teemed with the pilgrimages.

At night, colourful lights were beautifully illuminated in markets, housings and office buildings in Nay Pyi Taw.

When Lord Buddha descended from heaven after preaching his reborn mother, people all over the country lit candles to welcome back. It was on the fullmoon day of Thadingyut that the Lord Buddha descended to the abode of humans. Buddhists on earth illuminated the homes and streets to welcome the Lord Buddha and His disciples.—*MNA*

Pilgrims seen at Nay Pyi Taw Uppatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

Ceremony to mark Abhidhamma Day, completion of 45th Maha Pathana recitation held at Uppatasanti Pagoda

Members of religious associations at 45th Maha Pathana recitation at the Uppatasanti Pagoda.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 5th Abhidhamma Day and successful completion of the 45th Maha Pathana recitation at the Uppatasanti Pagoda was held at the pagoda here this morning.

During the ceremony, the congregation received the Nine Precepts from Sayadaw Abhidhaja Maha Rattha Guru Bhaddanta Kavisara, Presiding Sayadaw of State Ovadacaria and Maha Withuta Yama Zaygon Monastery in Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana and members of the Sangha recited the Parittas.

Chairman of the Nay Pyi Taw Council Union Minister U Thein Nyunt and members presented offertories to members of the Sangha. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Kavisara delivered a sermon on Abhidhamma Day and the congregation shared merits gained.

At night, religious associations from ministries lit 9000 lights at the pagoda to mark the day.

MNA

New school building for PhaungdawU Parahita Monastic Education School in Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct —An opening ceremony of a four-storey teachership training school building took place at PhaungdawU Parahita Monastic Education Affiliated High School in Aungmyethazan Township in Mandalay Region yesterday morning.

It was attended by members of the Sangha, Union Minister for Religious Affairs U Hsan Hsint, Region Hluttaw Speaker U Win Maung, officials concerned, teachers and students. First, Sayadaws Bhaddanta Viccitabhivamsa and Bhaddanta Kusala, the Union minister, Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing, the director-general of the Department for Basic Education No (2) and Mrs. Marriann Granz formally opened the new school building. Next, they viewed round the newly-inaugurated school building which was built with the contribution of the people and the government of Germany.

There are more than 6000 students including novices at the PhaungdawU Parahita Monastic Education Affiliated High School. More than 1000 of them are boarding students and they are from Nargis-affected areas and needy families.

MNA

Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda consecrated

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct —A ceremony to consescrate Kyaikhtiyoe Pagoda was held at its platform yesterday morning.

Member of State Central Working Committee of the Sangha Ovadaçariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panita administered Nine Precepts.

Chief Minister of Mon State U Ohn Myint and Charman of Pagoda Board of Trustees U Htay Win offered alms to members of the Sangha.

Over 10000 devotees attended the consecration ceremony.

In the evening, they offered lights to the pagoda.

Ko Ko Yupa

First respect paying ceremony held in Zabuthiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct — The respect paying ceremony was held at Dhammayon of Mingala Theikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township today.

The award administrator and chairman of Dhammayon Board of Trustees made speeches.

The local people paid respects to 41 older persons of above 75 years old and presented gifts.

An aged spoke words of thanks.

The ceremony was also attended by Red Cross members, social association members, service personnel and wellwishers.

Ko Ko Yupa

LOCAL NEWS

Livestock breeding and fisheries sector plays crucial role in rural development

Livestock Breeding

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— Livestock breeding and fisheries sector plays crucial role in economic, food supply and sufficient nutrient and rural development of the country and is creating as renewable resource. So, it needs to carry out sustainable development of fisheries sector in line with designated rules and regulations with a sense of duty, said Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint at the workshop on permitting foreign fishing vessels with fishing right system in exclusive economic zone outside of Myanmar waters at the meeting hall of the ministry, here, on 17 October morning.

Union Minister U Ohn Myint delivers an address at workshop on permitting foreign fishing vessels with fishing right system.—MNA

At the workshop, Deputy Minister U Khin Maung Aye and officials discussed matters on conservation of fishery resources in Myanmar's waters, striving for increasing foreign income of the nation, protection of illegal fishing, security measures for Myanmar's waters and endeavours for income generation of people who reside near Myanmar's coastal area and fishermen.

MNA

Taunggyi Tazaungdine Festival from 10-18 November

TAUNGGYI, 19 Oct— Tazaungdine hot air balloon festival and Kathina festival are the great festivities in preserving the traditions in Shan State, said Chairman of the Organizing Subcommittee Shan State Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myo Tun at the coordination meeting for organizing the festivals at the office of Shan State General Administration Department on 15 October.

The festivals will be held under the supervision of the Leading Committee and 13 subcommittees in line with the traditions.

Hot air balloons with the structures of two legs, four legs and groups will be released at day time and the large structures and lightings at night time from Awayya Konthaya hot air balloon ground in Taunggyi from 10 to 17 October.

Variety of lighting contest will be held at Bogyoke Park on Fullmoon day of Tazaungmone. The Mathose Thingan robe weaving contest will be organized at night of 14th Waxing of Tazaungmone at the platform of Çulamuni Pagoda. The Bonkahtein (Kathina robe offering) will be conveyed to downtown Dhammayon in the morning of 14th Waxing of Tazaungmone. Kathina robes will be offered to members of the Sangha in the afternoon of Fullmoon day. In addition, Ms Tazaungdine Contest and the Photo contest are included in the competition schedules.

Market festival, sale promotion and theatrical dramas will be included in during the period of festival. Furthermore, arrangements are being made for broadcasting the festivals through TV and radio.

The festivals will be held from 10 to 18 November.—*Kyemon-Naing Tun (TGI)*

Mezar Creek needs conservation for long-term durability

SAGAING, 19 Oct— Mezar Creek passing Banmauk, Indaw and Htigyaing townships of Sagaing Region flows into Ayeyawady Region.

The creek is now facing deterioration of natural beauties and natural resources due to gold panning.

In the past, the local people relied on Mezar Creek for multi-purpose. At present, water in the creek is always muddy and silting in Banmauk and Indaw townships due to gold panning at the area of upstream. In consequence, the creek changes water course with sandbanks, causing bank erosion, said a local of Seiktha Village.

The workers are now engaged in gold panning at Kywekawlay Jetty, Seiktha and Manle jetties in Indaw Township. They use China-made 32-Hp engines in gold mining works, said a woman of gold panning works.

A local of Indaw remarked that it needs to form the Mezar Creek preservation committee for prevention against creek deterioration. In fact, the local people wish to stop gold panning at Mezar Creek which is one of the tributary of Ayeyawady River.

Kyemon-056

Business

Myanmar, Japan to boost trade and investment

YANGON, 19 Oct— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) U Win Aung held a meeting with a delegation led by President Mr. Teisuke Kitayama of Mitsui Inter-Business Research Institute (MIRI) from Japan at the federation on 17 October afternoon.

They discussed trade, investment and economic data for Japanese companies in Myanmar, undertakings of special economic zones in Myanmar, Japan-Myanmar cooperation in Thilawa SEZ project, opportunities in production sector in cooperation with SME entrepreneurs of Myanmar, benefit sharing with Myanmar entrepreneurs when ASEAN Free Trade Area emerges and developmental tasks with the assistance of Japan and other international organizations in finance, production and technical supply for development of SMEs.—*MNA*

Township Administrator Cup football tourney concludes

NAWNGHKIO, 19 Oct— The Nawnghkio Township Administrator's Cup Inter-Club Football Tournament 2013 commenced on 20 September.

On 12 October, Phetphuyaung 2 Club from Railway Station Ward secured champion winning over Khayaung Club of Laukphan Cement Plant Team in the final match.

Officials presented cash award K 200,000 and trophy to champion Phetphuyaung 2 Club and K 100,000 and trophy to second prize winning Khayaung Club of Laukphan Cement Plant, prizes and medals to the other winning teams.

Kyemon-Than Than Htwe

Biker's 1000-mile journey to hail 27th SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct— Hailing 27th SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar, U Tin Oo, aged 50, son of U Tun Yi of Pyinmana Township will start the line in front of the signboard of Myanmar Cycling Federation at Paunglaung sports grounds in Pyinmana to go on 1000 miles as a 10-day journey on 21 October morning. Along the journey, he will pass Toungoo, Bago, Yangon, Letpadan, Pyay, Taungdwingyi, Magway, Myingyan, Mandalay and Meiktila and finish at Nay Pyi Taw Gold Camp sports village.

The biker will plant ten teak saplings in front of Myanmar Cycling Federation and present each 50 teak seeds to officials from the towns along his journey. When he rides the bike, he will wear cycling cap and cycling backpack made of coconut.

He took part in the tournaments organized by the Ministry of Sports from 1993 to 2009. His solo bicycle riding aims to motivate spiritual and mental health of the athletes who will participate in SEA Games.—*Dekkhina District IPRD*

A solo cyclist U Tin Oo, 50, hailing XXVII SEA Games by riding 1000-mile journey.

WORLD

Pakistan tells UN at least 400 civilians killed by drone strikes

Islamabad, 19 Oct— Pakistan has confirmed that of some 2,200 people killed by drone strikes in the past decade, at least 400 were civilians and an additional 200 victims were deemed "probable non-combatants," a UN human rights investigator said on Friday.

Ben Emmerson, UN-special rapporteur on human rights and counter-terrorism, also urged the United States to release its own data on the number of civilian casualties caused by its drone strikes.

Emmerson said Pakistan's Foreign Ministry told him it had recorded at least 330 drone strikes in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Pakistan's largely lawless region bordering Afghanistan, since 2004.

Clearing out militant border sanctuaries is seen by Washington as crucial to bringing stability to Afghanistan, particularly as the US-led combat mission ends in 2014. Most, but not all, attacks with unmanned aerial vehicles have been by the United States. Britain and Israel have also used them.

In an interim report to UN General Assembly released on Friday, Emmerson said Pakistani government records showed that drone strikes had killed at least 2,200 people and seriously wounded at least 600 since 2004.

He said Pakistan had confirmed that "at least 400 civilians had been killed as a result of remotely piloted aircraft strikes and a further 200 individuals were regarded as probable non-combatants."

"Officials indicated that, owing to underreporting and obstacles to effective investigation, those figures were likely to be an underestimate" of civilian deaths, Emmerson said.

Emmerson, who visited Pakistan in March, noted that principal media monitoring organizations had recorded a "marked drop" in reported civilians casualties from drone strikes in the tribal areas during 2012 and the first half of 2013.

Reuters

Residents stand inside a damaged house after a missile attack in Damadola village of the Bajaur tribal region in Pakistan on 15 May, 2008.—Reuters

Supporters of Maldives Democratic Party (MDP) candidate Mohammad Nasheed take part in a rally in Male, capital of Maldives, on 18 Oct, 2013. With less than 24 hours to go, it is highly unlikely that the embattled Maldives presidential elections will be held as scheduled and are likely to be postponed for the second time after two of the three candidates refused to sign an all-important electoral list, an official said here on Friday.—Xinhua

Maldives cancels presidential polls over political deadlock, lack of police support

Male, 19 Oct — Embattled Maldives Elections Commissioner Fuad Thaufeek called off his country's presidential polls just an hour ahead of voting on Saturday, citing technical wrangling over the electoral list by two candidates and lack of support from the police.

The issue over when the next round will be held will now go back to the Supreme Court for deliberations. However, since the Maldives Constitution demands a new president be sworn in by 11 November and the Elections Commissioner noted that instead of the customary two rounds, polling may be reduced to just one round due to the pressing time. A previous round of voting held on 7 September was annulled by the Supreme Court after two candidates alleged mass scale vote rigging though international monitors said polling was free and fair.

"We will not be able to hold the elections today because the police services blocked our work. There are a lot of police officers on the ground floor at this building and they won't allow any of our staff to take out ballot papers or boxes.

So we are not able to move out any of the items required for the voting," Thaufeek said.

He insisted that his office had made preparations to have elections across 200 islands even with the delay caused by two presidential candidates.

Tycoon Gasim Ibrahim's party and the Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM) who was wielding former President Gayoom's half- brother MP Abdulla Yamin both refused to sign the all-important electoral list on Friday, throwing the elections into doubt.

Gasim even filed a stay order at the Supreme Court just hours ahead of polling seeking a cancellation to the elections. Nonetheless, Houfeek said he believes that the vote could have gone ahead with the support of the Supreme Court.—*Xinhua*

Australian bushfires leave 1 dead, 193 homes destroyed

Sydney, 19 Oct — More than 80 bushfires are still burning across the Australian state of New South Wales (NSW) on Saturday, leaving one dead and 193 homes destroyed.

The fires have reportedly claimed one life as of Friday. The victim, 63, was defending his home against the fires and died of a suspected heart attack on Friday.

The severe bushfires occurred on Thursday afternoon and have burnt over 30,000 hectares so far, according to the Rural Fire Service (RFS).

Thousands of firefighters are still battling against six major bushfires in the state as they confirm 193 homes have been destroyed and another 109 homes damaged.

Rob Rogers, RFS deputy commissioner, said high temperatures and strong winds are set to return this weekend, making it harder for firefighters to put off the fires.

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell told a news conference on Thursday evening that "if we get through that without the loss of life, we should thank God for miracles."

The premier also warned that it would take days to extinguish all the fires. Insurance companies have already received about 550 claims totaling 30 million AU dollars since the bushfires broke out, the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) said on Friday.

ICA predicted that the number would rise sharply in the coming days.

Xinhua

More than 80 bushfires are still burning across the Australian state of New South Wales (NSW) on Saturday, leaving one dead and 193 homes destroyed.—Xinhua

Izu Oshima braces for more heavy rain as rescue work continues

Tokyo, 19 Oct — Izu Oshima Island braced itself for more heavy rain on Saturday after being battered earlier in the week by a powerful typhoon that left 25 dead and 22 missing. Local authorities are still searching for survivors after Typhoon Wipha, the 26th of the year, brought torrential rainfall to the island south of Tokyo on Wednesday, causing mudslides that destroyed houses and buried residents alive.

The search has already passed 72 hours, cited by experts as the crucial post-disaster time frame for finding survivors. Some 1,200 people are involved in the search, including officers of the Metropolitan Police Department, rescue teams of the Tokyo Fire Department and members of the Self-Defence Forces. The municipal government of Oshima is set to issue recommendations for evacuation depending on rainfall expected later in the day, which could further worsen the situation on the disaster-hit island.

Kyodo News

Thousands march for Mursi across Egypt; policeman killed in Sinai

Cairo, 19 Oct — Thousands of supporters of deposed Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi protested across Egypt on Friday, shouting slogans against army chief General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who ousted him on 3 July.

One person was wounded by gunfire when taking part in a pro-Mursi march of a few thousand in Fayoum, south of Cairo, state news agency *MENA* reported. Four were injured in clashes between Mursi supporters and residents in the Nile Delta city of Zagazig, state TV reported.

Hundreds of pro-Mursi Islamists took to the streets in the coastal city of Alexandria and in Buhayra province, witnesses and security sources said.

Friday's protests were mostly peaceful. On October 6, dozens of supporters of Mursi's Muslim Brotherhood were killed in protests in one of the bloodiest days since the military deposed him. Interior Minister Mohamed Ibrahim, who survived an assassination attempt in September, ordered police to confront decisively any attempt to break the law, *MENA* reported.—*Reuters*

Policemen stand outside a CIC bank where an armed men hold four people as hostage to demand social housing for him and his family, in Paris, capital of France, on 18 Oct, 2013. The man surrendered to police after two hours of negotiation. Xinhua

Hostage taker in Paris bank surrenders, no injuries

Paris, 19 Oct— The man with a handgun has released the remaining two hostages and surrendered to the police, none was hurt during the incident, the police on the spot said on Friday. The incident took place around 4:50 pm local time (1450 GMT) at the branch of CIC bank in Paris's 13th district. The man, holding a handgun, took four people in the bank hostage and was demanding social housing for himself and his son. During the incident which lasted for more than two hours, the suspect first released two hostages, and then a third, before eventually surrendering to the police. No one was injured.—*Xinhua*

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Fewer iPhone 5C sold than expected, but 5S scarce

NEW YORK, 19 Oct — Verizon Communications Chief Financial Officer Fran Shammo said Apple Inc's iPhone 5C "undersold expectations" in the third quarter, while its pricier iPhone 5S was in short supply. The "5C is in plenty supply" and "if you generally talk to each of the carriers I think they'll tell you the same thing," Shammo told *Reuters* in an interview on Thursday after the company reported its third-quarter earnings.

Apple iPhone 5c phones are pictured at the Apple retail store on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, New York on 20 Sept, 2013.— REUTERS

Apple, which has its phones made by contract manufacturers overseas, is cutting production orders for the cheaper plastic-backed iPhone 5C just a month after its launch at the same time as the iPhone 5S, a source familiar with its supply chain told *Reuters* on Wednesday. The production cutback was seen by analysts as a rare misstep for Apple, which typically only launches one phone at a time and tends to see massive demand for its devices, particularly during the quarter of their launch.

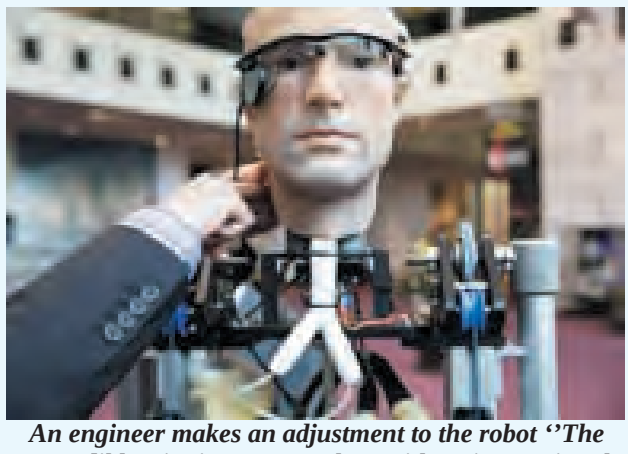
Consumer reception to the iPhone 5S appeared to have been much stronger, at least at Verizon Wireless, the biggest US mobile operator. Verizon's Shammo said scarcity of the iPhone 5S was a "significant issue" for Verizon Wireless, which missed Wall Street's third-quarter expectations for net subscriber additions as a result. Shammo said iPhone 5S customers who were still waiting to receive their phones would be reflected in its numbers in the fourth quarter. But he declined to say how much of an overall effect the shortage of the iPhone 5S had on the company's third-quarter figures.About 51 percent of Verizon's smartphone activations in the quarter were for iPhone customers."What we don't know is how many customers would have come that didn't because they knew there was a shortage," he said.—*Reuters*

'Bionic man' makes debut at Washington's Air and Space Museum

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — A first-ever walking, talking "bionic man" built entirely out of synthetic body parts made his Washington debut on Thursday. The robot with a human face unveiled at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum was built by London's Shadow Robot Co to showcase medical breakthroughs in bionic body parts and artificial organs. "This is not a gimmick. This is a real science development," museum director John Dailey said.

The 6-foot-tall (1.83 meter), 170-pound (77-kg) robot is the subject of a one-hour Smithsonian Channel documentary, "The Incredible Bionic Man," airing on Sunday. A "bionic man" was the material of science fiction in the 1970s when the television show "The Six Million Dollar Man" showed the adventures of a character named Steve Austin, a former astronaut whose body was rebuilt using synthetic parts after he nearly died.

The robot on display at the museum cost $1 million and was made from 28 artificial body parts on loan from biomedical innovators. They include a pancreas, lungs, spleen and circulatory system, with most of the parts early prototypes."The whole idea of the project is to get together all of the spare parts that already exist for the human body today -- one piece. If you did that, what would it look like?" said Bertolt Meyer, a social psychologist from the University of Zurich in Switzerland and host of the documentary.



An engineer makes an adjustment to the robot ''The Incredible Bionic Man'' at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington on 17 Oct, 2013. REUTERS

The robot was modeled after Meyer, who was born without a hand and relies on an artificial limb. He showed off the bionic man by having it take a few clumsy steps and by running artificial blood through its see-through circulatory system."It, kind of, looks lifelike. Kind of creepy," said Paul Arcand, a tourist who was visiting from Boston with his wife. The robot has a motionless face and virtually no skin. It was controlled remotely from a computer, and Bluetooth wireless connections were used to operate its limbs.—*Reuters*

Lenovo will face obstacles in any BlackBerry deal

NEW YORK/TORONTO, 19 Oct — Chinese computer maker Lenovo, which has signed a non-disclosure deal to examine BlackBerry's books, faces regulatory obstacles if it bids for all of the company and will likely pursue just parts, a source familiar with the matter said on Thursday.

BlackBerry Ltd said in August it was exploring options that could include an outright sale. And the Canadian company, which helped pioneer smartphones, has since been linked with a string of potential buyers from private equity firms to rival technology companies.Its shares, which rose 4 percent after the *Wall Street Journal* first reported the interest from Lenovo Group Ltd, ended up less than a percent at $8.20 on the Nasdaq.

Multiple sources close to the matter have told Reuters BlackBerry is in talks with Cisco Systems Inc, Google Inc and Germany's SAP AG among others, about selling all, or parts of itself. The potential buyers have all declined to comment.None of these technology companies have made a formal bid for BlackBerry yet. However, industry experts believe that, while these players might not be interested in all of BlackBerry, they are keen on at least some pieces that would mesh well with or expand their own businesses.

The logo of Lenovo is seen on a computer monitor during a news conference in Hong Kong on 27 May, 2010.— REUTERS

Two sources said they expect some of these strategic players to be paired in bids for BlackBerry, depending on their level of interest its hardware and network assets. —*Reuters*

SAGAING REGION

The following is the reproduction of the Myanmar Hotel & Tourism Guide 2013. Please visit www.tourismguide.com.mm for further information.—Ed

Kaung Hmu Daw Pagoda in Sagaing

Sagaing Region

Sagaing

Sagaing is above all a religious sanctuary with the town at the foot of the hills and hundreds of pagoda, monasteries and nunneries tucked into the surrounding valleys and hills. Some monasteries are magnificently built of brick in a combination of Western and Myanmar architectural designs while some are of teak.

Mingun Pagoda

On the western bank of the Ayeyawady River not far from Sagaing is the huge, incomplete Mingun Pagoda. Each side of its square foundations measures 137 metres(450 feet).

Mingun Bell

A 90-tonne bell hangs in a nearby pavilion. It was cast in the hope of gracing the Mingun Pagoda platform and remains the biggest hanging bell in the world.

Kaung Hmu Daw Pagoda

The domed Kaung Hmu Daw was built in the shape of the famous Mahacedi Pagoda in Sri Lanka.

Soon Oo Ponya Shin Pagoda

This pagoda on top of the highest hill at Sagaing offers panoramic views of the valleys, the wide Ayeyawady River, the Inwa Bridge spanning it and Mandalay in the distance.

Mya Theindan Pagoda

It is a beautiful stupa, symbolising the ancient cosmology of the universe, with Mt Meru surrounded by seven mountain ranges and seven seas.

Tri Lawka Gu Temple

A small brick building next to a monastery has colourful murals from the 17th century Inwa period. The style is very different from the paintings of succeding centuries.

Twin Taung

An extinct volcano crater in Monywa district produces natural spirulina, a blue-green algae rich in nutrients, with 60 percent protein content. State-run and private pharmaceutical companies produce it in tablet form.

Thanbodday Pagoda

The Thanbodday Pagoda complex at Monywa was built in about 1940 and reputedly has 582,357 Buddha images of all sizes. Tiny Buddha images are set in rows that ascend to the tip of high towers. Inside the main shrine are bigger images, all in seated or standing poses, while smaller ones line the walls up to the celling. The large ordination hall is covered with figures from the Jataka stories.

Po Win Taung and Shwe Ba Taung Pagodas

About 40 kilometres (25 miles) across the Chindwin are the adjoining cave pagoda complexes of Po Win Taung and Shwe Ba Taung. The images, altars and decorative motifs inside the caves were all carved out of living rock.There are beautiful 16th century wall paintings in many of the caves.

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Brain cleans itself during sleep

WASHINGTON, 19 Oct — Scientists said on Thursday they have found what could be sleep's basic purpose: it clears the brain of toxic metabolic byproducts. The findings, published in the US journal *Science*, revealed that the brain's unique method of waste removal, dubbed the glymphatic system, is highly active during sleep, clearing away toxins responsible for Alzheimer's disease and other neurological disorders. Researchers from the University of Rochester, New York, also found that during sleep the brain's cells reduce in size, allowing waste to be removed more effectively.

"This study shows that the brain has different functional states when asleep and when awake," said Maiken Nedergaard of the University of Rochester Medical Center and senior author of the study. The purpose of sleep is a question that has captivated both philosophers and scientists since the time of the ancient Greeks. While recent findings have shown that sleep can help store and consolidate memories, these benefits do not appear to outweigh the accompanying vulnerability, leading scientists to speculate that there must be a more essential function to the sleep-wake cycle.

The new findings hinged on the discovery last year by Nedergaard and her colleagues of the glymphatic system, a previously unknown system of waste removal that is unique to the brain. The system acts like a plumbing system that piggybacks on the brain's blood vessels and pumps cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) through the brain's tissue, flushing waste back into the circulatory system where it eventually makes its way to the general blood circulation system and, ultimately, the liver, the researchers said. They speculated the glymphatic system may be more active during sleep because the amount of energy consumed by the brain does not decrease dramatically when people are at sleep.

In order to prove their idea, Lulu Xie, the study's first author, spent two years in training mice to relax and fall asleep. Once Xie was sure the mice were asleep, she injected a green dye into their CSF through a catheterlike device in their necks. After half an hour, she awakened them by touching their tails and injected a red dye that the two-photon microscope could easily distinguish from the green.—*Reuters*

Asian shares hit five-month high on US relief, China data

TOKYO, 19 Oct — Asian shares rose to a five-month high on Friday as investors took heart from quickening growth in China a day after the United States sealed an 11th hour deal to break a confidence-sapping government shutdown. The US debt drama has also heightened speculation of the Federal Reserve delaying the start of its stimulus reduction plan, underpinning riskier assets but keeping the dollar pinned down to an eight-month low.

***Specialist trader Chris Malloy (C) gives a price to traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, 18, October 2013.—*REUTERS**

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan .MIAPJ0000PUS advanced 0.5 percent to a five-month high, adding to a 0.6 percent rise in the previous session. Investors were relieved after data showed China's economy grew 7.8 percent in the third quarter, its fastest pace this year and in line with expectations, as firmer foreign and domestic demand lifted factory production and retail sales. Still, the reaction across Asia to the data was somewhat muted by the uncertainty about the outlook for global demand, underlined by a surprise fall in China's September exports.

China's CSI300 index .CSI300 ticked up 0.3 percent."The Q3 GDP figure is in line with market expectations but the uncertainty is whether the current recovery is sustainable," said Shen Jianguang, chief China economist with Mizuho Securities in Hong Kong. Overnight, the US Standard & Poor's 500 index .SPX closed at a record high. US S&P E-mini futures added 0.2 percent in Asian trade on Friday, indicating a further rise when Wall Street opens later in the day. US Democrats and Republicans reached an 11th-hour agreement on Wednesday to break an impasse, pulling the world's largest economy from the brink of an historic debt default as the deal funds the government until 15 January and raises the borrowing limit through to 7 February.

Analysts said economic weakness resulting from the 16-day shutdown and uncertainty over the next round of budget and debt negotiations may keep the Fed from withdrawing monetary stimulus at least until a few months into next year.

Reuters

Spanish treasury successfully places 2.54 bln euros at lower yields

MADRID, 19 Oct —The Spanish treasury successfully placed on Thursday treasury bonds valued at 2.54 billion euros (3.47 billion US dollars), paying lower interest rates and registering a high demand. A total of 900 million euros worth of bonds with a 3-year lifespan had an average interest rate of 2.06 percent, which was below the 2.22 percent of the previous issue held on 19 September.

The remaining 1.64 billion euros worth of bonds fetched an average interest rate of 3.05 percent, also below the 3.12 percent of the previous issue. The relative calm in the IBEX-35 stock market in Madrid is positively affecting auctions held by the Spanish treasury.

The agreement reached within the US congress that avoided a debt default of the world's biggest economy also boosted optimism in the Spanish market. After the auction, Spain's 10-year bond interest rate stood at 4.29 percent while the risk premium stood at 239 points.

According to the government, the financing agenda of the Spanish treasury is causing increases in Spain's public debt that reached 944.68 billion euros in the first eight months of the year as reported on Thursday by the Bank of Spain.

This figure represents 92.38 percent of the country's GDP and decreased by 3.15 billion euros since July after three consecutive months of rises. However, despite this drop, the debt increased by 17.9 percent in the first eight months of the year when compared with the same period of 2012. (1 euro = 1.37 US dollars)—*Xinhua*

***Alan Mulally, President and CEO of Ford Motor Company speaks at the Automobilwoche automotive industry conference in Berlin on 7 Nov, 2012.* REUTERS**

Ford's Mulally won't confirm or deny reports on Boeing, Microsoft jobs

WUHAN, (China), 19 Oct — Ford Motor Co Chief Executive Alan Mulally would not confirm or deny media reports that he is being sought to join Boeing Co and Microsoft Corp.

"I love serving Ford" was Mulally's repeated comment on the sidelines of an auto conference in the central Chinese city of Wuhan, when asked if he had been approached either directly or indirectly to lead either of those companies.

Mulally, who is 68 years old and came to Ford from Boeing after 38 years there, has led the dramatic resurgence at the US automaker since his arrival in 2006. He is now the third longest serving chief executive in Ford's history after Henry Ford I and Henry Ford II.

His contract calls for his departure at the end of 2014. There is no change to that plan, Mulally said.

Reuters

Air pollution a leading cause of cancer

LONDON/GENEVA, 19 Oct — The air we breathe is laced with cancer-causing substances and is being officially classified as carcinogenic to humans, the World Health Organization's cancer agency said on Thursday.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) cited data indicating that in 2010, 223,000 deaths from lung cancer worldwide resulted from air pollution, and said there was also convincing evidence it increases the risk of bladder cancer.

Depending on the level of exposure in different parts of the world, the risk was found to be similar to that of breathing in second-hand tobacco smoke, Kurt Straif, head of the agency's section that ranks carcinogens, told reporters in Geneva. "Our task was to evaluate the air everyone breathes rather than focus on specific air pollutants," deputy head Dana Loomis said in a statement.

"The results from the reviewed studies point in the same direction: the risk of developing lung cancer is significantly increased in people exposed to air pollution." Air pollution, mostly caused by transport, power generation, industrial or agricultural emissions and residential heating and cooking, is already known to raise risks for a wide range of illnesses including respiratory and heart diseases. Research suggests that exposure levels have risen significantly in some parts of the world, particularly countries with large populations going through rapid industrialization, such as China.

***A gas-fired power station is seen during a frosty night in Minsk, on 4 Dec, 2012.—*REUTERS**

IARC reviewed thousands of studies on air pollution tracking populations over decades and other research such as those in which mice exposed to polluted air experienced increased numbers of lung tumors.

In a statement released after reviewing the literature, the Lyon-based agency said both air pollution and "particulate matter"—a major component of it - would now be classified among its Group 1 human carcinogens.

That ranks them alongside more than 100 other known cancer-causing substances in IARC's Group 1, including asbestos, plutonium, silica dust, ultraviolet radiation and tobacco smoke.

Reuters

The New Light of Myanmar

Chinese premier urges Canada to approve investment treaty

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) shakes hands with Governor General of Canada David Johnston prior to their meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 18 Oct, 2013. —Xinhua

Beijing, 19 Oct — Chinese Premier Li Keqiang met with visiting Canadian Governor General David Johnston here on Friday and urged Canada to approve a bilateral investment treaty (BIT) as early as possible.

"[We] welcome more Canadian enterprises to invest in China and hope that the Canadian side will accelerate the pace to approve the China-Canada BIT and create favorable environments for mutual investment to benefit the people of the two countries," said the Chinese premier. The two countries concluded their BIT negotiations last year. Li said the Chinese government appreciated the Canadian government's pragmatic policy toward China in recent years.

China is ready to stick with the principle of equality and mutual respect in order to tap the potential for reciprocal cooperation in key areas, Li said.

Highlighting the significance of deepening mutual understanding and friendship for the China-Canada relationship, Li said people-to-people exchanges have helped to lay a solid social foundation for bilateral ties and created good conditions for practical cooperation between the two countries.

In 2012, more than 25,000 students were granted offers to study in Canada, which means China is Canada's top source of overseas students.

Li said the Chinese government stands ready to maintain the momentum of high-level interactions and step up communication and coordination with Canada in international and regional affairs to promote peace and prosperity of the region as well as the world at large.

Johnston said the Canadian side cherishes its friendship with China and will work with the Chinese side to give full play to their mutually complementary advantages and expand cooperation in trade, investment, energy, resources, technology, education and culture in pursuit of common development and further improvement of bilateral relations.

Xinhua

Students at Senshu University make a presentation of university dormitory construction plans under an internship program in collaboration with a dormitory operator on 9 July, 2013 in Kawasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture. —KyodoNews

Bangladesh PM proposes all-party election government

Dhaka, 19 Oct — In an apparent move to de-escalate tension between ruling and opposition parties, Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Friday proposed an all-party government be set up to hold general elections in the South Asian country.

"We want next parliament elections with participation of all parties. My proposal to the main opposition party is that we can form an all-party election-time government," she said in her address to the nation.

She invited the main opposition party to nominate its lawmakers to be included in the cabinet of the poll-time government.

The televised address came when tense political standoff over a non-party caretaker government system culminated with both the ruling and opposition parties calling rallies on 25 Oct in Dhaka to stage showdown.

Former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has asked Hasina's ruling Bangladesh Awami League (AL) to bring back the caretaker system, or else, it won't participate in the next polls slated for early 2014 because it fears an election without the caretaker government will not be free and fair.

Some of the main opposition party leaders have already called for 'armed resistance' if the AL government tries to force a poll without restoring the caretaker system.

An opposition party spokesman was not immediately available for comment about the proposal of the prime minister.

Xinhua

Ex-US envoy to Japan, House leader Foley dies

Washington, 19 Oct— Thomas Foley, former US House of Representatives speaker and Ambassador to Japan, has died, US media said Friday. He was 84.

Foley served as the US top envoy to Japan from 1997 to 2001 mostly under President Bill Clinton and handled issues such as reinforcement of bilateral security ties through a review of defence cooperation and deregulation of the Japanese market. An attorney-turned lawmaker who served for about 30 years, Foley engaged in exchanges of parliamentarians of both countries and had connections with Japanese politicians including the late Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

In 1996 the Japanese government decorated Foley with the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, Paulownia Flowers for playing an outstanding role in promoting US understanding of Japan. Foley took the post of ambassador to Japan succeeding Walter Mondale, a former US vice president.

Foley, who hailed from Spokane, Washington, became leader of the lower house in 1989 after taking key congressional posts such as majority leader but failed his reelection bid in 1994.

Kyodo News

Americans find little to cheer in deal to end fiscal crisis

Washington, 19 Oct—Most Americans found little to cheer in the congressional deal to reopen the government and avoid a national default, and Republicans suffered the biggest political damage in the crisis, according to a *Reuters/Ipsos* poll released on Friday.

Nearly one-third of Americans—32 percent—were dissatisfied with the agreement to end the fiscal impasse and 40 percent were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. Only 28 percent were satisfied with the outcome.

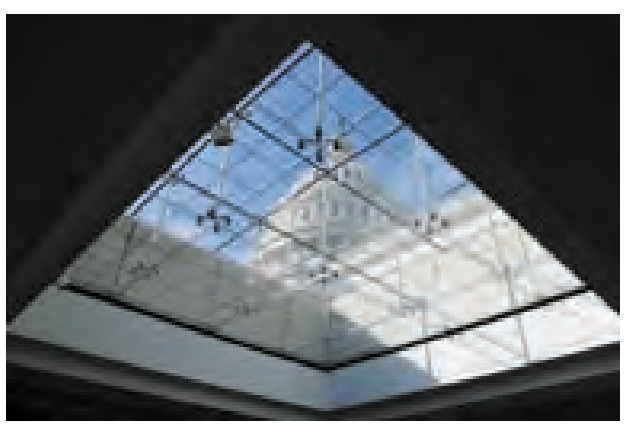
Among those who were not satisfied or were neutral, 45 percent said it was because the deal failed to resolve the budget battles at the heart of the stalemate and only extended government funding and borrowing authority into early next year.

A further 23 percent expressed general frustration with the whole process, which closed the federal government for 16 days and pushed the country to the edge of default, rattling financial markets and threatening economic chaos.

The poll, conducted on Thursday and Friday after Congress approved the deal and it was signed by President Barack Obama, found congressional Republicans suffered the most for stoking the crisis by demanding changes to Obama's healthcare law before they would support government funding.

The biggest political losers were Republicans in the House of Representatives and Senate, House Speaker John Boehner and conservative Tea Party Republicans. House Republicans were viewed less favorably by 47 percent, Republican senators and Boehner by 45 percent and Tea Party Republicans by 44 percent.

Reuters



The sun shines on the US Capitol dome on the first day the federal government has re-opened following a 16-day shutdown at the US Capitol in Washington, October 17, 2013.—Reuters

Chinese leaders Xi Jinping, Li Keqiang, Zhang Dejiang, Yu Zhengsheng, Liu Yunshan, Wang Qishan and Zhang Gaoli attend the opening session of the 16th national congress of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on 18 Oct, 2013. —Xinhua

Libyan Army commander's house attacked in Benghazi

Tripo Li, 19 Oct — Unidentified assailants fired rocket-propelled grenades at home of the commander of the national security force "Libya Shield" in the Eastern Libyan city of Benghazi on late Friday.

Wissam Ben Hamid's home was empty at the time. The assailants were reported to be clan members of the Libyan Army officer Ahmed Mustafa Al Barghati, who was killed by an armed group earlier in the day in front of his house, local sources told *Xinhua.*

Hamid is allegedly behind the killing of Al Barghati, according to a security source. Al Barghati served in the Libyan army during former leader Muammar Gaddafi's reign and joined the revolutionary forces during the 2011 unrest. He was appointed to lead the military police in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Benghazi, birthplace of Libya's revolution against Gaddafi, has witnessed frequent killings and bombings against security officers who worked for the former regime.

Last week, an armed group briefly seized Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan from a Tripoli hotel where he lives. The group claimed they captured Zeidan with an arrest warrant issued by President of Libya's General National Congress Nuri Sahmain. Sahmain immediately denied having issued the warrant while Zeidan called the seizure a coup attempt. —*Xinhua*

LOCAL NEWS

Double income for farmers discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—A team led by the head of Nay Pyi Taw Agriculture Department made a field trip to 50 acres of Thukhahmway paddy plantation of farmer U Maung Thin in Nyaunglunt Village in Tatkon Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, on 15 October.

In meeting with local farmers, the officials called on farmers to do integrated farming so as to increase their income and improve their socio-economic status.

The officials called for cultivation of quality paddy seed production farm on a commercial scale. The 50-acre quality paddy strain farm will yield over 4000 baskets of registered seeds and to produce certified seeds on a commercial scale. The discussion was attended by members of township agricultural coordination committee and village-tract development supportive committee and local farmers.—*MMAL-Kyaw Thu Win*

Union ECF Minister receives Russian Ambassador

***Union Minister U Win Tun holds talks with Russian Ambassador Mr Vasily B POSPELOV.*—MNA**

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun received Russian Ambassador Mr Vasily B POSPELOV at the ministry, here, yesterday morning.

With regard to promotion of cooperation between Myanmar and Russia, they discussed development of human resources for effective implementation of harmonized activity for climate change, training undergraduate and post-graduate students in Russia and sending of experts for providing technical assistance.

Also present were Deputy Ministers U Aye Myint Maung and Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin and departmental heads.—*MNA*

National Sports

75 short-lists under training of coaches to win victory in SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—Myanmar athletes are pouring out vigorous efforts in their training to be able to secure victoy in the coming SEA Games, said the Secretary of Myanmar Track & Field Federation.

"After the last SEA Games, the Myanmar athletes had been under training. After that, they are being trained at the camps of the federation in Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw. In March 2013, the athletes of both Yangon and Nay Pyi Taw were combined in Nay Pyi Taw. In the first phase, about 200 athletes in track and field event were under training. At present, a total of 75 short-lists are under traing of 31 coaches at Gold Camp in Nay Pyi Taw," said U Mya Than Htaik.

"Over 60 athletes will take part in the SEA Games. To be able to sweep the medals, the athletes are placed under the supervision of 31 trainees. We expect to secure achievements to some extent as Myanmar hosts the SEA Games," he continued.

Track andfield events will be held at 30000-seat Wunna Theikdi Gymnasium in Nay Pyi Taw from 15 to 19 December.—*MMAL-Maung Shwe Yoe*

Crime

Raw opium distributer arrested at Katha Jail

KATHA, 19 Oct—A woman who illegally imported raw opium into Katha Jail in Katha District of Sagaing Region was arrested on 15 October.

According to the information given by officials of Katha Jail, SIP Htay Win, leader of surveillance squad of the township and officials of Katha Police Station, staff and witnesses placed Ma Phyu Phyu Win under interrogation.

In her confession, Ma Phyu Phyu Win took raw opium in the box of meals for her husband Maung Htwe (a) Maung Aik who is serving for seven years term to give it to her husband when they met at the jail.

The authorities searched 15 small packets of raw opium from the box of fried fish paste, weighing 9.46 grams.

Action was taken against her under the law.

According to the confession, her husband Maung Htwe (a) Maung Aik ordered her to take raw opium buried in the ground before he was arrested under the narcotic law.

Katha Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against Ma Phyu Phyu Win, 29, of Nattaung Village in Kawlin Township under the law.

MMAL-Lu Aung (Katha)

Two-hour heavy rains fill park with water in front of Nawade Swimming pool

YANGON, 19 Oct—The heavy rain on the eve of Thadingyut Fullmoon Day poured down in Yangon as of 9 am on 17 October.

Hlinethaya, an outskirt of Yangon City, also suffered heavy rains the same day.

After the unexpected rains, some wards and villages in Hlinethaya Township were inundated. Likewise, the advanced housings of Nawade and the park in front of swimming pool were placed under water.

Till the second week of October, the rains showered in Yangon. Therefore, the floor of Victoria department store was inundated.

On 17 October, the rain water flowed into Nawade housing and the park of swimming pool.

Due to lack of drains, whenever it was rains in Yangon, overflowed water caused damages to concrete roads and housings.

MMAL-164

Natural Disaster

HEAVY RAINS CAUSE INUNDATION: ***As one-hour heavy rains that hit in Yangon at 10 am on 17 October caused inundation around junction of Bagaya and Central Roads in Sangyoung Township, vehicles large and small forced into drive along the road in a half wheel deep water.***

MMAL-TIN WIN LAY (KYIMYINEDINE)

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 20 October, 2013

Overcome evil with good

Recent bombings and bomb scares have appeared to cause public panic and to raise concerns for international community over Myanmar as the country is preparing to host a regional sports event in December and was handed over the reins of ASEAN recently. Moreover, it is generally assumed that these deliberate acts have tended to paralyze the already-achieved sound foundations for peace process and to make foreign investors and visitors worried and scared.

We, all citizens who are willing to see a genuine democracy and a prosperous nation, strongly denounce such deplorable, unscrupulous acts. These are cowardly acts of terror which have no place in the country on the right track to peace and prosperity. It is absolutely imperative that the government and the people are to act in unison in the face of terrorism.

People, in their part, need to be vigilant against any suspicious acts in their neighborhoods, showing the willingness to cooperate with the police. The government, in its part, must show its utmost care for its own people, taking effectual measures to confront such acts of violence with strength, determination and serious commitment to community peace and tranquility and the Rule of Law. We all have to be aware of a variety of motives of the perpetrators who dislike ongoing unprecedented reform process. They harbor illusions that they are able to create a climate of mistrust towards the government and fill the people with trepidation any time.

On behalf of good citizens of Myanmar with beliefs in democracy and shared goals for promising future of the country, we want to say to the mastermind that you will never succeed. We do believe the good always wins over the evil as long as the entire people and the government are joining hands in denouncing these scandalous bomb attacks and attempted bombings in the spirit of cooperation.

Myanmar, Japan to speed up rural region development tasks

YANGON, 19 Oct — Union Minister for Livestock Breeding, Fisheries and Rural Region Development U Ohn Myint held talks on further cooperation in the development of rural regions with Mr. Yohei Sasakawa, President of Nippon Foundation, and party of Japan at the ministry, here, this evening.

They held discussions on measures for ensuring food sufficiency in arid zones to be implemented by World Food Program-WFP and Rural Region Development Department. They also focused on conducting nationwide geographical conditions-based surveys on availability of food supply, nutrition and a percentage of income for food.

Moreover, the meeting included Japan's technical assistance for production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines in Myanmar, electrification measures and availability of drinking water in rural regions.

MNA

NATIONAL

Questions and answers at press conference on incidents of bomb blasts in some regions in October 2013

YANGON, 18 Oct—The following is a summary of questions and answers made at a press conference on the incidents of bomb blasts in some regions in October by officials concerned, diplomats, foreign correspondents and local media persons at Mingala Hall of Yangon Region Government Office yesterday.

U Kyaw Swa Min (Yomiuri News Agency)

Q: I would like to know further investigations into the bomb blasts in Namtkham of Shan State (North) on 17 October.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: Explosions occurred three times, one in the early night and two in the morning, and one was killed in the Namtkham incident. No immediate information is available now as investigation is ongoing. Update news will be released soon.

U Aung Min Thein (Australian Embassy)

Q: According to the MPF Chief, some suspects are still at large. What measures MPF will take if they fled to other country?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: Myanmar, being a member of Interpol, is closely working together with member countries. I-24/7 Global Communication System is underway. Member countries are to arrest absconders when Interpol issued Red Notice or diffusion was circulated to a designated country following the arrest warrant of a court. Police Forces of member countries pledge to investigate the criminal cases and to arrest absconders. No one can get away with their crime.

U Win Oo (Ayeyawady News Agency)

Q: Let me know which organization is responsible and what measures will be taken.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: Investigations revealed that suspect Saw Myint Lwin used to be a member of KNU. Nay Toe, the mastermind, is believed to have got involved in an economic organization of KNU.

U Ye Htut

A: Nothing will happen to our peace process. The government and all national races leaders have already determined to translate the peace-making process into a success without fail. KNU also decided to deal with the further matters related to the incidents in cooperation with the government. One of KNU CEC members arrived in Yangon and met the suspects to question them. We will be continued to carry out exchange of information between the two sides to get more complete information. And, we will release news timely whenever we get information.

Sky Net Channel

Q: Any inspection of other mines? Please let us know about 71 mines that people are talking about.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: We got information about 10 mines and according to our inspections, the possibility is just 10 mines. We have already released the information to prevent causing worries among the people.

Ma Hla Hla Htay (AFP)

Q: The Myanmar Police Force Chief told that the blasts were intended for causing hindrances to the foreign investment. Meanwhile, the international community also expressed concern over the blasts. So, how has the Myanmar Police Force taken security measure for the safety of the people?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: We have already dawn the draft for the anti-terrorism law and will submit it to the Hluttaw in the near future. Regarding the manpower, we have formed the bomb disposal units in states and regions. Besides, we have a plan to spend over K 600 million on security measures, including equipment, in attempts to provide security to the people.

Ko Nyein Chan (7 Days)

Q: Regarding the blasts, did the authorities got tip-off before the blasts?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: No. We did not. Taking lessons from what had happened, we will raise awareness of blasts among the people. We have planned to give security training to staff of hotels as from October 21. And, we will work together with ministries concerned to install more security equipment.

Ko Win Myint Kyaw (the Weekly Eleven)

Q: We heard that China is behind the blasts. Please let us know the situation.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: We have already clarified the situation and things we got. According to the results of our inspection, we can't confirm your information.

Ma Shwe Hmone (the Unity Journal)

Q: We'd like to know which organization used such kind of mines in the blasts. And, regarding the concerns of the people, how has the Myanmar Police force taken security measures for the safety of the people because the Thadingyut festival is drawing near?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: All mines are improvised explosive devices. We found TNT and M-67 grenades. What we can say is just IEDs. We have not enough evidences to say which organization uses such kind of mines.

We have made arrangements fully to provide security to the people not only in the Thadingyut festival but also in the upcoming SEA Games.

Here I would like to inform that the security forces have been put on high alert.

(See page 9)

Deputy Minister U Ye Htut.—MNA

U Kyaw Swa Min of Yomiuri News Agency.

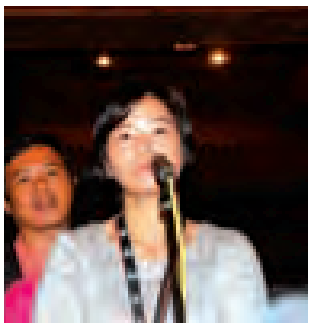
MNA

U Aung Min Thein of Embassy of Australia.

MNA

U Win Oo of Ayeyawady Journal.

MNA



A reporter from Sky Net Channel.

MNA

Questions and answers at press conference…

(from page 8)

Min Thu (Street View Journal)

Q: I have two questions. The first one is about bombing suspects and the last one is that State's investment is a strong reason.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

Those detained are real suspects. We have CCTV evidences of the bomb blasts. This is the strongest and best ones. According to the latest development, the bombings are related with an economic organization under the KNU.

Dy Minister U Ye Htut

A:Here, I would like to add some more points to it. This is much-interested one. One of the questions

Daw Hla Hla Htay (AFP).

MNA

targets one organization. Daily Eleven pointed out that there is one country behind the incidents. The question should be based on the empirical evidences. Here, I would like to request all media not to report the uncertain things. It needs to get the confirmation from Myanmar Police Force (MPF). The coverage of groundless news and anticipations could harm national reconsolidation and international relations. The news agencies should get the confirmation from the government and the MPF. News coverage of sensitive matters may have negative impacts.

U Zaw Win Hlaing (VOA Burmese Section)

Q: I would like to know the number of those detained and those suspects. KNU (5) issued a statement yesterday, saying that they have struck to the peace. Have the MPF and the Union Government a plan to response to it?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: A total of eight have been detained till now. We are not in circumstances to give the number of those suspects.

Dy Minister U Ye Htut

I will reply to the second question. Since the government has implemented peace-making process with armed national races groups, KNU signed a ceasefire agreement at the beginning of the process. KNU members station in Kayin and Mon States and Bago and Taninthayi Regions. There has not been fight-

U Nyein Chan (7 Day Journal).

MNA

ing between the government troops and KNU after the ceasefire agreement has been signed. It can be said that KNU fully respects the ceasefire agreement. The KNU delegation led by General Saw Mu Tu Sae Poe held talks with the President for three times and the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services for three times. There is a sound mutual trust between the leaders and the troops of both sides. That's why, we strongly believed that KNU would never commit such destructive acts. One from the KNU CEC meets those detained in Yangon. We will continue making cooperation with KNU for sharing of information and finding out further information. Here, I would like to add that KNU won't get involved in the recent incidents. It would not hamper nation-wide peace process. The government and KNU have kept promise to continue national peace process.

Thura Tun (Asia News Journal)

Q:Did you have information on planting mine at the hotel? May I know how MPF could not prevent the blasts although it had received information of blasts at Traders Hotel, the suspect and the injured person?

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: Crime prevention is the main duty of police. Exposing crime is to be done after outbreak of crime. We did not get information before the blast.

Ma Yupa Win (Farmer Journal)

Q: I would like to know

Ko Win Myint Kyaw (Weekly Eleven Journal).—MNA

future plans of security measures.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: We have the police network from urban to rural areas. Depending on information, further arrangements are being made for security measures not in urban but in rural areas.

U Ye Htut:

A: In our country, we cannot conduct electronic trace with the use of credit cards, security cards and so on. Correct guest registration process is reliable to take security measures. Due to lack of electronic monitoring system, we rely on man power process on security. Only the police force is not adequate for implementing the process. The people must understand that purpose of conducting the security process is for them and they should cooperate with the police force.

Kaung Myat Phyo (Myitmakha News Agency)

Q:Do you have to designate the detained person as culprit yet? I would like to know documents for the case of blast at Chanmyae Guesthouse.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: He can be called culprit when the Court has handed down to him penalty under the law. With regard to the case of Chanmyae Guesthouse, we have hot documents from CCTV and other witnesses, guests registration and types of blast like that of Western

Daw Shwe Sin (Unity Journal).

MNA

Park II in Yangon. So we guessed that it may be the single group.

DVB:

Q: Blasts have been occurred since many years for several times. The recent blast was caused due to hand-made bomb. So, do you have responsibility for prevention against further explosions? I'd like to know responsibility for the blasts.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A:According to the changing international concept, all the people should cooperate among them in crime prevention. There are many industries using gunpowder. The departments concerned and private sector are to tightly control their works through sense of security.

U Ye Htut:

A:With regard to availability of gunpowder, our country has been facing armed conflicts for about 60 years. Gunpowder and old grenades are still available at the conflicted areas. The problem not only our country but riot combating squads of other countries faces is easy to buy the electronics to be used in explosion. Electronic equipment can be unfitted and fitted easily. In the past, the bombing making process was very difficult. Now, such process can be available through Google or Youtube easily.

In last 20 years, exploder must install devices for bomb attacks. Nowadays, he himself does not need to install devices for bomb thanks to modern electronic equipment. It is easy to switch on the devices after connection of wires.

Min Thu (Street View Journal).

MNA

Everybody may do it easily. So, MPF alone is unable to overcome these challenges. All the people are requested to join hands with the MPF to control the cases.

Ko Than Htaik Aung (Messenger Journal)

Q: I have heard that a cap tain of KNU got involved in the bomb blasts in the news release after the arrest of three suspects. Now, the press conference indicated him as the person related to business. I would like to know how to scrutinize the confession of the suspect. In addition, I would like to know information that a person who came back from Malaysia was related to the case of finding bombs in Mandalay.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: MPF has formed press release team. We request all to write the approved news of the press release team and from the website of the MPF. The case in Mandalay was only rumour.

Ko Nyan Lin Aung (Myanmar Times)

Q: May I know security measures for the SEA Games and ASEAN Summit with the present strength and capacity of MPF.

MPF Chief Police Maj-Gen Zaw Win

A: We can grant security for SEA Games at full capacity. Now, MPF has built bilateral understanding with the people.

Ko Hsan Moe Tun (Myanmar Posts Journal)

Q: I would like to know whether the MPF Chief allows the replies of the police station commanders or the commanders of Township police force to the reporter when an event happens.

Zaw Win Hlaing (VOA).

MNA

U Ye Htut

A: I'd like to answer it. Not only MPF but also all other departments have to face complaints severally. The spokespersons have been allowed to reply to the queries at their respective levels. According to the situation, MPF cannot reply to queries while conducting investigation. Reports must show off their correct IDs. Visiting card is not adequate. At the international level like Myanmar Foreign Correspondents Club, the reporters must have IDs of respective press councils to cover the news. If it is true, the spokesperson will not delay to reply. On that day, the reporters with full documents had got the opportunities to raise questions and describe the news in their publications. MRTV and some TV channels broadcast the release at 7 am the other day. There is no limitation to release the information. The spokespersons have been authorized to reply to the questions. In fact, the media persons must have firm documents of journalists.

Two dead in motorcycle accident in Mahlaing

MAHLAING, 19 Oct—A sub-police inspector and a pedestrian died after the policeman's motorcycle ran into the pedestrian last night in Mahlaing.

The incident is that Thet Naing Moe, the sub-police inspector, was riding his motorcycle under the influence of alcohol around 9 pm and hit Thet Khaing, 44, Electrician Grade V, who was walking at the corner of a road.

Both were injured in the accident and taken to Mandalay General Hospital.

Thet Khaing died around 2.30 am and Thet Nain Moe died around 2 pm today.

Kyaw Kyaw (Mahlaing)

LOCAL NEWS

Knowledge shared for taking census

NAY PYI TAW, 19 Oct—The talks on purpose of taking census to be undertaken from 30 March to 10 April 2014 and participation of ward administrators, town's elders and people was held at Seikta Thukha Village libray in Zalaungtaung Village of Zalaung Village-tract in Ottarathiri Township on 17 October afternoon.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Soe Sanda Waing gave lectures on aims of taking national census, and role of people in the tasks.

Village elder U Hla Shein spoke words of thanks.

The head of the department replied to the queries raised by those present.

Kyemon-Zaw Min (IPRD)

A ceremony to clarify process and aim of taking national census in progress.

Stake driven for construction of MEB branch in Mahlaing Tsp

MAHLAING, 19 Oct—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of the new building for Myanma Economic Bank was held at the site chosen for the branch of MEB in Ward 4 of Mahlaing, Mandalay Region, on 17 October morning.

U Thein Tun, Head of Mandalay Region Manager for Myanma Economic Bank, District Manager Daw Mya Htay and Township Manager U Tin Oo drove stakes for the building.

The building will be 60 feet long and 30 feet wide RC type. In addition, one staff quarter will be built in the compound of branch.

Kyemon-Aung Htay (Mahlaing)

Officials drive stake for MEB Branch in Mahlaing.

Regional development tasks coordinated

NGATHAINGGYOUNG, 19 Oct—A coordination meeting on development of Ngathainggyoung Sub-Township was held at the hall of Sub-Township Development Affairs Committee in Yekyi Township of Ayeyawady Region on 16 October morning.

Chairman of Sub-Township DAC U Win Naing explained amending the by-laws in conformity with the present era, timely completion of road and bridge works and future tasks. Members of the committee took part in the discussions.—*Kyemon-697*

Sagaing District ANA gives educative talks

SAGAING, 19 Oct—Sagaing District Anti-Narcotics Association and Sagaing Township Education Department jointly gave the educative talks on menace of narcotic drugs at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Sagaing on 14 October.

Chairman of the District Association Police Lt-Col Kyi Nyunt (Rtd) explained emergence of the Myanmar Anti-Narcotics Association (Central), mission, vision and organizational setup of the association at different levels.

Trasurer of the district association Dr Aung Moe gave lectures on narcotic drugs, HIV/AIDS and related diseases, Auditor of the district association U Tin Maung Win (retired law officer) on narcotic drugs law and Secretary of the district association Police Major Kyaw Lin Khaing (Rtd) on efforts of narcotic drugs elimination in successive eras in Myanmar.

Chairman of the district association Police Lt-Col Kyi Nyunt (Rtd) presented pamphlets and publications related to narcotic drug elimination to Headmistress Daw Win Kyi. Later, the headmistress spoke words of thanks.

Kyemon-Htwe Myint Naing (Sagaing)

HRD

Farming equipment for farmers in Yekyi

YEKYI, 19 Oct—According to the requests of local farmers, Max Myanmar Yekyi Rice Trading Co Ltd will sell water pipes with 20 feet long and three inches diametre to the farmers for easing cultivation of monsoon paddy in 2013-14 through installment.

The company starts sales of 2375 pieces of water pipe to 274 farmes from 20 village-tracts as of 15 October.

In addition, Yekyi Co will also sell engines and farming equipment manufactured by GBS Co to the farmers.—*Kyemon-Min Zaw Oo (Yekyi)*

Local farmers taking pieces of water pipes to be used in supply of water to farmlands.

National Sports

National Hockey Tournament 27-30 Oct

YANGON, 19 Oct—The National Hockey Tournament, organized by Myanmar Hoekcy Federation, will be held as the Pre-SEA Games Test Match at Theinbyu Turf Hockey Pitch, here, from 27 to 30 October.

Myanmar A, Myanmar B and Thai teams will take part in the tournament.

In the Asian Challenge Cup men's hockey tournament in Thailand from 1 to 8 October, tentatively selected Myanmar team beat Thai A 1-0 and Thai B 3-1. In the tournament, Myanmar secured the second prize and Thai A team, third prize.

The fixture shows Myanmar A vs Thailand on 27 October, Myanmar B vs Thailand on 28 October, Myanmar A vs Myanmar B on 29 October and the first and second position teams on 29 October.

Than Swe (Pabedan)

Eroded bank of canal repaired in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 19 Oct—Repairing of landslide banks are being repaired at the left canal of Khabaung Dam.

The bank of the canal located near Kyu-in Village of Sabarkywe Village in Toungoo Township was eroded in the rainy season.

Under close supervision of the Assistant Director of Construction 5 of Irrigation Department, the repairing works are being carried out with the use of heavy machinery.

Land preparations were carried out to fill the pits of the area at the junction of embankment for the Pyay-Paukkaung-Kyedaw (Toungoo) railroad and the left canal, and the inter-village roads were maintained.

Upon completion, the walls of th canal will be filled with slabs.

Kyemon-Ko Lwin (Swa)

Construction

TEPCO finds surge in radiation level of groundwater near tank leak

Tokyo, 19 Oct —The operator of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant said on Friday that it has detected a surge in the radiation level of groundwater collected near a tank that leaked highly toxic water in August.

The water, extracted from an observation well on Thursday, showed a record high 400,000 becquerels per liter of beta radiation, emitted from radioactive materials such as strontium-90. The level was 61 becquerels the previous day, according to plant operator Tokyo Electric Power Co.

TEPCO spokesman Masayuki Ono told a Press conference that the rise in groundwater contamination is related to contaminated soil around where 300 tons of highly radioactive water leaked from a storage tank.

Workers had removed soil around the tank after the leak occurred, but Ono noted some soil near the well had not yet been removed because of the existence of pipes.

"We suspect that radioactive substances in the soil that had not been taken away was moved by the rain" that fell during Wednesday's powerful typhoon, Ono said.

The observation well is located about 20 meters from the tank that leaked.

Radioactive tritium had already been detected at a high level in the same well. But the reading further increased in a water sample collected on Thursday, hitting a record high of 790,000 becquerels per liter.

To prevent the contamination from spreading further, the utility plans to remove the toxic soil around the well and by pumping out groundwater, Ono said.

Radioactive water is increasing daily at the Fukushima plant, hit by a huge earthquake and tsunami in March 2011, because groundwater is seeping into reactor buildings and mixing with water used to cool three crippled reactors.

Kyodo News

Students perform peacock dance during the opening ceremony of the 2013 Taipei International Travel Fair in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 18 Oct, 2013. The fair will last from 18 to 21 Oct. —Xinhua

Indonesian police kill, arrest terrorists in latest crackdown

Jakarta, 19 Oct—Indonesian police's anti-terror squad of Detachment 88 killed a man and arrested two others in their latest crackdown with car pursuit and shootout taking place on Thursday in Bone regency, South Sulawesi Province.

A police spokesperson said here on Friday that those killed and arrested a day earlier were the perpetrators of gunfight with the police in Maluku Province's capital of Ambon in 2005 and bomb making case in Enrekang, South Sulawesi Province.

Head of public relations of national police headquarters Ronny Franky Sompie said that further search in the residence of those terrorist suspects was underway.

Ronny said that after the shootout with the terrorist suspects, police confiscated a pistol and a modified rifle and nine live bullets.

He added that police also seized an MPV car used by the terrorists to escape from the police's crackdown, two kilograms of fertilizer and a machete.

One of the terrorist suspects, Suardi, was shot dead as he tried to retaliate against the police.

The two others, Jody alias Umar and Ahmad Iswan were brought to police station in South Sulawesi province's capital of Makassar for further questioning.

They were suspected members of a terror group operating in Makassar, Ambon and Poso.

Poso is located in Central Sulawesi province and has been a hotbed of sectarian conflict between Muslims and Christians.

Even though the conflict had officially been settled in 2002, violence conducted by Muslim militant groups still occasionally occurred around the Central Sulawesi Province.

The militants attacked police stations, kidnapped and killed police who were on duty in Central Sulawesi Province last year.

Police also suspected that operatives of terror group from Poso were the perpetrators of the rampant shooting against the police in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta in the last few months.

A number of police on duty were shot dead in the capital city by motorists who were believed to be terror group members.

Indonesia with dominant Muslim population has been facing challenge of extremism in the last decade.

Indonesian police's anti-terror squad had successfully arrested terror group members who committed attacks in several parts of the country. Some of those arrested terrorists were sentenced to death.

Xinhua

Police officers use a dog in a search and rescue operation on Izu Oshima Island south of Tokyo on 18 October, 2013, as the search continues for people missing since Typhoon Wipha hit the island on 16 October.—Kyodo News

Laos pledges compensation for victims of air crash

Pakse, (Laos), 19 Oct —Lao Minister of Public Works and Transport Sommad Pholsena told *Xinhua* on Friday that the compensation for victims of Lao Airlines crash was underway.

"We pledge to pay appropriate compensation for the victims. We send our deep condolence to families of victims. Laos will do its best to search for the bodies of the victims," Pholsena said at the crash site in Pakse.

According to Lao Director of Civil Aviation Yakao Lopangkao, 30 bodies of 49 people aboard Lao Airlines flight QV301 have been recovered so far, with 20 of them identified.

The Lao minister said the Lao Airlines is currently working with insurance company on compensation.

Right after hearing about the accident, Pholsena drove 700 kilometers from the capital Vientiane to Pakse.

"We face many difficulties in search and rescue work as the accident site is in the Mekong river with strong flow. We are still searching for the main wreck of the airplane," Pholsena said.

According to the minister, the *ATR 72-600* aircraft, purchased from France, has recorded 758 flight hours since it was put into service in March this year.

"A working team from French aircraft manufacturer has arrived in Laos to participate in searching for the black box. We also invited experts from Thailand, Australia and France to help with DNA identification," Pholsena said.

At present, the bodies of 30 victims have been taken to Chond De temple in Pakse for identification.

One victim from China's Yunnan Province has been identified by family through jewelry and clothes, while another Chinese victim came from Taiwan.

The bodies of a 17-month-old child and three-year-old sister from Australia have been also found.—*Xinhua*

37 killed in illicit liquor incident in northern India

New Delhi, 19 Oct — At least 37 people were killed after drinking illicit liquor on Friday night and Saturday morning in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, said police.

Calling it one of the worst booch tragedies in the state, police said the incident took place in the state's Azamgarh district and all the dead were poor laborers addicted to cheap alcohol.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav suspended 10 people, including local tax inspector and ordered a probe into the incident.

Police said the dead could have drunk rectified spirit sold by local shops which rectified spirit mixed with water

Such kind of liquor has a rate of spirit of between 90 to 95 degrees, said police.

The legally sold cheap liquor in India, called moonshine, has a rate of 42 percent of alcohol. "This is a killer concoction," an official told the media.

Xinhua

A visitor watches the engravings of watermark printing on wooden type at the First China Hangzhou Asia-Pacific Craft Fair in Hangzhou, capital of east China's Zhejiang Province, on 18 Oct, 2013. The craft fair kicked off on 17 October, attracting 661 skilled crafters from home and other Asia-Pacific countries. Xinhua

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MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ASIAN LEADER VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P.L 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 NYK LINE

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (350)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (350) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 20.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P 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 REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

A Samaritan woman hangs fruit to the ceiling of her house ahead of Sukkot, the Feast of the Tabernacles, at Mount Gerizim near the West Bank city of Nablus, on 16 Oct, 2013. Samaritans decorate ceiling with fruits in a geometric form to commemorate the exodus of Jews from Egypt more than 3,200 years ago.
Xinhua

Piracy off Somalia coast falls drastically

Nairobi, 19 Oct—Attacks in seas around Somalia continued to fall dramatically, with just 10 incidents attributed to Somali pirates this year, down from 70 in the same period of 2012, the world's maritime watchdog said on Thursday. In its latest report, the International Chamber of Commerce's International Maritime Bureau (IMB) however warned of the threat of continuing violent attacks off the east and west coasts of Africa. "The vital role of the navies off the coast of Somalia should not be underestimated.

Their presence ensures that pirates do not operate with the impunity they did before," IMB director Pottengal Mukundan said.

He said the drop is due to increased and active military action on suspected skiffs, military land based anti-piracy operations, preventive measures and increased armed guards on board ships. According to the IMB, usual ways of the Somali pirates is to attack ships in the northern, eastern and southern cost of Somalia. IMB also attributed the improvement to the actions of naval forces engaged in anti-piracy operations, security teams on board vessels, ships complying with the industry's best management practices, and the stabilizing influence of the central government of Somalia.

"Continued vigilance and hardening is encouraged not only for the merchant fleets but more so for the fishing and dhow fleets which remain softer targets," the report shows.

Foreign naval forces continue to play a key role in the response against piracy in this area from the collection of intelligence to the identification and disarming of suspected pirate vessels before they pose a threat to ships. Somali pirates tend to be well armed with automatic weapons and rocket propelled grenades and sometimes use skiffs launched from mother vessels, which may be hijacked fishing vessels or dhows, to conduct attacks far from the Somali coast.

Since Somali piracy is largely a hijack-for-ransom business, it relies heavily on onshore support for infrastructure that provides food, water and fuel to the militiamen who guard the hijacked ships throughout the ransom negotiation process.

According to IMB, piracy on the world's seas is at its lowest third-quarter level since 2006. The report shows 188 piracy incidents in the first nine months of 2013, down from 233 for the same period last year.

Xinhua

Brazilian Army to safeguard Libra oil bid

Rio de Janeiro, 19 Oct—The Brazilian army will safeguard the upcoming bid on the country's Libra oilfield due to ongoing protests, head of the National Petroleum Agency (ANP) said on Thursday.

"It is our obligation to ensure the security of auctions. There has always been security, but we are going through a period of protests in Rio, in which peaceful protests end up turning into vandalism," Magda Chambriard said. "The auction, set on 21 October, won't be postponed."

Several social sectors are against the bid, saying Brazil should not auction off its largest oilfield so far to foreign interests.

Workers' union of Petrobras, Brazil's state oil and gas giant, declared a strike over the auction Thursday. Workers protested at the company's headquarters demanding an immediate suspension of the auction. A larger protest was set to take place in late afternoon.

Petrobras said it was taking "all necessary steps" to minimize damage caused by the strike and to safeguard its operations and oil supply.

Under the rules of the auction, Petrobras will hold a minimum 30 percent stake in any consortium that wins a concession. The company will also be the field's operator.

Xinhua

Giant panda cub nicknamed "Yuan Zai" is seen at the Taipei Zoo in Taipei, southeast China's Taiwan, on 16 Oct, 2013. The female cub, born on 6 July, has got 19 new teeth. It is the first baby of giant pandas "Tuan Tuan" and "Yuan Yuan", which were presented as goodwill gifts to Taiwan by the Chinese Mainland.
Xinhua

Severe bushfires continue across Australian New South Wales

Sydney, 19 Oct—Dozens of bushfires are still burning out of control across Australia's state of New South Wales (NSW) on Friday, with thousands of local residents spending last night in evacuation centers.

It's reported that nearly 100 fires are burning across the state in the morning, with 30 of them uncontained, and 1500 firefighters are still battling the fires.

Firefighters said as many as 200 homes and over 20,000 hectares of land are feared to be destroyed as the bushfires broke out across the state from Thursday and strong winds worsened the conditions.

"I suspect if we get through that without the loss of life, we should thank God for miracles," said Barry O'Farrell, NSW premier at a news conference on Thursday evening.

The premier also warned that it would take days to extinguish all the fires.

The full extent of the catastrophe will be clear later the day, according to the authorities.

Xinhua

Palestinian tried to run over Israeli soldier before shot dead

Jerusalem, 19 Oct — A Palestinian militant, who drove a tractor into an Israeli military base in the West Bank, attempted to run over a soldier before he was shot dead, the Israeli army said Thursday night.

Earlier in the evening, Younis Obaidi, from the town of Beit Hanina, stopped for inspection at the main entrance of the base near A-Ram, southeast of Ramallah, but when the guard left his post to seek approval for his admission, he rammed through the barrier and entered the facility, Israeli media reported.

"Once inside, he attempted to run over a soldier numerous times, hitting and causing damage to parked military vehicles," an army statement said.

According to reports, an officer and a soldier chased the tractor before shooting the driver. He was pronounced dead at the scene shortly after, a military source told *Xinhua*.

A soldier sustained slight injuries in the incident, according to reports.

"Soldiers at the scene reacted quickly in order to stop the terrorist and the immediate life threat he posed. They opened fire at the suspect and reported a direct hit," said Lt Col Peter Lerner, a military spokesman.

Palestinians are currently rioting outside the base. Security forces have been dispatched to the area to contain the mayhem, the army said.—*Xinhua*

Suspect in Texas murders found dead after car went off cliff

New York, 19 Oct — A man sought in the Texas shooting deaths of his ex-girlfriend and her boyfriend on Thursday was found dead after his car went over a cliff in a remote area known as "Devil's Backbone," police said.

Daniel Stillwell's vehicle was found about 15 miles away from the double murder scene in San Marcos, Texas, by an Austin Homeland Security aircraft scouring the scenic Hill Country along Highway 32, authorities said. Federal, state and local authorities were hunting for Stillwell, 23, accused of shooting Texas State University student Hailey Nicholls, 22, and her boyfriend Jesse Robledo, 27, in the head in her apartment bedroom, San Marcos Police Chief Howard Williams said in a statement.

She was a recent girlfriend of Stillwell, a police affidavit said.

Stillwell, who lived in the same complex as Nicholls, called his roommate Thursday morning, after the shootings, and said "that he did not want to live in a cage and was going to kill himself by driving off a cliff," a police affidavit said.—*Reuters*

ENTERTAINMENT

Selena Gomez was performing in New York

Selena Gomez breaks down during New York concert

Los Angeles, 19 Oct — Singer-actress Selena Gomez was left in tears during a concert recently.

The 21-year-old singer got so emotional while performing Love Will Remember during her Stars Dance tour at New York, that she began to shed tears, reported Aceshowbiz.

A fan captured the moment on his phone and uploaded it on Instagram.

In the video, Gomez can be heard talking while crying. "Everybody in this room, I have those bad days, and I understand when you guys just don't feel like it's enough and you just want to get back to when you were a kid again, and it was so simple, and just one thing that you want," she said.

Reuters

Judi Dench wears another Abu-Sandeep creation

New Delhi, 19 Oct — Legendary British actress Judi Dench seems to be in love with Indian fashion creations. After flaunting a Lucknavi chikan embroidery ensemble by Abu Jani-Sandeep Khosla at the Venice Film Festival, she opted for one of the designer duo's design once again for the 57th BFI London Film Festival.

Judi Dench's dress is inspired by the carpets of Agra.

The 78-year-old's latest choice was of a design inspired by the carpets of Agra. She exuded elegance as she slipped into the black apparel for the screening of her acclaimed movie Philomena in London on Wednesday, 16 October.

The designer duo believe the look was perfect.

"With the season changing, we went for the ever elegant, standard for glamour-black. The outfit is inspired by India's legendary Agra carpets and consists of a black sheath worn with a kali coat featuring beige and gold silk thread (resham) embroidery," the duo said.

Abu Jani and Sandeep Khosla, who have completed 25 years in the fashion world, have a regular celebrity clientele, including Bollywood's famed Bachchan family.

Reuters

'Transformers 4' director Michael Bay attacked on set in Hong Kong

Hong Kong, 19 Oct— American director and producer Michael Bay was attacked in Hong Kong on Thursday during filming for the latest instalment of his "Transformers" action movies, but he said he brushed off the incident and continued filming.

Two brothers surnamed Mak, aged 27 and 28, approached Bay on the set during filming for the American science fiction film and the younger brother demanded payment of HK$100,000 (7,980 pounds), a police spokeswoman told *Reuters*.

Bay said in a post on his website that the man was a vendor who was inconvenienced by the shoot and wanted more money than the "fair price" vendors were paid.

"I personally told this man and his friends to forget it we were not going to let him extort us," Bay wrote, adding that the men returned about an hour later, one wielding a "long air conditioner unit."

As a discussion ensued in a busy area of Hong Kong island, the elder Mak walked up and assaulted the director, the police spokeswoman said. The elder brother then attacked three police officers who tried to intervene, she added.

"He walked right up to me and tried to smack my face, but I ducked threw the air unit on the floor and pushed him away," Bay said on his website. "That's when the security jumped on him."

The younger brother was arrested on suspicion of blackmail and assault, while the elder Mak was also arrested on suspicion of assault, the spokeswoman said.

Bay sustained injuries to the right side of his face, although he declined to seek treatment, she said, adding she did not believe his injuries were serious.

Paramount Pictures, the film's distributor, said Bay was unhurt and that no one in the cast or crew was injured.

"Transformers: Age of Extinction" is scheduled to be released in June 2014 and stars Mark Wahlberg and Nicola Peltz. It was not known whether the film's stars were on set during the attack.

"The director ducked and wrested the air conditioner from his attacker, preventing what could have been a serious accident," Paramount said in a statement. "The company's security team quickly stepped in and subdued the assault."

Reuters

Director Michael Bay

Singer Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus twerks her way to No 1 on Billboard 200

Los Angeles, 19 Oct— Pop singer Miley Cyrus twerked her way to the top spot of the weekly Billboard 200 album chart on Wednesday, notching her fourth chart-topping record.

"Bangerz," which features Cyrus experimenting with hip hop, dance and R&B influences, sold 270,000 copies in its first week, according to figures from Nielsen SoundScan.

Former Disney star Cyrus, 20, has captured headlines with a series of scantily clad, raunchy performances that began with the MTV Video Music Awards last month, where she showed off some provocative dance moves, known as "twerking."

In the video for her latest song "Wrecking Ball," the second single from "Bangerz," Cyrus is seen naked and swinging from a giant wrecking ball and provocatively licking a sledgehammer.

"Bangerz" leads seven new debut records in the top 10 of this week's Billboard 200 chart. Alt-pop group Panic! At the Disco landed at No. 2 with its latest album "Too Weird to Live, Too Rare to Die!" selling 84,000 copies. Rapper Pusha T entered the chart at No. 4 with his latest set "My Name is My Name."

The latest compilation of songs from Fox musical TV series "Glee" came in at No. 7 this week, featuring tracks sung by the cast for last week's memorial episode "The Quarterback," dedicated to deceased cast member Cory Monteith and his character Finn Hudson. The episode pulled in 7.4 million viewers according to Fox, the highest ratings for the show in over a year.

Other new debuts in the top 10 include metal rock band Korn at No. 8 with "The Paradigm Shift," "The Voice" winner Cassadee Pope at No. 9 with "Frame by Frame," and rockers Mayday Parade at No 10 with "Monsters in the Closet."

On the Digital Songs chart, New Zealand singer Lorde continued her reign at No. 1 with her breakthrough single "Royals," while Katy Perry's "Roar" remained steady at No. 2 and Aviici's dance track "Wake Me Up!" climbed one spot to No 3.—*Reuters*

Hugh Jackman named brand ambassador of Indian phone

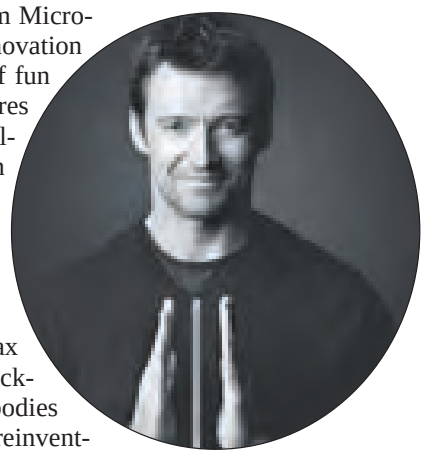
New Delhi, 19 Oct— Hollywood superstar Hugh Jackman has been chosen over a Bollywood star as the brand ambassador of Indian mobile handset brand Micromax. He says he is a "huge lover" of India.

"I am extremely thrilled and honoured to be part of the Micromax family. I am a huge lover of India as it is one of the most exciting countries in the world and we also share our love for cricket," Jackman said in a statement.

Jackman is known for films like Les Miserables, The Wolverine and Prisoners. His association with Micromax will start with its new smartphone Canvas Turbo, which will be launched in India soon.

"Phones are genuinely time saving devices that can help you live a better life while juggling around with different situations," he said in a statement. He is convinced about the features offered by the brand's new Canvas range. "The new Canvas phone from Micromax is a leap in innovation with great sense of fun and amazing features that helps me balance my work with all the different roles that I play in my everyday life," added the 45-year-old.

The Micromax family believes Jackman "truly embodies the aspirational, reinventing and fearless persona of the brand".—*Reuters*



Hugh Jackman

SPORTS

Simpson sizzles with a 63 to take charge in Vegas

Dublin, (Ohio), 19 Oct—Former US Open champion Webb Simpson wielded a red-hot putter as he piled up nine birdies to charge into a four-shot lead in Friday's second round of the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open in Las Vegas.

American Simpson, who teed off at the par-four 10th hole, had only one bogey on his way to an eight-under-par 63 at the TPC Summerlin in the second event of the PGA Tour's 2013-14 season.

The North Carolina native, who won last year's U.S. Open at Olympic Club in San Francisco, birdied five of his last nine holes to post a 15-under total of 127.

Fellow Americans Jeff Overton (68), Jason Bohn (64), JJ Henry (71) and Chesson Hadley (66) plus Australian John Senden (66) share second place four off the lead at 11-under. Bohn matched Simpson's nine birdies but carded a double bogey five on the penultimate hole to drop back.

"The ball was really going far," Simpson, 28, told Golf Channel after hitting 15 of 18 greens in regulation and needing only 24 putts.

"I was wondering why scores were so low yesterday but the course played a little shorter than I thought it would.

"I just putted well and kept it going. I think guys are going to keep making birdies so I've got to keep the hammer down."

The TPC Summerlin regularly yields low scores in the high Nevada desert where fine weather, thin air and smooth greens usually lead to birdies galore. American Ryan Moore won last year's title with a 24-under total and also shot a 63 on Friday to move into a tie for seventh at 10-under.

"I think the one synonymous thing is patience, because the US Open you obviously have to remain patient because you're not going to make many birdies," Simpson said.

"But here it's not like every hole is a birdie hole so you have to remain patient because birdie runs come. You have to stay patient because you'll get on those runs too."

Simpson finished on a high note with a birdie on his final hole, the par-five ninth, despite a poor drive that forced him to lay up, before he struck a nice approach shot to nine feet.

Earlier, he rolled in a 25-footer at the par-four sixth, after hitting it to inside 10 feet at the previous hole.

While the world number 24 has not won since his U.S. Open breakthrough, he has been in consistent form. He has not missed a cut since early June and is coming off a fourth-place finish at the 2013 season-ending Tour Championship.

Simpson also played on the U.S. team that won the Presidents Cup earlier this month.

Reuters

US team member Webb Simpson hits from a bunker on the 14th hole as he plays International player Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa during the Singles matches for the 2013 Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 6 Oct, 2013.—Reuters

Benitez optimistic about Napoli's chance against Roma

Rome, 19 Oct—Napoli head coach Rafael Benitez said on Thursday he was optimistic about his side chance against Roma despite their inconsistent forms.

Napoli will play at Roma on Friday, and Benitez said his team are not in their 100 per cent best.

"I've always said that we are working to improve. We are still only at 75 per cent, I'm very satisfied," he said.

"We won at Milan even if with a little difficulty. Then we drew at home to Sassuolo. Italian football is hard, but we are optimistic ahead of Roma," he said.

Benitez played down the importance of the game which pits the league leaders against the second-placed team.

"If we win in Rome then we will return to Naples and prepare for the Marseille game," he said. "If we collect three points at Roma then we won't definitely win the Scudetto. If we don't win then we will just continue trying to get better."

The Spaniard said he will not assign a player to man-mark Francesco Totti who has inspired Roma to seven wins from as many Serie A games this season.

"Totti is a great player. We have to be defensively aware because he can make the difference. But we won't put a man on him, " he said. "Roma are a fantastic pressing side and their organization leaves little space for their opponents. It is no coincidence that they concede few goals. They counter well, but so do we," he said.

"I don't think Roma will change anything to the way they play. They defend as a team and don't man mark. They are good at the defensive phase and we just need to find the right space," he added.—*Xinhua*

Napoli head coach Rafael Benitez

Former NFL head coach Bum Phillips dies

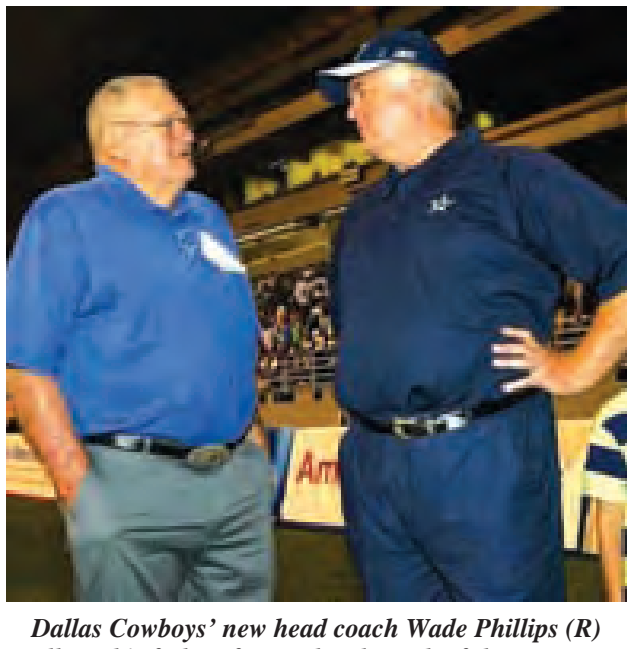
New York, 19 Oct—Bum Phillips, the colorful head coach of the National Football League's Houston Oilers and New Orleans Saints in the 1970s and 1980s, died on Friday, his son said. He was 90.

Phillips took over a losing football team in 1975 and turned it around, pushing Houston to appearances in conference championship playoff games twice, but losing both times to the Pittsburgh Steelers.

After he was fired by Houston in 1980, Phillips was hired to coach the New Orleans Saints. He led that team from 1981 to 1985, but never left his permanent home in Texas.

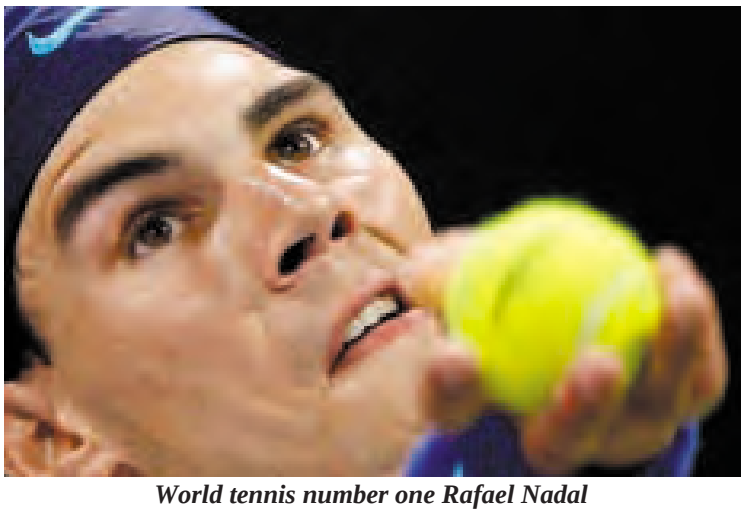
"Bum is gone to Heaven - loved and will be missed by all -great Dad, Coach, and Christian," son Wade Phillips tweeted on Friday night. "Thank you all for your kindness and support for my family at this time."

His family asked that instead of flowers people consider a donation to Bum Phillips Charities, an organization he formed in 2010 with his wife Debbie at their home in Goliad, Texas.—*Reuters*



Dallas Cowboys' new head coach Wade Phillips (R) talks to his father, former head coach of the Houston Oilers, Bum Phillips on the opening day of the Dallas Cowboys NFL training camp in San Antonio, TX, Wednesday, on 25 July, 2007.—Reuters

Tired Nadal withdraws from Basel indoor tournament



World tennis number one Rafael Nadal

London, 19 Oct—World tennis number one Rafael Nadal has withdrawn from next week's Basel indoor tournament because of fatigue.

The 27-year-old Spaniard, who has reclaimed top spot in the rankings after a superb year since returning from injury in February, announced his decision on his Facebook page. "Sorry to announce that I won't travel to Basel in Switzerland but after very exhausting weeks I have to regroup my fitness and my body," said Nadal, this year's French Open and US Open champion.

"I will do my best to come back to the Swiss Indoors next year." Local favorite Roger Federer will play in Basel, hoping to cement his place in next month's ATP World Tour finals in London.—*Reuters*

GENERAL

U Sein Win
Kyodo News
Aged (92) years

Beloved son of late U Phoe Pyawt and Daw Poe Yin, beloved husband of late Dr. Daw Khin Htway of No.283, U Wisara Rd, Sanchaung T/S, Yangon. Beloved father of Yi Yi Win (Language Consultant)-Soe Kyu (Sumitomo), (Aung Win)-Ei Ei Cho, Aye Aye Win (Associated Press)-Min Zaw (Tokyo Shimbum), Phyu Phyu Win, and grandfather of (7), has expired in Yangon on 17th Oct 2013 at 2:12 pm. The funeral and cremation ceremony will be held at 12:00 pm on 20th Oct 2013, at Yeway Cemetery.

*A waiter in school uniform severs foods in a classroom-themed restaurant in Changchun, northeast China's Jilin Province.—*Xinhua

NY man arrested, charged with trying to join al-Qaeda

New York, 19 Oct— US officials on Friday arrested a 25-year-old man in a New York suburb and charged him with trying to travel to Yemen to join al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, one of the most active wings of the militant network.

The man, Marcos Alonso Zea, pleaded not guilty to the charges contained in court papers unsealed on Friday contending he sought to join and provide aid to the group, which the United States regards as one of the most active wings of the militant network.

Appearing in US District Court in Central Islip, New York, not far from his Brentwood home, where he was arrested earlier in the day, Zea answered "yes" when Magistrate Judge Arlene Lindsay asked if he understood the charges contained in the five-count indictment.

No bail offer was made and Lindsay noted that "the evidence strongly suggests the defendant poses a danger to the community and given his previous actions, a risk of flight."

Prosecutors charged that Zea planned to join al Qaeda outside the United States that would result in murder.

The United States also charged Zea, who appeared in court wearing a brown shirt and brown pants, his hair pulled back in a ponytail, with attempting to give money to al-Qaeda affiliates.

Zea tried to destroy his computers when he learned he was under investigation, prosecutors said. But investigators were able retrieve documents including issues of al-Qaeda's "Inspire" magazine from his hard drives. They also recovered a semi-automatic rifle that Zea had given to an acquaintance before his planned trip to Yemen, prosecutors said.

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula has claimed responsibility for the attempt by a Nigerian man on Christmas Day 2009 to take down a Detroit-bound airliner with a bomb concealed in his underwear.

After the hearing, Zea's parents denied that he had any role in a terror plot.

"This is all lies. All fake. I raised my son, I know who he is," said his mother, Sandra Zea.

Reuters

Blast rocks Damascus suburb, casualties feared

Damascus, 19 Oct—A "terrorist" explosion rocked a pro-government suburb east of the Syrian capital of Damascus Saturday morning, leaving an unknown number of casualties, the state-run *SANA* news agency reported. The blast targeted the suburb of Jaramana from the adjacent Mlaiha suburb, *SANA* said, spelling no further details.

Meanwhile, another local media report said the blast was from a booby-trapped car that ripped through a checkpoint in that area, adding that three mortar shells landed on Jaramana after the blast and caused material losses.

The report also said that intense clashes are currently ongoing between the rebels and the government troops near the boundary of Jaramana, which is a pro-government suburb inhabited by Druze and Christians, and the Mlaiha suburb, which has emerged as a key rebel stronghold. Mortars and explosive-laden cars have hit Jaramana several times in the past few months, killing tens of people, wounding many more and destroying homes and shops.—*Reuters*

MYANMAR TV

(20-10-2013, Sunday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missonery Sayadaw

6:30 am
2. Physical Exercises

7:00 am
3. News/ Weather Report

7:30 am
4. (38) Phyar Mingalars

8:00 am
5. News/International News

8:25 am
6. Amazing World

9:00 am
7. News/International News

9:25 am
8. Documentary (Traveller)

9:50 am
9. Documentary (ASEAN)

10:00 am
10. News

10:15 am
11. Law Ka Ni Ti

11:00 pm
12. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

12:00 pm
13. New/International News/Weather Report

12:25 pm
14. Round Up of The Week's International News

12:35 pm
15. Myanmar Movies

2:23 pm
16. Documentary

3:00 pm
17. News

3:15 pm
18. Documentary

4:00 pm
19. News

4:15 pm
20. Documentary

5:00 pm
21. News

5:15 pm
22. Sing & Enjoy

6:00 pm
23. News/ Weather Report

6:20 pm
24. Cartoon Series

7:00 pm
25. News

7:15 pm
26. Lanching Of Digital Boradcasting System

8:00 pm
27. News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm
28. Pyi Thu Ni Ti

9:00 pm
29. News
30. Tamyetmar Takwetsar
31. New Melody

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

20-10-13 09:30 am ~ 21-10-13 09:30 am) MST

* Local News
* A Day Trip Thanlyin
* World News
* The meaning of flowers
* Local News
* Youth of The Future (Episode-6) (Adino, Drummer)
* World News
* Myanmar Circular Stone Slab
* Local News
* Life In Night....Art In Life (Episode-1)
* World News
* In the Studio Sunee
* Local News
* Sweet & Dreamy Taste
* World News
* Tipitaka Hteinlin Pariyattisarthintike
* Local News
* Magnificient Thadingyut Festival
* World News
* Myanmar Beauty And His Creations
* Local News
* Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (Part-1)
* Living with the Love of the Nature
* Dhamma School
* World News
* Chanmyay Yeiktha Meditation Center (Chaw Dwin Gone)
* Great Shwedagon-The Exhibition Hall of the Great Chronicle of Buddha
* World News
* Awesome Myanma Sculptures

Leverkusen win 2-1 at Hoffenheim in German Bundesliga

Berlin, 19 Oct— Bayer Leverkusen grab the lead in the Bundesliga for now owing to their dramatic 2-1 victory over Hoffenheim at the opener of the 9th round on Friday.

Sidney Sam and Stefan Kiebling ensured Leverkusen's seventh win meanwhile Hoffenheim wasted a penalty to suffer the third loss of the season. The encounter caused a scandal as referee Felix Brych denied the hosts a legitimate goal and awarded Leverkusen a phantom goal.

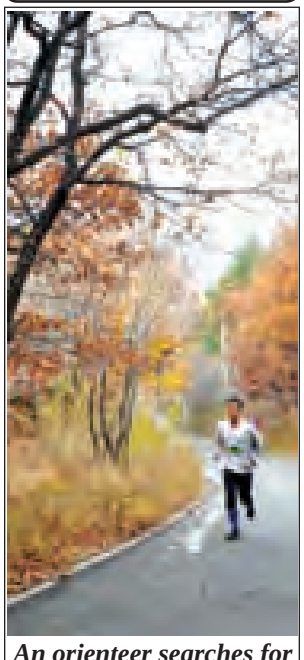
Both sides staged an evenly balanced match until the visitors broke the deadlock out of the blue when Sidney Sam exploited a build up play by Gonzalo Castro, to slot home into near post bottom corner from outside of the box at the 26th minute. It was the seventh goal of the season for Sam, who leads the goal scorer standings.

The hosts remained unimpressed and threatened Leverkusen's defence through Andres Beck's shot on target, which was deflected by his own teammate. However, Hoffenheim's Kevin Volland regular goal was then ruled offside minutes later.

Hoffenheim tried to cut a better figure at the second half but all their attacks remained unrewarded. Thus, Leverkusen were able to doubled the lead against the run of the game under extraordinary circumstances. Stefan Kiebling's header onto the target missed the goal but found a hole inside the side netting to make its way into the goal at the 70th minute.

As the match progressed and the players recovered from the bizarre situation, Hoffenheim nearly gained a foothold into the match as Roberto Firminio was fouled inside the box to ensure a penalty. Firmino stepped up but had to witness the save by Leverkusen goalkeeper Bernd Leno at the 83rd minute.

Still, Hoffenheim were able to reduce the arrears five minutes later as Sven Schipplock headed home a failed clearance attempt at the far post to mark the final 2-1 score in a dramatic encounter. The following fixtures are scheduled for Saturday: runner up Dortmund host Hannover, Bayern encounter Mainz, Bremen see Freiburg, newly promoted Braunschweig face Schalke, Frankfurt encounter Nuremberg and Berlin meet Stuttgart.—*Xinhua*



An orienteer searches for his target during the 2013 Vasaloppet Orienteering game in Changchun City, northeast China's Jilin Province, on 19 Oct, 2013. More than 2,600 orienteers from 26 countries and regions took part in the event. Xinhua

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1st Waning of Thadingyut 1375 ME

The New Light of Myanmar

Sunday, 20 October, 2013

Throngs of devotees at Shwedagon Pagoda and other famous pagodas in Yangon

YANGON, 19 Oct—Buddhist devotees celebrated Thadingyut lighting festival at famous pagodas in Yangon including Shwedagon Pagoda on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Abhidhamma Day).

Members of religious associations together with the members of board of trustees and staff of Shwedagon Pagoda marked the Thadingyut festival with multicoloured illuminations at the pagoda yesterday evening, and held an alm-offering ceremony this morning. Shwedagon Pagoda was parked with pilgrims from dawn and dusk on the Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut.

Likewise, thousands of devotees thronged to Sule Pagoda, Botahtaung Kyaikdaeup HsandawU Pagoda, Thiri Mingala Kaba-Aye Pagoda, Shwe Phone Pwint Pagoda, Kyaikwaing Pagoda, Buddha Tooth Relic Pagoda, Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image and other famous pagodas in the townships of Yangon. They offered alms, fruit, water and lights to the pagodas and recited Parittas today.—*MNA*

Throngs of pilgrims at Shwedagon Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Thadingyut (Abhidhamma Day).

MNA

Dancing Elephants of Kyaukse

Dancing elephants crowded with local people at annual elephant dance competition as preservation of traditions in Kyaukse.

Byline
Tun Tun Naing (Kyaukse)

An annual elephant dance competitions were opened in Kyaukse on yesterday, attracting 25 elephant dance troupes.

The traditional competitions were opened by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Thaung, Mandalay Region Forestry and Mining Minister U Than Soe Myint and Vice-Chairman of Kyaukse Association (Yangon) Col Myo Myint formally opened the competitions.

The elephant dance competition which is famous not only in Myanmar and but also in foreign countries was crowded with visitors.

''I think this year's competitions attracted more visitors than the last year' competition," said a member of the committee for organizing the competitions.

About 50 tourists enjoyed the competitions this year.

''My visit to Kyaukse is worth enjoying the elephant dancing competitions," a visitor of Thanlyin.

Nine teams of elephant teams for children, 12 teams of traditional elephant teams and four teams of Baw-kyae elephant teams participated in the competitions.

The dancing elephants are made of bamboo, cloth, paper and gilt gold foil and glitter.

The committee for organizing the competition also awarded elephant dance troupes who do not take part in the completions but performed dances to the visitors accompanied to the traditional orchestra.

***Trs:* AMS**

***Over 17000 people join charity funfairs with 200 shops with participation of Ministries of Home Affairs, Health, Foreign Affairs, Education and Construction in Nyanatheikdi Ward of Zabuthiri Township on fullmoon Day of Thadingyut today.—*KO KO NAY (PYINMANA)**

Bay Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Oct—According to the observation at 17:30 hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over South Bay of Bengal, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—*NLM*

Wunna Theikdi Stadium to be inaugurated on 24 Nov

By: Maung Shwe Yoe

Wunna Theikdi Stadium which will host the opening and closing ceremony of the XXVII South East Asian Games will be inaugurated next month, according to the Ministry of Sports.

There are two 30,000-seater venues in Nay Pyi Taw and the XXVII SEA Games' sports events in Nay Pyi Taw will be held there.

Zeyarthiri and Wunna Theikdi stadiums have each 30,000-seater venue for soccer, gymnasiums and swimming pools.

"The sports grounds and stadiums will be opened on 24 November," said U Kyaw Moe Win, Director of the Ministry of Sports at the LO/VO training course.

The opening and closing ceremony of the XXVII South East Asian Games will be held at the Wunna Theikdi Stadium on 11 and 22 December respectively.

The opening ceremony will be held for three days on 11, 12 and 13 December.

Myanmar will host the XXVII South East Asian Games in 44 years. Stadiums, sports grounds and Sports Village have already been built.

Myanma Alinn: 18-10-13

***Trs:* AMS**

Photo shows Wunna Theikdi stadiums where opening and closing ceremonies of SEA Games will be held.