

President U Thein Sein receives delegations of ARF, EC

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug —President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received foreign ministers from member countries of the ASEAN Regional Forum and the secretary general of the ASEAN at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday morning.

At the meeting, President U Thein Sein said that he was pleased to see that the ARF, which was formed 20 years ago, has become an influential organization that cooperate in political and security affairs in the Asian-Pacific Region and expressed his support for the organization's efforts to bring about stability, peace and prosperity through positive dialogues.

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President U Thein Sein greets foreign ministers from member countries of ASEAN Regional Forum and the ASEAN Secretary-General.

MNA



47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting concludes along with sideline events

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—The sideline meetings of the 47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting were held here on Sunday.

The ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations, the ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting, the 4th East Asia Summit

(EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the 21st ASEAN Regional Forum, and the 7th Mekong-Japan Ministerial Meeting at Myanmar International Convention Center-1 (MICC-1).

During the session of ASEAN-Australia Dialogue Relations, the agree-

ment was made on the multi-cooperation plan between the bloc and Australia from 2014 to 2019.

The members of ASEAN appreciated Australia's movement in fighting against human trafficking cases with five-year plan

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Mekong countries, Japan achieve progress in air services agreements

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug— Mekong region countries and Japan have made progress in concluding air services agreements between them, according to the statement of the 7th Mekong-Japan Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

Japan reached a substantial agreement on the air services agreements with Cambodia and Laos respectively in June.

During the meeting, the ministers from Mekong region countries namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam welcomed Japan's contribution of approximately 224 billion yen in the first half of this year, in accordance with three pillars of the strategy: "Enhancing Mekong Connectivity", "Developing Together", and "Ensuring

Human Security and Environmental Sustainability".

Meanwhile, the ministers from Mekong regional countries have committed to meeting financial demand for infrastructure development in the Mekong region by making good use of not only public funding such as ODA but also private funding.

Mekong regional countries and Japan concluded the legal frameworks concerning investment between Japan and all Mekong countries after the Myanmar-Japan investment agreement which came into effect on 7 August.

During the meeting, the ministers from Mekong countries also welcomed Japan's implementation of the relaxation of visa requirements to

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Foreign Ministers of ASEAN and dialogue partner countries pose documentary photo at 21st ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Retreat Session.—MNA

Seminar on development of SME held



Union Minister U Maung Myint with delegates to seminar on SME development-coordination among industrial, trade and investment related to policy and effective service delivery for SME promotion.—MNA

YANGON, 10 Aug—The seminar on SME development-coordination among industrial, trade and investment related to policy and effective service delivery for SME promotion kicked off at Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon on Saturday morning.

Union Minister for Industry U Maung Myint stressed the need to adopt policy and institutional frameworks to contribute towards development of

Myanmar's SMEs by observing SMEs in Japan and ASEAN countries.

Myanmar's SMEs are to join the ASEAN Common Market in 2015 so as to compete with that of ASEAN countries, he said, adding that the quality products of SME will be easily sold at the market. He urged all to cooperate in establishment of necessary services for SMEs and realization of good policy.

Prof Matsushima of

Tokyo University of Science discussed development of SME and roles of SME center and Deputy Director-General of SME Industries Development Department Daw Aye Aye Win the overview of the second advanced course and their study cases.

It was also attended by Director-General Mr Takumi Ueshima of Industrial Development and Public Policy Department of JICA.—MNA

Implementation schemes discussed under national electrification plan

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Schemes on implementation of national electrification plan which was jointly adopted by the Ministry of Electricity and the World Bank were discussed on 8 August here.

At the meeting, Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe said that Myanmar will implement the National Electrification Plan (NEP) through both sector-wise and region-wise phases to meet the requirements. He also said that by

using 4.8 billion yen of loans from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) the government will build up diesel-powered generators at 128 villages in nine states and regions; that the ministry will install power cables, substations and transformers in other 31 villages.

The World Bank has suggested that electrification for a total of 7.2 million households across the country should be supplied from nearest power stations, national grids, mini grids

connected with hydropower generators and solar-home system.

A master plan for construction of more power stations and national grids has been drafted with the help of JICA, targeting full electrification across the country.

U Ohn Myint, Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, said his ministry is cooperating with the Ministry of Electricity for rural electrification plan.

MNA

Union H&T Minister inspects progress of Loikaw region



Union Minister U Htay Aung discusses development of Loikaw region with arrival of tourists.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung heard reports on plans to transport visitors to Loikaw from Nyaungshwe crossing Moebye Reservoir presented by officials at the reservoir in Loikaw on Sunday.

The union minister met departmental officials and hotels and tourism entrepreneurs at the hall of Kayah State government in Loikaw on Saturday.

The union minister explained development of

tourism industry in Myanmar and Loikaw region, conducting of hotel and tourism courses and preparations for arrival of globetrotters through border gates.

Responsible persons of Myanmar Tourism Board, Union of Myanmar Travels Association, Myanmar Restaurant Entrepreneurs Association and other groups reported on assistance from their organizations to develop the Loikaw region. He solved difficulties in development process.—MNA

YUE, ACCA sign MoU to advance finance and accountancy education in Myanmar

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 10 Aug—Rector Prof Dr Khin Naing Oo and Pro-Rector Prof Dr Tun Aung of Yangon University of Economics (YUE) and Chief Executive Helen Brand OBE and Head of Emerging Market-Asia Reza Ali of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) signed an MoU to advance finance and accountancy education in Myanmar, on Saturday on the YUE campus in Yangon.

The MoU is aimed at providing a pathway for students from the YUE to gain a global professional accounting qualification. It also highlights the synergies between YUE and ACCA.

“Both YUE and ACCA share a commitment to provide opportunity and access to quality education for Myanmar students. We look forward to work together to build a capacity and support Myanmar’s

finance and accountancy profession,” said Khin Naing Oo.

“The signing of the MoU marks the beginning of an even closer collaboration between YUE and ACCA to advance accountancy and finance education in Myanmar. We are optimistic and confident that our partnership will go from strength to strength, and that together, we will support the economic aspirations and social development goals of Myanmar,” Brand said.

YUE (formally known as Yangon Institute of Economics) is the premier university of economics and business in Myanmar. It serves more than 7,000 undergraduate and graduate students. ACCA is the global body for professional accountants. It was founded in 1904 and works through a network of 91 offices and centres and more than 8,500 Approved Employers worldwide.—NLM



Members of MWEA Ma Haymar Soe, Ma May Oo Cho Cho Kyaw and Ma Myat Hsu Han at Yangon International Airport on 7 August before departure for Jakarta of Indonesia to attend ASEAN Youth Expo 2014 from 8 to 11 August.—MNA

Book on defence, security outlook of ARF comes out

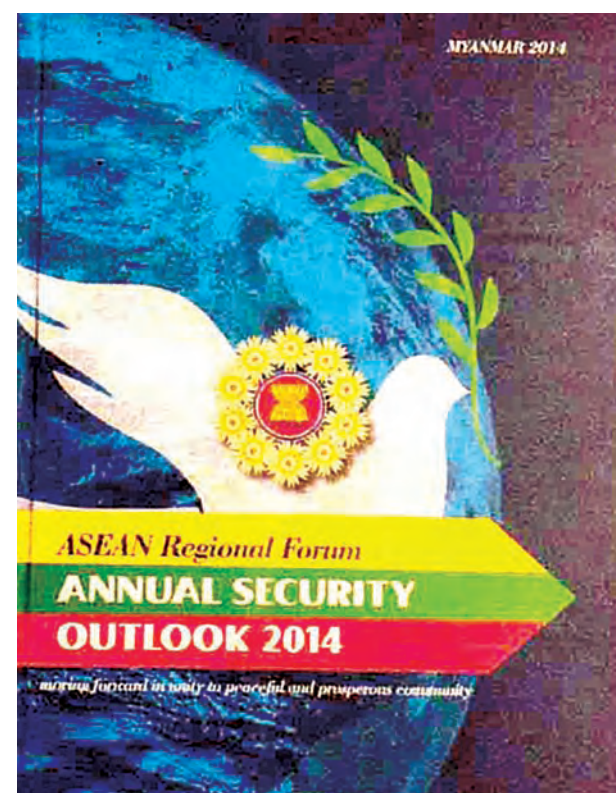
NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—The book titled ‘ASEAN Regional Forum Annual Security Outlook 2014’ has been published in Myanmar, the 20th chairman of the forum this year.

The 15th annual book is a compilation of regional defence policies and security outlooks from 10 members of the bloc, as well as from 10 ASEAN dialogue partners.

Australia, Canada, PR China, EU, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, Korea, Russia Federation and the United States.

The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) was established in 1994, com-

prising 27 countries; the 10 ASEAN member states of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam; the 10 ASEAN dialogue partners Australia, Canada, China, the EU, India, Japan, New Zealand, ROK, Russia and the United States; and one ASEAN observer (PNG) as well as the DPRK, Mongolia, Pakistan, Timor-Leste, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. The book is aimed to ensure transparency on defence and security policies among ARF countries, and to promote peace and security Asia-Pacific region.—MNA



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein receives delegations of ARF, EC

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In addition, President U Thein Sein briefed the foreign minister and the ASEAN secretary general on the reform measures being taken in Myanmar.

President U Thein Sein also received the delegation led by High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Mrs Catherine Ashton on the same day.

They exchanged views on promotion of relations between Myanmar and EC, cooperation for economic development of Myanmar, agricultural development, poverty alleviation, peace efforts and peace, stability and development of Rakhine State.—MNA



President U Thein Sein shakes hands with High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission Mrs Catherine Ashton after discussing promotion and relations between Myanmar and EC.—MNA

Union Information Minister gives interviews to foreign media

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut answered the questions of foreign media groups on Sunday here.

The Union minister gave interviews to New Delhi Television (ND TV) and Indian Express at 3 p.m., Sankei Shimbun of Japan at 4 p.m., and Press Trust of India (PTI) and United News of India (UNI) at 4:15 p.m.

MNA



Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut meets journalist from Sankei Shimbun of Japan.—MNA

Representatives to 8th ASEAN-China Forum tour Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Representatives to the 8th ASEAN-China Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction visited national projects of rural development and poverty alleviation in Koywa Thapyaegon village here on Saturday, sources said.

Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint showed them around organic vegetable plantations, fish farms, bee farms, and rural electricity supply projects. The representa-

tives from ASEAN countries and China also went on a study tour of Mandalay Region, where they observed a weaving industry and a pottery industry in Amarapura township as well as the Myanar Sankyaw Golden Palace in Mandalay.—MNA

Delegates of the 8th ASEAN-China Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction visit organic vegetable plantation in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

Mekong countries, Japan achieve progress...

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Myanmar in January 2014, and further visa relaxation to Viet Nam in

47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting...

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since March 2014, with the exchange of views on international and regional affairs.

The meeting of the ASEAN-New Zealand Ministerial Meeting at 8 a.m. discussed the four joint pivotal plans of scholarship programme, exchange on young entrepreneurs, disaster management plans and agricultural sector, negotiating about holding the 40th anniversary of partnership.

The 4th East Asia Summit (EAS) Foreign Ministers' Meeting held at 11:30 a.m. was attended by foreign ministers from ASEAN members, as well as their counterparts from Australia, Canada, PR China, India, Japan, Korea, the

United States and Russia Federation.

The event discussed the subsequent implementations on the result from the 8th East Asia Summit held in October 2013 and the preparations for the 9th East Asia Summit which will be celebrated in November this year in Nay Pyi Taw.

The 21 ASEAN Region Forum was held with two sessions of exclusive meeting and inclusive meeting, with the participation of ministers of foreign affairs from ASEAN countries, as well as their counterparts from Australia, Bangladesh, PR China, Canada, EU, Korea, Mongolia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Pakistan, the United States, Russia Fed-

eration, Sri Lanka and Timor-Leste.

The exclusive meeting discussed international and regional affairs, while the inclusive meeting reviewed the activities of ASEAN Regional Forum, anti-terrorism plans in 2014 and 2015, fighting against trans-border crimes.

The ASEAN Regional Forum also issued two declarations of preventions, responses and rehabilitation on oil spills, as well as forging cooperation on rescue plans on navigation and air transport.

The closing ceremony of the 47th ASEAN Ministers' Meeting and its sideline events were held with the farewell speech of Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin.

MNA



Foreign Ministers and delegates participate in ASEAN-Australia Ministerial Meeting.—MNA

Myanmar, Pakistan to enhance friendship and cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin received Syed Tariq Fatemi, Minister of

State for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan at Myanmar International Convention Centre-I in Nay Pyi Taw on Sunday.

The Pakistan State Minister for Foreign Affairs and party were in Nay Pyi Taw to attend the 21st ASEAN Regional Forum.

They exchanged views on enhancing the existing ties of friendship and cooperation as well as regional and international affairs in a cordial manner.—MNA

NLM



Shinpin Swehle Pagoda Festival commences in Kanbalu Township

KANBALU, 10 Aug—The Buddha Pujaniya festival of Shinpin Swehle Pagoda, located in southwest of Lethse Village in Kanbalu Township of Sagaing Region started on 10 August, Sunday.

The pagoda was built by King Alaungsithu (1112-1167 A.D.) in Bagan era. Local people hold the Buddha pujaniya festival for the pagoda annually. Thanks to generous well-wishers, the pagoda has

been renovated, and monasteries, lakes and meditation centre were built.

Pagoda Board of Trustees donates meals to pilgrims from four corners during the festival. On the Fullmoon day of Wagaung in Myanmar lunar calendar which falls on 10 August this year, the officials donated rice and offertories to 75 members of the Sangha, sharing merits gained.

Myo Win Nyo
(Kyunhla)



Harvesting of summer paddy stabilizes price of rice in Mandalay



AMARAPURA, 10 Aug—Amarapura and Patheingyi townships of Mandalay District and Kyaukse, Singaing, Myittha and TadaU townships of Kyaukse District of Mandalay Region have cultivated

53,238 acres of summer paddy against the target of 65,480 acres this year.

The summer paddy plantations were harvested in the townships as of July, producing

120 baskets per acre for Shwethweyin, Yezin Lonthwe and Shwebo Manaw paddy strains and over 150 baskets for Palethwe paddy strain.

Depending on the quality of paddy, the merchants buy K430,000 per 100 baskets of Manaw Thukha paddy, K480,000 for Shwethweyin and Yezin Lonthwe paddy and K380,000 for Palethwe paddy.

As summer paddy has been harvested, the price of rice becomes stable in the market. At the brokerage on 85th Street in Chanayethazan Township, merchants sell K22,000 per one bag of Shwethweyin rice, K18,000 per bag of Manawthukha and K31,000 per bag of Shwebo Manaw rice.

Farmers are making preparations for growing monsoon paddy after harvesting the summer paddy.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

ABSDF honours fallen comrades in Mohnyin

MOHNYIN, 10 Aug—Reconciliation between the people and the Tatmadaw, between Bamar and ethnic groups and among ethnic groups is essential for national reconciliation, said Chairman U Than Khe of the Central Committee of All Burma Students Democratic Front on 7 August.

He was speaking at the ceremony to honour those who fell the democratic revolution at the ABSDF (North) held at Ashae Kyaung Pariyatti Sarthintaik in Mohnyin.

Secretary of the ABSDF

(North) Ma Nang Yin explained the purpose of the ceremony and Ko Sein Aye briefed on political outlook of the front at the ceremony.

Chairman U Than Khe reviewed the current political situation and political outlook of the front.

On behalf of political forces inside Myanmar, U Kyi of the National League for Democracy discussed the current situation.

During the 26 years of the existence of the organization, over 800 members of the ABSDF

died in action and other 400 were wounded.

Certificates of honour were presented to families of the late members.

NLM 001



Kalay University welcomes fresher students

KALAY, 10 Aug—Kalay University is located at the foot of Chin Hill. In the time of the State Peace and Development Council government, the university was built for students of Chin State. However, the adequate plain for the university could not be found in Chin State, so the authorities chose the site for the university at the foot of Chin Hill in Kalay Township of Sagaing region.

In fact, Kalay University is an education institution where youths of Haka, Falam, Tiddim, Thantlang and Tonzang townships

in northern Chin State are pursuing higher education.

On 6 August, the Chin literature and culture committee organized the fresher welcome ceremony at the university.

The Rector in-charge, deans and faculty members welcomed the fresher students.

Rector in-charge and Dean of Myanmar Department Dr Tin Tun May delivered an address on the occasion. The Chin national youths performed their Chin national dances in traditional costumes.

Linlet Kyel Sin



REGIONAL

Singapore celebrates 49th anniversary



Tens of thousands of people watched the last National Day Parade at the Floating Platform at Marina Bay on Saturday evening.

XINHUA

SINGAPORE, 10 Aug — Over 27,000 spectators in Singapore joined the National Day Parade at the Marina Bay Floating Platform to celebrate the country's 49th birthday on Saturday.

Former Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, President Tony Tan Keng Yam, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong also attended the ceremony.

Themed "Our People, Our Home," the parade, which started at about 5:40 pm local time, was kicked off by a military band display.

And when Lee Kuan Yew, the founding father and former prime minister

made his appearance, the audiences burst into big applause.

The highlight of this year's parade goes to the Red Lions parachute team. The crowd cheered when nine parachutists plunged from 10,000 feet to land on the floating platform.

This traditional programme was canceled last year due to unsuitable weather.

The parade also features performances of Singapore's army, navy, air force and police force and was wrapped up by a show party which turned the whole platform into a colorful stage.

Xinhua

Japan, China foreign ministers meet, discuss steps to improve ties

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug—Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said early Sunday he met with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi late Saturday and discussed measures to improve soured bilateral relations. It was the first foreign ministerial meeting between the two countries since Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe returned to power in December 2012.

"I exchanged views (with Wang) on how to improve relations. I met him and spoke with him for a long time," Kishida told reporters, without revealing details such as what specific issues they discussed and how long they talked.

Kishida said both sides gave their opinions "candidly." The Japanese minister said that with the meeting as a starting point, he is eager to promote rela-

tions with China.

Kishida is believed to have called for Wang's cooperation in setting a meeting between Abe and Chinese President Xi Jinping when he hosts a summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in November in Beijing.

But it is not known whether China may show any change in its position that it will not hold a summit with Abe unless Japan

recognizes the existence of a "territorial dispute" over the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea, administered by Japan but claimed by Beijing and Taiwan, and Abe promises not to visit the war-related Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo.

Kishida and Wang met on the sidelines of Association of Southeast Asian Nations-related meetings in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw. — *Kyodo News*

Thailand welcomes stronger China-ASEAN strategic partnership

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Thailand welcomes stronger strategic partnership between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which is now entering into the second decade, Thai acting Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow said here on Saturday.

He made the remarks at a joint Press conference with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi after the ASEAN-China Foreign Ministers Meeting held as part of the ongoing 47th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting (AMM) in Myanmar's capital of Nay Pyi Taw. Describing ASEAN's relations with China as very comprehensive, Sihasak

said that Thailand also welcomes the fact that the Chinese side has come up with a number of concrete proposals and ideas to strengthen this strategic partnership.

The proposals are important to strengthening connectivity which needs more integration, he said.

He also said Thailand welcomes the establishment of an Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank as proposed by China, adding it is a very constructive initiative and Thailand wishes to be its member.

The Thai official agreed with the upgrading of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement (ACFTA), saying this will not only promote free trade be-

tween ASEAN and China, but also help advance the negotiation on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

He said Thailand welcomes China's proposal of 21st century maritime Silk Road, as much of the region's trade, investment and commerce ultimately depends on sea connectivity. ASEAN looks forward to working together with China to implement the proposal, he added. According to Sihasak, ASEAN is confident in moving forward the strategic partnership with China in the next decade, which was described as "diamond decade" by Chinese Premier Li Keqiang.

Noting that

ASEAN-China partnership constitutes one of the pillars of regional peace and stability, the minister said ASEAN wishes to work more closely together with China to promote a peaceful external environment for economic development.

With regard to the issue of South China Sea, he said ASEAN wants to advance full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), while also advancing official consultation on the Code of Conduct (COC). ASEAN hopes the next round of consultation on drafting the COC to be held in Thailand by October. — *Xinhua*

US urges India to step up as regional power

NEW DELHI, 10 Aug — The United States urged India on Saturday to bolster its role as a global power and force for regional stability, ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first visit to Washington since his election in May.

In a speech wrapping up two days of talks, Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel also played up deepening defence industry cooperation but did not have any major new arms export deals to announce.

"The United States strongly supports India's growing global influence and military capabilities including its potential as a security provider from the Indian Ocean to the greater Pacific," Hagel told an invited audience.

Both Washington and New Delhi share concerns about the increasing geopo-

litical assertiveness of China, which from economic parity with India in 1980 now has an economy that is four times as large.

India, which has embraced non-alignment since independence in 1947, long relied on the Soviet Union to equip its armed forces. But, in recent years, it has become the largest buyer of US weaponry.

Before Hagel's visit, Indian officials played up chances that orders for US *Apache* and *Chinook* helicopters, both made by Boeing, might advance. No announcement was made on those deals but officials have said the two sides would deepen cooperation on missile systems. Hagel, in a speech at the Observer Research Foundation, a privately funded think-tank, noted that India had spent \$9 billion on US

defence equipment since 2008 — compared to half a billion dollars before then.

"But we can do more to forge a defence industrial partnership," he said, calling to "transform our nations' defence cooperation from simply buying and selling to co-production, co-development and freer exchange of technology." India's cabinet has just cleared a proposal to allow 49 percent foreign participation in the defence industry, up from a current cap of 26 percent, in a bid to boost local manufacturing and end its chronic dependence on arms imports.

Some Western manufacturers have been lukewarm about the raising of the cap on defence investment, saying it did not go far enough for them to transfer technology to India. — *Reuters*



US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel (C) delivers an address on "Achieving the Potential of the US-India Strategic Partnership" during a conference organised by the Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi on 9 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

Antinuke protesters bike around Washington on Nagasaki A-bomb day

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — More than 100 cyclists gathered in Washington on Saturday, the 69th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of Nagasaki, to call for the global abolition of nuclear weapons.

At the event, organized by antinuclear advocate group Global Zero, participants rode bikes over an 11-kilometre course encompassing the White House and Congress building, as well as other major landmarks in the US capital.

The course was decided based on a hypothetical calculation of an area which would be devastated should an atom bomb the size of those used in Hiroshima and Nagasaki be dropped on Washington.



People gather for a ceremony at the Peace Park in Nagasaki, southwestern Japan, on 9 Aug, 2014, to mark the 69th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of the city.

KYODO NEWS

“The ride today is symbolic,” said Erin Finucane, global campaign director for Global Zero. Organizers wanted to

“challenge” participants to think about what a nuclear catastrophe would look like in their own community, she added.

Prior to the start of the ride, former US Assistant Secretary of Defence Lawrence Korb addressed the crowd and stressed

the importance of putting denuclearization “back on the agenda” of US President Barack Obama, who has pledged to seek a world without nuclear weapons.

“He’s got two years left, we’ve got to make him do it,” Korb said, pointing out the danger of keeping nuclear stockpiles. “This would be a great legacy for him,” he added.

“Our message to Obama is clear — zero is the only option,” said Finucane. Global Zero aims for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by 2030.

The event was the first of its kind to be held in Washington. Similar events took place simultaneously in London, Berlin, Islamabad, Lahore and New Delhi. — Kyodo News

18 suspects of Xinjiang fatal terror attack surrender to police

URUMQI, 10 Aug — A total of 18 suspects of a fatal terror attack in Shache County, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, have surrendered to police, the regional government said here on Sunday.

The suspects have turned themselves in under tense pressure from the public, the regional public-security department said.

The attack on 28 July in southern Xinjiang left 37 civilians dead and another 13 injured. Police shot dead 59 terrorists and arrested 215 others.

Out of the 31 vehicles smashed in the violent attack, 6 were burned.

Xinhua

South Korea eyeing Israeli rocket interceptor

JERUSALEM, 10 Aug — South Korea is interested in buying the Israeli short-range rocket interceptor Iron Dome, its manufacturer said on Sunday.

Iron Dome, which uses guided missiles to shoot down the Katyusha-style rockets favoured by Palestinian and Lebanese guerrillas, has scored around a 90 percent success rate in the month-old Gaza war, Israeli officials and US observers say.

Yedidia Yaari, CEO of Iron Dome’s state-owned manufacturer Rafael Advanced Defence Systems Ltd, said the system’s performance had fuelled foreign interest in buying it, including by South Korea, which is in an armed standoff with North Korea.

“It is very worried not only about rockets, but other things as well ... You can certainly include them in the club of interested countries,” Yaari told Israel’s Army Radio, saying

Rafael representatives had visited Seoul to promote Iron Dome. Yaari did not give details on how advanced such a deal with South Korea may be. Rafael has not made public any foreign sales so far, saying it was giving priority to supplying Iron Domes to Israel, which has fielded nine out of a planned total of 12 interceptor units.

Washington has extensively funded the Israeli deployment and supplies of interceptor missiles. Defence industry sources estimate that each Iron Dome battery costs around \$50 million and each interceptor missile between \$30,000 and \$50,000.

Also participating in Iron Dome’s production are Israeli defence contractors Elisra Group and Israel Aerospace Industries. The system uses some components made by US defence contractor Raytheon Co.

Reuters



An interception of a rocket by the Iron Dome anti-missile system is seen above the Israeli town of Sderot on 8 Aug, 2014. —REUTERS



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) National Council Meeting in New Delhi, India, on 9 Aug, 2014. — XINHUA

Japan, US, S Korea foreign ministers meet, focus on N Korea

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Aug — Foreign ministers of Japan, the United States and South Korea began talks on Sunday in the Myanmar capital Nay Pyi Taw in which they are likely to reaffirm close trilateral coordination in curbing North Korea’s missile and nuclear weapons development.

Japanese Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida is expected to tell US Secretary of State John Kerry and South Korean Foreign Minister Yun Byung Se that Japan will continue to employ a strict

policy against North Korea in an effort to dispel their concern that Tokyo’s approach to Pyongyang over the abduction issue could undermine coordinated action against the North over its missile and nuclear programmes.

Japan has condemned North Korea for firing short-range ballistic missiles in violation of UN Security Council resolutions.

But in defiance of international pressure, North Korea on Thursday referred to the possibil-

ity of conducting more missile launches and a nuclear test as “self-defence” measures against joint military exercises by the United States and South Korea.

On 4 July, Japan lifted some of its sanctions on North Korea in return for launching the new round of investigations into Japanese nationals abducted by North Korea in the 1970s and 1980s and missing Japanese suspected to have been abducted.

Pyongyang is expected to make a first report

on the reinvestigations in the first half of September. The United States and South Korea are concerned that Japan may further lift its unilateral sanctions on North Korea depending on progress in the probes.

Kishida, Kerry and Yun met on the sidelines of the 27-member ASEAN Regional Forum, Asia’s biggest security gathering, where North Korea and maritime security issues are likely to draw attention.

Kyodo News

WORLD

Obama says tackling Iraq's insurgency will take time

McCain says US airstrikes in Iraq can't stop Islamic State: NY Times



US President Barack Obama

BAGHDAD, 10 Aug — President Barack Obama said on Saturday US air strikes had destroyed arms that Islamic State militants could have used against Iraqi Kurds, but he warned there was no quick fix to a crisis that threatens to tear Iraq apart.

Speaking before US warplanes struck militant targets for the second straight day, Obama said it would take more than bombs to restore stability, and criticized Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's Shi'ite-led government for failing to empower Iraq's Sunnis.

"I don't think we're going to solve this problem

in weeks. This is going to take some time," Obama told a news conference in Washington.

Shortly after Obama spoke, US aircraft hit armoured vehicles and other Islamic State targets in an area where militants pose an imminent threat to religious minorities, the US Central Command said.

The four strikes, conducted by a mix of drone aircraft and fighter jets, destroyed several armoured vehicles and armed trucks, Central Command said.

Later on Saturday, Central Command said the US military had conducted a third airdrop of food and

water to members of Iraq's Yazidi sect who have taken refuge on Mount Sinjar in northern Iraq after being threatened by the Islamic State.

The latest of the missions, which have occurred three nights in a row, involved three US military cargo aircraft escorted by fighter jets, it said.

Islamic State has captured wide swaths of northern Iraq since June, executing non-Sunni Muslim captives, displacing tens of thousands of people and drawing the first US air strikes in the region since Washington withdrew troops in 2011.

After routing Kurdish forces this week, the militants are just 30 minutes' drive from Arbil, the Iraqi Kurdish capital, which up to now has been spared the sectarian bloodshed that has scarred other parts of Iraq for a decade.

Obama said Washington would continue to provide military assistance and advice to Baghdad and Kurdish forces, but he repeatedly stressed the importance of Iraq's forming

its own inclusive government.

Maliki has been widely criticized for authoritarian and sectarian policies that have alienated Sunnis and prompted some to support the insurgency.

"I think this a wake-up call for a lot of Iraqis inside of Baghdad recognizing that we're going to have to rethink how we do business if we're going to hold our country together," Obama said, before departing on a two-week vacation.

Employees of foreign oil companies have been leaving Arbil, and Kurds have snapped up AK-47 assault rifles in arms markets for fear of imminent attack, although these have proved ineffective against the superior firepower of the Islamic State fighters.

Given the Islamic State threat, a source in the Kurdistan regional government said it had received extra supplies of heavy weaponry from the Baghdad federal government "and other governments" in the past few days but declined to elaborate.

Reuters

WASHINGTON, 10 Aug — Republican US Senator John McCain said on Saturday that President Barack Obama's limited military action against Islamic State militants in northern Iraq showed a "fundamental misunderstanding of the threat," and called for strikes against the group's positions in Syria, The New York Times reported.

McCain, a frequent critic of Obama's foreign policy including his handling of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, said the airstrikes authorized by the president are not enough to deal with a growing threat to the United States that he called "the richest, most powerful terrorist organization in history," the paper said.

Obama on Thursday authorized the US military to make airdrops of humanitarian assistance to prevent what he called a potential "genocide" of the Yazidi religious sect in Iraq and conduct targeted strikes on Islamic State fighters who have been seizing territory in northern Iraq, a limited operation to protect Amer-

icans working in the country.

"The stated purpose — stated by the president — is to save American lives, not to stop ISIS, not to change the battlefield, not to stop ISIS from moving equipment farther into Syria to destroy the Free Syrian Army," McCain said, referring to the Islamic State by one of its acronyms.

"Obviously, the president of the United States does not appreciate this is not just a threat to American troops on the ground or even Iraq or Kurdistan. This is a threat to America," he said.— Reuters



Republican US Senator John McCain

Renewed fighting jeopardizes Gaza truce efforts

GAZA / JERUSALEM, 10 Aug — An Israeli air strike killed a Palestinian man and wounded seven others on Sunday, medics said, in a third day of renewed fighting that has jeopardized international efforts to achieve a lasting ceasefire in a more than month-old Gaza conflict.

The parties remained far apart. Israel refused to send back officials to Egyptian-brokered peace negotiations in Cairo as long as violence along the Israel-Gaza border went on. The head Palestinian delegate on Saturday threatened to quit the talks unless Israel reversed that stance.

Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri said he saw "very slim" chances of success in efforts to renew a three-day truce that stopped the fighting last Tuesday, only to see the tensions pick up again on Friday.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's cabinet would likely address the crisis in its weekly session

later on Sunday. "We are at a crossroads and within two or three days we will see whether we are heading left toward an agreement, or right, toward escalation," Intelligence Minister Yuval Steinitz, a close ally of Netanyahu, told Channel 10 television on Saturday.

An Israeli air strike in Jebalya refugee camp before dawn caused the latest casualties in Gaza, killing a man and wounding seven, raising the Palestinian death toll to 1,891 since the 8 July launch of Israel's offensive to quell rocket fire.

Gaza officials said most of the Palestinians killed were civilians. Israel said 64 of its soldiers and three civilians have died in the fighting that started on 8 July following a surge in Palestinian rocket salvos into Israel.

Israel expanded its air and naval bombardment into a ground offensive on 17 July, and pulled its infantry and armour out of the enclave on Tuesday after saying it had destroyed more than 30 infiltration



Smoke rises following what witnesses said was an Israeli air strike in Gaza City on 9 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

tunnels dug by militants.

Heavy civilian casualties and destruction during Israel's campaign in packed residential areas of the Gaza Strip have raised international alarm over the past month.

In renewed fighting since the end of a three-day truce on Friday, Israel has killed 14 Palestinians in air strikes. Militants have fired more than 100 rockets at Israel, causing no damage or casualties.

Medical officials in Gaza said a 10-year-old boy and 13-year-old girl were among nine killed on Saturday. Two other Palestinians were killed when their motorcycle was bombed, and the bodies of

three others were found beneath the rubble of one of three bombed mosques.

Two more Palestinians were killed in an air strike on a car in the southern town of Rafah, Gaza medics said.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 11 August, 2014

Leaders and trustworthiness

By Kyaw Thura

Trust is an essential prerequisite on which all real success depends. It also plays a major part in interpersonal relations. Building trust means thinking in a positive way in terms of risks and vulnerabilities. We need to force ourselves into thinking about uncertainties as possibilities and opportunities rather than liabilities.

Breaking trust does not take as much time as building it. It takes time to build trust, once lost. It is therefore trust is one of the most precious things of the world.

If relationships are plagued by suspicion and fear, trust begins to deteriorate, thereby leading to splits. Walking the talk serves as a base for trust. Any attempt to conceal things, even if they seem small, will create a hairline fracture in good reputation, whose foundation will soon crumble with the passage of time.

Followers are willing to keep trusting their leaders as long as they find their leaders dependable. In order to maintain trust from followers, leaders must be thoughtful and far-sighted in the face of hardship. Good leaders always keep their promises, no matter how small and insignificant, because they know very well that followers tend to place greater significance on any promise they

make. In other words, they are well aware of the fact that followers prefer promises to persons. Simply put, followers do not care who their leaders are but what they are.

Another personal quality followers find in leaders is that good leaders accept blame on behalf of their team and will never point an accusing finger at other people. They are ready to hold accountable for things they are responsible for.

Leaders as such will go down in history till the end of the world.

Write for us

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

Myanmar Aesthetic literature, Appreciation of Artistic Works, Feelings that literature gives, Poetic license and Literary techniques

Kin Mg Oo

(Continue from yesterday)

Why are we saying repeatedly to read Myanmar aesthetic literature today? That is because Myanmar youths are becoming to lose the sight of some of the Myanmar cultures and traditions and much of the knowledge on Myanmar vocabularies are gone out of their minds. Some believe that Myanmar will come to extinction, if the problem goes unsolved in time. Assuming that we all have responsibility to take preventive measures for our language and literature not to deteriorate, we are strongly urging our savants, scholars and Myanmar language lovers to revitalize Myanmar aesthetic literature.

Around the world are many who know Shakespeare's plays. Among them, the Merchant of Venice is the one that nearly all students have to study in their classrooms. It is a comedy that gives us many feelings. In there, Antonio is the title character, but many are important. Shylock, the Jewish money-lender, is the epitome of revenge while Antonio is that of loyalty towards a friend. At the same time, Portia depicts she is a woman of great virtues. The play's synopsis is as follows:

Antonio and Bassanio are close friends. The former is a rich man while the latter is a soldier and suitor to Portia who is famous for

her beauty and wealth. It happens that Antonio has no money in his hand when his friend comes to borrow money, as all his ships are at sea. So he gets money he needs from Shylock, the then Jewish money-lender of Venice. Shylock lends money to Bassanio without interest. But if Antonio fails to return money by the due date, the guarantor must give a pound of flesh from his body under the contract. Briefly speaking, Antonio's ships are heard to have been lost in the sea and Shylock puts Antonio on court, claiming to have a pound of Antonio's flesh. As Shylock will never accept money apart from the flesh, Antonio must concede the claim according to Venice's law although Bassanio and Antonio's sympathizers tell Shylock to pay mercy by taking twice the loan. At the time when the defendant nearly abandons to despair, there came into the court, to judge the case, a young lawyer and his clerk. Finally, his excellent arguments and speeches defeat the extreme cruelty of the Jew. Our teacher's explicit teaching nearly made us see the dramatic scenes with our own eyes. The climax was the court-room scene in which both sides were being tried. Also notable was Portia's speech about "the quality of mercy". We will never forget Portia's words: "Mercy is twice blessed. It blesses him that gives and him that takes". The playwright tells

us that insults beget anger which causes cruelty that makes self-destruction. In brief, Shakespeare's plays play an important role so far for their longevity and influence.

Now I want to turn back to Myanmar literature, which is being said to grow fainter in popularity with our younger generation. This may be attributed to the change of their interest from print media to new media which is cheap and easily accessible. If we want our youths to savor our Myanmar literature, I hope, it will be great benefit to disseminate our loved literary works through the Net as soon as we can. Otherwise, a new type of literature would replace our valuable cultural heritage before we recognized it. What I am saying this does not mean that we do not accept the new. Our long-lived literature itself was said to have originated from Indian literature. Our ancestors tried hard to develop it to reach the present state. We will accept the avant-garde of our youths and acknowledge them if satisfactory. Many well-known writers and poets emerged throughout our history. To their everlasting credit, we cannot remove their names and their works from our memories. Among them is famous a great poem by Ledi Sayadaw, "An appealing letter from bovines to carnivorous beings". I hope the readers would pardon me if my poor rendering did not bring satisfaction to them. The eponymous characters

are bovines and the theme of this poem is to bring a message to readers, which tells us to abstain from doing any harm towards those who serve for our benefits. Being agricultural economies, we—including neighboring countries are still relying upon cattle for farming and we used to and regard those animals as our benefactors. As the sacred cow, we abstained from eating their meat. But younger generations seemed to neglect that practice. Although doctors and physicians prescribe our people to feed their children on beef, some fail to follow the prescription, assuming that it is inappropriate to consume the meat of a benefactor. But most were beginning to abandon their forefathers' sacrosanct belief. Our revered Sayadaw could not help reminding those people of our cherished tradition. Here is my partial mediocre translation of the long poem for readers to grasp the general meaning of what the writer wanted to give.

Not unlike human-beings, we are unable to speak eloquently, losing the words for retorting.

We were subjected to slaughterers and butchers, standing still in vain and despair.

If we had a sweet tongue and articulation rightly could be done, now is for us to respond.

Myanmar and Indian, They are Oriental brethren.

All wealth that came to them both was closely con-

nected with our effort.

From ancestors to lineal descendants, we were, to them, loyal servants, with our shoulders under yokes nearly burnt.

Our endeavour, might and the sweat of our brows make their harvest yield more.

The produce was piled high on the threshold.

So their treasuries were full as much.

They accumulated riches enough so as to satisfy all their desires.

They managed to have monasteries and pagodas built to donate as their wishes.

Knowingly that we brought about these to them, they gave us with ingratitude and unkindness in return.

They showed no sign of pity in their faces.

While sitting for a square meal, instead, with oily dish—our flesh, liver and guts placed in the middle, they were relishing with taste.

It was really inhumane.

Let me stop my unfinished rendering here so that my respected betters can substitute with their newly corrected ones. I really request them to do me a favor by composing a better English poem. My translation was meant for readers just to know the essence of the long poem. This poem's main attraction resides in the use of euphemistic language. Undeniably, the poem has pathos that makes us feel pity for animals, and we were well convinced of the importance of gratitude

in our society. While I am at it, I want to read you a poem which has been living for more than half a decade in our memories. The poem, "Roses" composed by Sayargyi Min Thu Wun was translated into English by Sayar Mya Zin [U Win Pe].

Roses [Min Thu Wun—1932] returning from the field she said she wanted to wear star flowers I plucked then in the morning

I saw the elegant one with roses in her hair magnificent!

There is another famous poem still being recited on our lips. It was named Hyacinth Way-10. The poet was Sayar Zaw Gyi and the translator was Sayar Mya Zin.

Hyacinth Way-10 [Zaw Gyi—1960]

At the mudflat's margin of murky blue the hyacinth moves up with the waves and with the waves descends.

Descent is not without travail.

A coconut frond comes floating with the tide.

Descent and drift. The coconut frond hits the hyacinth girl in the side.

Though hit in the side she finds no rest.

In a moment a wave has smothered her.

She goes under and does not rise.

Then a wave surges and the hyacinth girl comes up about a yard away

Coming up does not bring respite. Ducks emerge from a branch of the creek.

(to be continued)

LOCAL NEWS

Nutritious food cooking contest held

MANDALAY, 10 Aug—Pyigyidagun Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association organized the nutritious food cooking contest in Ward D of the township in Mandalay Region on Saturday.

Five teams from five wards participated in the cooking contest.

Chairman of Mandalay District MCWSC Daw Wah Wah Khaing and Township MCWA Daw Khaing Khaing Shein presented prizes to the



winning teams.

Officials gave talks on advantages of breast-

feeding and consumption of nutritious foods. They presented eggs and iodized

salt to the families.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Couple of artists showcases arts in gallery

MANDALAY, 10 Aug—A couple of artists Khin Maung Hsan and Khin Nan San showed their works at

the Together Forever Arts Exhibition at the gallery at the foot of Mandalay Hill in Mandalay on Saturday.

In an interview, Artist Khin Nan San said she artistically creates paintings while supporting his

husband artist. Artist Khin Maung San expressed his future plans to depict the panoramic views of Mandalay City while joining hands with his wife to implement their golden dreams.

The arts gallery was attended by media persons and guests and the paintings are being showcased up to 13 August.

Min Htet Aung (Mandalay Sub-printing House)



Mandalay Region U-20 players under training

MANDALAY, 10 Aug—As the Mandalay Region

Chief Minister's Cup Inter-State/Region U-20 Football Tournament will take place at Mandalay Thiri Stadium in Mandalay on 11 September, Mandalay Region Football Subcommittee chose 43 tentatively selected players being placed under training at Shwe Mann Taung Sports Ground as of 4 August.

The footballers are being trained under manager U Nay Aung, leader

of the team Deputy Director U Wai Zin, head coach U Khin Maung Lay and former selected player coaches.

The tentatively selected Red team played a tune-up match with Sports and Physical Education Institute (Mandalay) at Mandalay Thiri Stadium on Saturday. The red team thrashed the SPEI 4-0.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Myanmar's first American College Test (ACT) Center launched

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 10 Aug—Crown Education launches American College Test (ACT) Center as this academic year aimed at getting more opportunities in education and easier access to entrance to U.S. universities such as Harvard and Yale, said U Aung Kyaw San, managing director of American College Test Center (Myanmar) on Friday in Yangon.

Academic Director of ACT Education Solutions Ltd Ms Ros Washington clarified details of university preparation subjects of ACT and differences between ACT and the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) that is the second popular exam test in the US.

She added that more than 1.8 million of students in the U.S. took the 3 hours

and 25 minutes long ACT exam in 2013 that measures a student's ability to perform university-level work. The top universities of the U.S. recognized the

ACT as an admission assessment test in 1959.

U Aung Kyaw San said Crown Education will conduct ACT training on Saturday to local teachers who want to teach ACT to students.

Teacher Su, mathematics teacher of SAT and iGCSE students, said that she thinks the entrance fees for ACT are more expensive than SAT, but it may provide career skills to the students.—NLM



Academic Director of ACT Education Solutions Ltd Ms Ros Washington explains details of university preparation subjects of ACT to the attendees at Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon.—PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Lebanese villagers repel fighters who crossed from Syria — Lebanese sources

BEIRUT, 10 Aug—Fighters identified as Islamist militants crossed into Lebanon from Syria on Saturday, triggering an exchange of fire with Lebanese villagers who forced them back across the border, Lebanese security sources and a villager said.

The gun battle near the village of Kfar Qouq followed a battle between gunmen and Syrian security forces on the other side of frontier, the sources

said. It was not immediately clear if there were any casualties.

Kfar Qouq is near the Bekaa Valley town of Rashaya and some 100 km (60 miles) south of the border town of Aarsal that was seized last Saturday by Islamist militants who crossed from Syria. That incursion was the most serious spillover yet of Syria's three-year-long civil war into Lebanon.

Dozens of people were

killed in five days of fighting between the army and the militants who included Islamists affiliated to the Islamic State, which has seized territory in Syria and Iraq. The militants pulled out of Aarsal to the mountainous border zone on Thursday, taking with them 19 captive soldiers. Militant sources told *Reuters* on Friday they sought to exchange them for Islamists held in Lebanese jails.—*Reuters*



Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro (C) attends the 1st National Congress of Workers in Vargas state, Venezuela, on 9 Aug, 2014.—XINHUA

Yemen militants shoot 14 soldiers, drone kills three al-Qaeda suspects

ADEN, 10 Aug—An al-Qaeda-affiliated group in Yemen said it killed 14 soldiers in an eastern province as revenge for an army offensive against its members, while a US drone attack killed three suspected militants in central Yemen on Saturday, an official said.

The Yemeni army has sent extra troops to the Wadi Hadramout region in northeastern Yemen to counter attempts by militant group Ansar al Sharia

to declare an Islamic emirate in the city of Seiyoun.

In the past week, Yemeni security forces have killed at least 25 suspected militants in clashes in Wadi Hadramout, including seven who were killed on Thursday when they tried to attack an army facility.

Residents and officials said people in the area found the bodies of the 14 soldiers riddled with bullets on a road near Seiyoun, three hours after

they were abducted from a public bus.

The soldiers were on their way to Sanaa, on leave after serving in the area.

Ansar al-Sharia, in an internet posting late on Friday, confirmed its militants had ambushed and killed the soldiers for taking part in military operations against the group.

“...The captive soldiers participated in the latest campaign against Sunni Muslims in Wadi

Hadramout, and thus the mujahideen decided to kill them as a punishment for their crimes,” the statement said.

The group posted pictures of the soldiers in civilian clothes surrounded by militants concealing their faces with traditional head dresses. On Saturday, three suspected al-Qaeda militants in the central province of Maareb were killed in a US drone, a local official told *Reuters*.

Reuters

Obama, Merkel say Russia will face consequences if it enters Ukraine

OAK BLUFFS MASS, 10 Aug—US President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel agreed on Saturday that Russia would face additional consequences if it intervened in Ukraine without permission from the Ukrainian government, the White House said.

“The two leaders agreed that any Russian in-

tervention in Ukraine, even under purported ‘humanitarian’ auspices, without the formal, express consent and authorization of the government of Ukraine is unacceptable, violates international law, and will provoke additional consequences,” the White House said in a statement about the call between Merkel and Obama.—*Reuters*

Ukrainian rebels say they ready for ceasefire



A Ukrainian serviceman uses a pair of binoculars as he guards a checkpoint near Debaltseve, Donetsk region on 6 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

KIEV, 10 Aug—Pro-Russian separatists said on Saturday they were ready for a ceasefire with the Kiev government after increasing gains by Ukrainian forces against rebel forces.

“We are ready for a ceasefire to prevent the proliferation of a humanitarian disaster in Donbass,” Alexander Zakharchenko, prime minister of the self-proclaimed Donetsk people’s republic, said in a state-

ment, referring to the area of eastern Ukraine where combat is being waged.

He warned that Donetsk, the main industrial hub which is the centre of the rebel resistance, faced a lack of food, water,

and electricity, but said the rebels were ready to defend the city of around one million people.

“In the event of a storm of the city the number of victims will increase by magnitude. We have no humanitarian corridors. There is no supply of medicines ... food supplies are nearing their end,” he said.

Ukrainian officials have said they are ready to agree a ceasefire but on condition the rebels surrender their arms.

The office of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko was unavailable for immediate comment on Zakharchenko’s statement.

Earlier, Kiev said it had headed off an attempt by Russia to send troops into Ukraine under the guise of peacekeepers with the aim of provoking a large-scale military conflict, a statement Moscow dismissed as a “fairy tale”.

The White House said that during a call on Saturday, US President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel “agreed that any Russian intervention in Ukraine, even under purported ‘humanitarian’ auspices, without the formal, express consent and authorization of the government of Ukraine is unacceptable, violates international law, and will provoke additional consequences.”

Obama and British Prime Minister David Cameron also discussed the crisis and said tougher sanctions should be imposed on Russia if it sends troops into Ukraine, according to a statement from Cameron’s office.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, in a phone call with US Secretary of State John Kerry, called for “urgent measures for preventing an im-

pending humanitarian catastrophe in south eastern regions” of Ukraine, the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

Kerry “conveyed that Russia should not intervene in Ukraine under the guise of humanitarian convoys or any other pretext of ‘peacekeeping,’” a senior US State Department official said.

Ukraine has made several statements about Russian aggression during months of conflict with separatists on its eastern border with Russia that it says are backed by Moscow, none of which have been independently verifiable.

Ukraine says it has been gradually tightening the noose around the rebels, who have now been pushed back into their redoubts of Donetsk and Luhansk on the border.

Reuters

Kids at high-performing charter schools make better health decisions

NEW YORK, 10 Aug — Low-income teenagers who attended high-performing charter schools engaged in fewer risky behaviours and performed better on standardized tests, according to a new study published in the journal *Pediatrics*.

Researchers from the University of California, Los Angeles sought to determine whether or not high-performing charter schools had an effect on the behaviors of low-income minority teens.

In one of the first studies of its kind, the researchers surveyed more than 500 ninth through 12th graders in Los Angeles who at-

tended charter schools in low-income neighbourhoods (where they had won admission through a random lottery), plus more than 400 students who attended other local schools. The researchers asked them about their “risky” and “very risky” behaviours.

Recent use of products containing tobacco, alcohol and marijuana were defined as risky. Less common behaviours such as binge drinking, drug use (excluding marijuana), gang membership, pregnancy and sex with multiple partners were defined as very risky.

Nearly 36 percent of students who attended a

high-performing charter school engaged in one or more very risky behaviours, compared with 42 percent of students surveyed at the other schools.

“A substantial body of evidence has shown a strong link between education and health. This link suggests that improving the education may lead to many societal benefits including better health and reduction in health disparities,” said lead researcher Dr Mitchell Wong, a professor of medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research at UCLA, in an email to Reuters Health. “It

is important for parents to know that choosing better schools may also have beneficial health consequences for their child.”

Students attending the high-performing charter schools also did better on standardized tests than those who did not attend them, and they were less likely to drop-out or transfer.

The researchers suggest better academic achievements helped to discourage students from taking risks that could harm their success. “Future studies will need to determine if the effects are long lasting or can be observed in other

populations and school settings,” they write

But there was no significant difference in the more common risky behaviors between the two groups, findings that surprised even Wong.

“So we were surprised not to see a reduction in more casual use of alcohol and other substances and in unprotected sex. One explanation for this lack of finding may be that students in these schools still remain in the same neighborhood and are thus still exposed to opportunities to engage in somewhat risky behaviours,” he said.

Colleen Cicchetti, a

pediatric psychologist with Northwestern University’s Ann & Robert H Lurie Children’s Hospital in Chicago, said she found the study “exciting,” and hopes it will get more health care providers and policy makers talking about education and its role in public health.

“I see this as a good, critical first step and a way to get educators and health care people highlighting that we can do things for kids in schools that will affect their health outcomes, even in high school,” Cicchetti, who was not involved with the study, told Reuters Health.

Reuters

VW recalls 189,000 SUVs in North America for potential stalling



A man polishes the Volkswagen logo on a vehicle at an exhibition which is part of the annual shareholders meeting of Volkswagen AG in Hamburg on 23 April, 2009. —REUTERS

DETROIT, 10 Aug — Volkswagen AG said on Saturday it is recalling 189,490 Tiguan small sport utility vehicles in North America for potential stalling issues.

The German automaker said gas bubbles may form in the fuel system in the affected vehicles from model years 2009 through 2014 when winterized fuel with high vapor pressures is used in warmer areas or during months with higher temperatures.

That could lead to reduced fuel pump performance and pressure, poten-

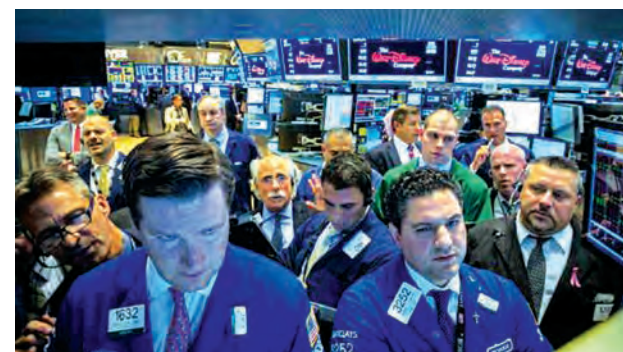
tially resulting in vehicle stalling and could lead to an accident.

VW said no accident or injuries related to the issue have been reported.

Dealers will install revised electronic control module software on all affected vehicles at no cost. The recall is expected to begin later this month, a spokeswoman said.

Of the affected vehicles, 151,389 were sold in the United States and 38,101 in Canada, a spokeswoman said. No other markets are affected by the recall, she said. —Reuters

Dividend payers attractive again as bond yields fall



Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on 17 July, 2014. — REUTERS

NEW YORK, 10 Aug — Investors once again are snapping up high-dividend-paying US stocks as Treasury yields fall, which should keep utilities and telecom stocks near the top of the buying list for the near future.

The S&P 500 utility sector .SPLRCU, whose dividend yield at 3.9 percent is more than 100 basis points above the 10-year Treasury yield US10Y-T=RR, led the S&P 500’s advance on Friday after concern about the launch of US air strikes on Iraq drove the benchmark bond yield to 14-month lows.

The equity market recovered from early losses, in part due to news that Russia’s Defence Ministry said military exercises near the Ukraine border had ended. Any global worries that keep a bid in government debt, meanwhile, will motivate investors to go after stocks with fat dividend yields.

The utility sector is up 8.8 percent since on 31 December, the third best-per-

forming sector for the year, following technology and health care. Telecom hasn’t been as strong - gaining just 0.8 percent in the same period — but two of that sector’s constituents, Windstream Holdings (WIN.O) and Frontier Communications (FTR.O), have both gained roughly 40 percent.

Utilities hit a bout of profit-taking after ending the first half of the year in the No 1 spot.

The sector had risen 16.4 percent as of 30 June, bolstered in part by the shares’ high yields and the appeal of a safer sector at a time when investors were still a bit worried about economic growth. Analysts say the attractiveness of high dividend-paying sectors such as utilities is not likely to end soon, especially with valuations still below the benchmark’s level. The forward price-to-earnings ratio for S&P utilities is at 14.9, below the S&P 500’s p/e of 15.2, Thomson Reuters data showed.

Reuters

Suspected Ebola patient in Kenya tests negative



NAIROBI, 10 Aug — Kenya’s health officials confirmed on Saturday a man who had been put in isolation with fever had tested negative for the deadly tropical disease Ebola. Director of Medical Services in the Ministry of Health, Nicholas Muraguri told *Xinhua* by telephone that the passenger from Entebbe, Uganda en route to DR Congo who had been isolated earlier at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) tested negative after intensive screening.

The passenger was the first to be tested in Kenya in the current outbreak which has sent panic across Africa after its outbreak in West Africa region has left more than 900 people dead. Muraguri said screening points have been set up at all ports of entry into Kenya, adding that the ministry has established a Disease Surveillance and Rapid Response team and laboratory capacity to diagnose all hemorrhagic fevers including Ebola. “We are, therefore, well prepared to identify and deal with any potential cases of Ebola within 24 hours,” Muraguri said. —Xinhua

Russia may negotiate price limits with domestic food producers

Moscow, 10 Aug — Russia may negotiate a price control agreement with domestic food producers to prevent speculative price hikes that would affect inflation after it banned half its agricultural imports from the West, the agriculture ministry said late on Friday.

Russia banned meat, fish, dairy, fruit and vegetables imports from the United States, the European Union's 28 member states, non-EU member Norway, Canada, and Australia on Thursday in retaliation against sanctions over the Ukraine crisis.

Agriculture Minister Nikolai Fyodorov has acknowledged the ban would cause a short-term spike in inflation, but said he saw no danger in the medium or long term as Russia started to look elsewhere for substitute imports.

The ministry, referring to a meeting with food sector unions, said: "Participants at the meeting discussed the possibility of signing with producers and agricultural products pro-



A customer shops at a grocery store in Moscow August 7, 2014.—REUTERS

cessors an agreement on ... price policy, to prevent any speculative rises in prices for agricultural products."

Russia has developed its own food industry over the past 20 years which consists of both home-grown firms such as Cherkizovo and Ros Agro and local units of foreign companies, including Pepsico and Nestle.

According to the International Trade Centre, a joint venture between the

United Nations and World Trade Organization, Russia imported \$17.2 billion of food from the countries targeted by the ban, of which \$9.2 billion was in the affected categories.

"While more imports from elsewhere may partly offset the supply shortage, Russian food prices will continue to creep higher," BNP Paribas said, noting that the ban would add 1.8 percentage points to Russia's consumer price index

over 2014-15.

The prospect of higher inflation could weigh on retail sector shares — including Magnit, X5 Retail Group, Lenta, Dixy and O'Key — analysts said.

"It will be difficult to pass cost inflation on to the consumer immediately, so we expect some pressure on margins over the short run," VTB Capital consumer analyst Maria Kolbina said.

Reuters

44 killed after Tibet tour bus falls into valley

LHASA, 10 Aug — Forty-four people were killed and 11 others injured after a tour bus fell into a valley following a three-vehicle pile-up on Saturday in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, local authorities said on early Sunday.

The 55-seat bus carrying 50 people fell off a 10-metre-plus-high cliff after crashing into a sports utility vehicle and a pickup truck at about 4:25 pm on Saturday on the No 318 National Highway in

Nyemo County, the regional government said.

The bus passengers were mainly tourists from regions including Anhui, Shanghai, Shandong and Hebei. At the time of the accident, four people were in the sports utility vehicle and one was in the truck.

The injured are being treated at several hospitals in Lhasa, capital of Tibet, and their injuries are not life-threatening.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is under way.—Xinhua



Rescuers work on the scene of a three-vehicle pile-up in Nyemo County, southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, on 9 Aug, 2014. —XINHUA

Plane crashes at Teheran's Mehrabad airport; 40 reported dead — IRNA



Wreckage from the crashed Iranian plane in Teheran. —REUTERS

RIYADH, 10 Aug — An airplane carrying 40 passengers crashed in a residential area after taking off from Teheran's Mehrabad airport on Sunday morning, Iran's official IRNA news agency reported, citing a spokesman for the Iranian Red Crescent Society and its own reporter.

Initial reports were that 40 passengers, including seven children, were killed in the crash, IRNA reported. No information was available on whether anyone on the ground was injured. The plane was

bound for Tabas in north-eastern Iran and crashed into the Azad residential block on Mina 6 Boulevard, it reported.

IRNA reported that an engine shutdown caused the crash. Iran's aviation sector has suffered repeated crashes which have been blamed by Iranian politicians on international sanctions.

Those sanctions have restricted Iranian carriers from buying new aircraft. For years, planes have been kept in service through parts imported on

the black market, cannibalised from other planes or reproduced locally, aviation sources say. Iran's four largest carriers — Iran Air, Iran Aseman Airlines, Mahan Air and Iran Air Tours — all have average fleet ages above 22 years, Iranian media have reported. They serve a market of 76 million people.

US companies Boeing Co and General Electric Co have said they are seeking to export parts to Iran under the agreement for sanctions relief.

Reuters

Nepal hikes insurance for Sherpas after Everest avalanche

KATHMANDU, 10 Aug — Foreign mountaineers will have to spend more for the insurance cover of their Sherpa guides to climb any Himalayan peak in Nepal including Mount Everest, the government said.

Wedge between India and China, Nepal is home to more than 1,300 Himalayan peaks — 414 of them, including Mount Everest, are open to foreign climbers who turn up in hundreds

every year.

An ice avalanche on Mount Everest in April killed 16 Sherpa guides in the biggest disaster in the history of the world's tallest mountain, highlighting concerns that the Sherpas were paid too little compared to the risks they take in guiding their clients on the dangerous slopes of Mount Everest.

Dipendra Paudel, a Tourism Ministry official,

said the insurance cover for the guides would be raised to \$15,000 from \$10,000. Medical insurance for each guide has also been increased to \$4,000 from \$3,000.

The new rates, to apply for all mountains including the 8,850 metre (29,035 feet) Everest, will come into force from next month, Paudel told Reuters.

"The hike will address to some extent the demand

by Sherpas for better compensation," said Dambar Parajuli, chief of the Expedition Organisers' Association, said on Friday.

Following the Everest avalanche Sherpas criticised the government for doing little for their welfare compared to the hefty amount of money it collected from climbers as permit fees.

Reuters



A porter carries mattresses back from Everest base camp, approximately 5,300 metres above sea level, in Solukhumbu District on 6 May, 2014. —REUTERS

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Bangkok Bank

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT SEMINAR

Bangkok Bank
B r i n g s
**Asia to
Myanmar**


"The symposium gave me a lot of insightful information and knowledge on procedures pertaining to investment in Myanmar. Myanmar has a lot of opportunities and really is a Golden Land. I strongly believe Bangkok Bank is able to bring Asia to Myanmar!"

Ms. Chong Nait Sian,
Group Treasury Head, Wilmar International Limited

"The presentations and sharing of knowledge by the panel of distinguished speakers were indeed invaluable, insightful and useful. I also made many new friends and potential business partners from Thailand and the region."

Mr. Francis Foo,
President / Managing Director, Universal Food Public Company Limited



"This seminar was a very good channel and platform for new investors and companies to get a clearer picture of Myanmar, especially regarding its policies and laws. The discussion panels shared with the audience their successful experiences and lessons learned from their industries. All of this makes us believe there are lots of opportunities in Myanmar."

Mr. Liu Zhaogang,
GPSC & Logistics Director of Overseas Operations, SAIC Motor Corporation Limited



"Thank you for inviting me to attend this seminar which has been very helpful for me in terms of understanding Myanmar's outlook."

Mr. Andrew Chen Hsi Bin,
CFO, Namchow China Group



"We received valuable information and clear concepts regarding Myanmar's recent investment circumstances. The speakers revealed many good points which will be important references and guidelines for our future strategies in Myanmar."

Mr. Ni Chih-Hao,
Vice President, Financial Division, Vedan Vietnam Enterprise Corp.



Bangkok Bank's recent investment seminar in Yangon brought together more than 100 customers from 10 economies all over Asia.

The successful event featured distinguished government officials and local experts from a wide range of industries, and connected Asian investors with local businesspeople.

Bangkok Bank plans more events of this nature, helping Myanmar businesses prepare for the challenges and opportunities ahead.



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Dated 11 August 2014 utm@kcyangon.com

Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry
Myanma Timber Enterprise
Export Marketing & Milling Department

INVITATION FOR OPEN TENDER

1. Myanma Timber Enterprise will sell Teak & Hardwood round Logs and Sawn Timbers by open tenders in US Dollars. Particulars of the open tender sales are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| (a) Date & Time | - (22-8-2014)/(25-8-2014)-
(13:00)PM |
| (b) Commodities & Volume | - Teak Logs (1030) Tons
- Teak conversion &
Handsawn (213) Tons
- Padauk/Tamalan
Logs (186) Tons
- Pyinkado/Kanyin
Thinwin/Hnaw
Logs (1509) Tons
- Hardwood Handsawn &
Conversion (Padauk/
Tamalan/Thinwin)
(962) Tons |
| (c) Place | - Taw Win Hall, Gyogone,
Insein Township, Yangon. |

2. For further detailed information please contact Myanma Timber Enterprise Head Office and also visit Myanma Timber Enterprise web-site (www.myanmatimber.com.mm).

Open Tender Committee
Myanma Timber Enterprise

Beyonce, Jay Z hide out at Gwyneth Paltrow's mansion



Jay Z and Beyonce are staying at Gwyneth Paltrow's USD 10.5 million Brentwood home. PTI

NEW YORK, 10 Aug — Superstar couple Beyonce and Jay Z are sheltering themselves from breakup rumours by staying at their friend Hollywood star Gwyneth Paltrow's LA mansion between tour dates.

The pair, who have stayed silent amid reports of marital trouble, just wrapped up two shows in San Francisco. They are staying at Paltrow's USD 10.5 million Brentwood home before flying to France for gigs on 12 and 13 September, reported *New York Post*. Beyonce posted Instagram photos of herself in the doorway of a sunny home, showing off decor that looked similar to Paltrow's Brentwood estate. Beyonce and Jay Z are famously close with Paltrow and her estranged husband Chris Martin. — PTI

Want to build a career in Bollywood: Ishita Ganguly



Ishita Ganguly

NEW DELHI, 10 Aug — Bengali actress Ishita Ganguly has shifted her base to Mumbai to star in TV soap 'Shastri Sisters' and she says she has no immediate plans to go back to Kolkata as she aspires to have a career in Bollywood. Ishita has starred in a few Bengali serials before landing her big break on national TV with the new show about four sisters in a household without a mother in which the actress essays the role of the second eldest daughter, Anushka.

"I am very fortunate to get a break in a Hindi TV show so as of now I have

no plans to do Bengali serials. I want to focus on this show right now. And then eventually I want to move to films... that is the aim. However, I am open to doing good Bengali films if I am offered," Ishita told PTI.

The show follows the journey of four sisters as they move from Kanpur to Delhi along with their father and Ishita says she completely related to the character as she herself faced similar ordeals when she shifted to Mumbai from her hometown Kolkata.

PTI

Jennifer Aniston not into plastic surgery

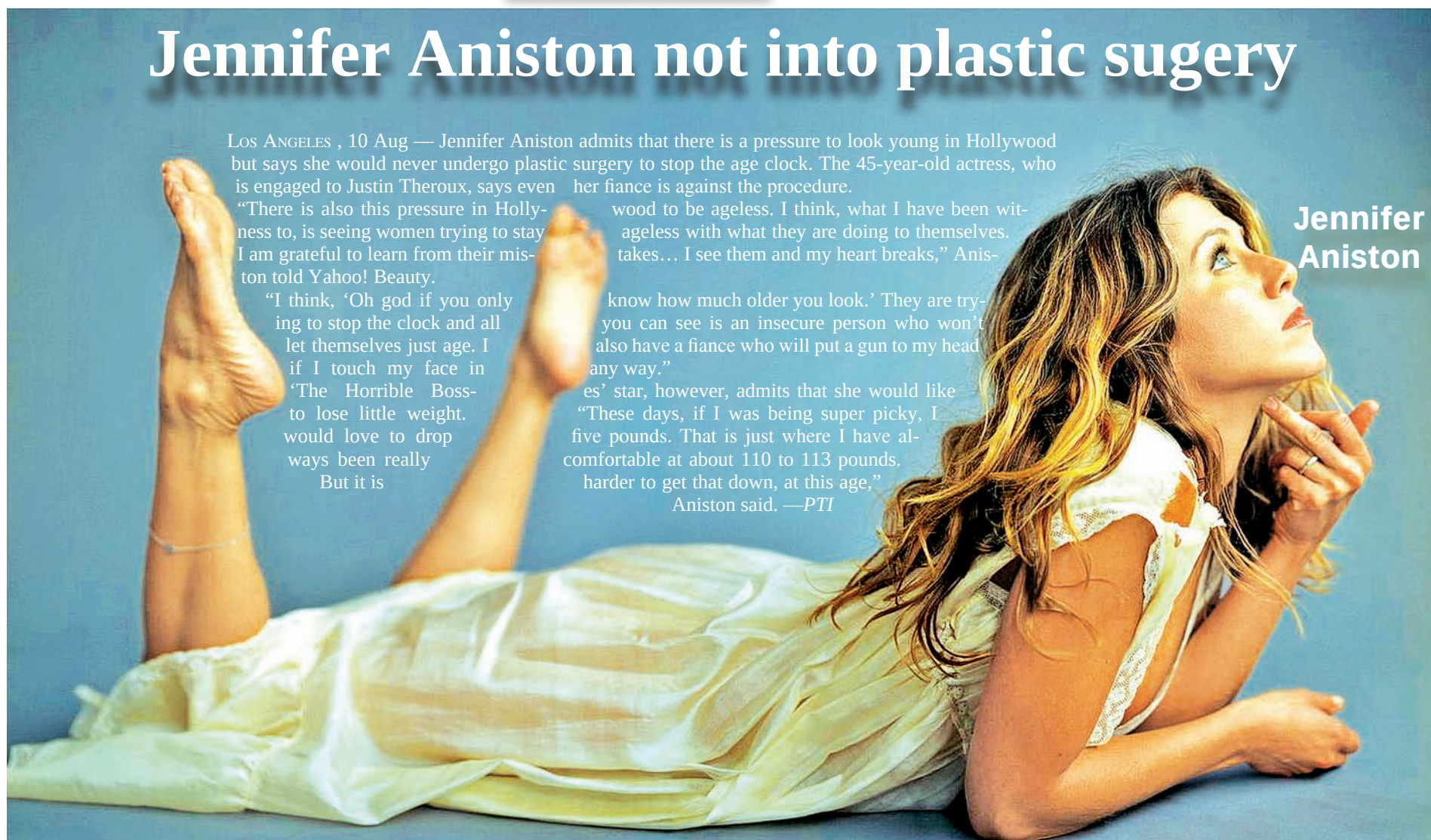
LOS ANGELES, 10 Aug — Jennifer Aniston admits that there is a pressure to look young in Hollywood but says she would never undergo plastic surgery to stop the age clock. The 45-year-old actress, who is engaged to Justin Theroux, says even her fiancé is against the procedure.

"There is also this pressure in Hollywood to be ageless. I think, what I have been witnessing is seeing women trying to stay ageless with what they are doing to themselves. I am grateful to learn from their mistakes... I see them and my heart breaks," Aniston told Yahoo! Beauty.

"I think, 'Oh god if you only want to stop the clock and all let themselves just age. I know how much older you look.' They are trying to stop the clock and all let themselves just age. I know how much older you look." They are trying to stop the clock and all let themselves just age. I know how much older you look.

"These days, if I was being super picky, I would love to drop five pounds. That is just where I have been comfortable at about 110 to 113 pounds. But it is harder to get that down, at this age," Aniston said. — PTI

Jennifer Aniston



GENERAL

Wakayama firm revives mosquito coils using home-grown pyrethrum

WAKAYAMA, (Japan), 10 Aug —Production of mosquito coils using home-grown pyrethrum has resumed after a long interval in Arida, Wakayama Prefecture, regarded as the birthplace of “katori senko,” Japan’s spiral version of mosquito repelling incense.

The coils are produced manually at Ishii Jochugiku Kogyosho K.K. by workers who press paste made of pyrethrum powder and other materials, each measuring about 12 centimetres square, onto cutters. They then dry them on a net and check for any cracks in them.

Eiichiro Ueyama (1862-1943), founder of Dainihon Jochugiku Co known for mosquito coils of the Kincho brand, obtained seeds of pyrethrum, called “jochugiku” in Japanese, from a US company and

successfully grew them in Arida for the first time in Japan around 1887, according to Akira Misaki, an instructor at the department of economics at Wakayama University. Ueyama developed mosquito coils using the plant around 1900.

Cultivation of pyrethrum decreased in postwar Japan due to the development of mosquito coils using chemical compounds. Although pyrethrum-based coils are still produced in Japan, the material is imported from other countries. Domestic production of mosquito coils from home-grown pyrethrum ended half a century ago.

Ishii Jochugiku was founded in 1957 and produced synthetic mosquito coils as a subcontractor for a large manufacturer.

Kyodo News

2014 Int'l Make-Up Artist Trade Show kicks off in Vancouver



An artist applies make-up to a model during the 2014 International Make-Up Artist Trade Show (IMATS) in Vancouver, Canada, on 9 Aug, 2014. — XINHUA

MYANMAR TV

(11-8-2014, Monday)

- 6:00 am
- * Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 7:00 am
- * News/Weather Report
- 7:20 am
- * People Talks
- 8:30 am
- * Documentary
- 9:00 am
- * News/International News
- 9:30 am
- * Cartoon Series
- 10:15 am
- * Weekly Entertainment News
- 11:20 am
- * Musical Programme
- 12:25 pm
- * Myanmar Movie
- 2:20 pm
- * Singing in Different Version
- 3:00 pm
- * News
- 3:30 pm
- * Documentary
- 4:40 pm
- * University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Zoology)
- 5:00 pm
- * News
- 5:30 pm
- * TV Drama Series
- 6:20 pm
- * Traditional Boxing
- 7:15 pm
- * TV Drama Series
- 8:00 pm
- * News/International News/Weather Report
- 8:35 pm
- * Documentary
- 8:50 pm
- * People Talks
- 9:00 pm
- * News
- 9:30 pm
- * Documentary
- * Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(11-8-14 07:00 am~12-8-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Myanmar Traditional Identity
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Portraiture
- * Local News
- * Myanmar Gem Stone: Made of Jade
- * World News
- * Sticky Shan Snack
- * Local News
- * Taung Byone Nat Festival (Episode-3)
- * World News
- * Sagaing: Youth Leader
- * Local News
- * Leading Ladies... Entrepreneur: Dr. Thin Nwe Win
- * World News
- * Offering Alms to The Monks During The Lent
- * Local News
- * Products of Myanmar — Myanmar Circular Stone Slab
- * World News
- * The Pride of Myanmar “Traditional Handicraft”
- * Local News
- * Amazing: Magician Sak Kaw Ma
- * World News
- * Myanmar Masterclass: Cubism
- * Local News
- * Taung Byone Nat Festival (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Independent Filmmaker
- * Local News
- * Sitagu International Buddhist Academy (Part-2)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Movie Review: Everlasting Love



People shoot each other with water pistols during the water fight at the Stanley Park in Vancouver, Canada, on 9 Aug, 2014. About 500 people gathered for the 8th annual Vancouver's largest water fight event. Participants brought along their water pistols and water bombs for the fight to enjoy a cool down in the hot summer. XINHUA

Venus upsets Serena to reach Rogers Cup final

TORONTO, 10 Aug — Venus Williams upset little sister Serena 6-7(2), 6-2, 6-3 on Saturday to register the first win over her top ranked sibling in five years and move into the Rogers Cup final in Montreal.

The meeting marked the 25th time the sisters had squared off but the first time Venus had come out on top since a 2009 semi-finals encounter in Dubai.

World number one Serena holds a 14-11 lead in their head-to-heads after coming out on top in their previous five encounters, including the 2009 Wimbledon final.

Clashes between the pair, which at one time were an almost regular and welcome occurrence on tennis courts around the world,

have become rare and their meeting in Montreal was just the second since the 2009 Tour championships.

The siblings have won 106 WTA Tour singles titles, including 24 grand slams, between them.

“It was a tough match out there,” said Venus, who will meet Poland’s Agnieszka Radwanska in Sunday’s final. Third seed Radwanska beat Ekaterina Makarova of Russia 7-6(1), 7-6(3) to advance to her second final of the year.

“I don’t think we played for a number of years, as well. It’s not like we’ve been playing year in and year out,” added Venus.

“I definitely expected a tough match. She played well. She hit so many aces.

“What’s so unique

about the situation is that we’re both very good players. “I think typically you may have some siblings, one is quite good, one is not as good, so you kind of know what the result is, or the one that’s better knows they’re going to win.

“I think we both know when we walk out there, it’s not like you’re guaranteed a win. I think that’s what makes it challenging for both of us.”

While a Williams-Williams matchup is one tennis fans have always looked forward to, for the sisters it is something they could live without. There was little excitement when the match was over, the two players walking slowly to the net and hugging briefly.

Reuters



Venus Williams (USA) (right) hugs Serena Williams (USA) (left) after winning their match on day six of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament at Uniprix Stadium. — REUTERS

Southampton sign England keeper Forster from Celtic

LONDON, 10 Aug — Southampton continued rebuilding their depleted squad on Saturday when the Premier League club signed England goal-keeper Fraser Forster from Celtic on a four-year deal.

The 26-year-old was in the England squad for this year's World Cup finals in Brazil, although he did not play, and will provide competition for club captain Kelvin Davis and experienced Poland international Artur Boruc.

The transfer fee was not disclosed by the clubs but local media said Southampton had paid 10 million pounds (\$16.77 million) for the highly regarded keeper.

Saints have allowed several



internationals to leave in the transfer window including Adam Lallana, Rickie Lambert and Dejan Lovren, who are at Liverpool, with Luke Shaw joining Manchester United and teenage right back Calum Chambers moving to Arsenal.

The exodus continued on Wednesday when the club's unsettled record signing Dani Osvaldo was loaned to Inter Milan although Algeria midfielder Saphir Taider moved the other way.

Manager Mauricio Pochettino also left Southampton, who finished eighth last season with a record points tally, to join Tottenham Hotspur and was replaced by Dutchman Ronald Koeman.

Forster began his career at Newcastle United but spent most of his time on loan before joining Celtic in 2010 where he won three Scottish Premier League titles and two Scottish Cups.

"Fraser is a very talented player and we are delighted to be able to bring him to Southampton," Koeman told the club's website (www.saintsfc.co.uk).

"This is another important part of our rebuilding process ahead of the start of the season.

"Fraser is the perfect fit to help complement the players we already have, and he will add a lot of quality to the squad."

Reuters

Ancelotti: Real Madrid favourites for Supercup, but no over-confidence

MADRID, 10 Aug — Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti accepts the ticket of favorites from the European Supercup against fellow Spaniards, Sevilla, but insists his side of international superstars will have to work hard if they want to kick off the new season with a trophy.

The European Supercup pits the winners of the Champions League against the Europa League Champions and after lifting their 10th Champions League title last spring, as well as signing players such as Keylor Navas, James Rodriguez and Tony Kroos, Real Madrid are expected to defeat Sevilla in Cardiff on Tuesday night, especially after the difference in economic power between the two clubs was made clear when Sevilla sold their star player, Ivan Rakitic to Barcelona during the World Cup.

Nevertheless, in an interview given to UEFA, the experienced Ancelotti said that his side must beware of Sevilla.

"When you play a final, you prepare in order to win it, but it will be very difficult," said Ancelotti, who added that with the loss of Rakitic, said Sevilla had, "changed quite a bit this year. Now they are a bit of an unknown in various aspects, because they have lost some key players and brought in others."

"Sevilla did very well last season. They won the Europa League with a squad that worked togeth-



Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti

er well and were worthy champions," he said.

The Italian was worried that with several players such as Kroos, Angel Di Maria and James only starting training on 5 August, that was a factor that worked against Real Madrid.

"It is very little time," he said, adding that it would not be an excuse in case of defeat.

The new signings means Real Madrid probably have a better squad than last season and have the chance of adding the European and Spanish Supercups as well as the World Club Championship to their trophy cabinet this season.

"We always want to improve the history of this club," said Ancelotti, who highlighted that so far no club has been able to defend the Champions League title in its current format, although he also had a warning for Madrid's rivals.

"The players are more confident thanks to their recent success," he concluded.

Xinhua

Katie Ledecky sets world record in 400 freestyle



Katie Ledecky celebrates after setting a world record of 3:58.86 in the womens 400m freestyle at the 2014 USA National Championships at William Woollett Jr Aquatics Complex. — REUTERS

CARY, (North Carolina), 10 Aug — American teenager Katie Ledecky set a world record in the 400 meters freestyle at the US-

National Championships in Irvine, California on Saturday, while Michael Phelps struggled home in sixth in the 100m backstroke.

The 17-year-old Ledecky clocked 3 minutes, 58.86 seconds to better the previous record of 3:59.15 held by Italy's Federica Pellegrini. The Italian's mark was set in 2009 before high-tech polyurethane swimsuits were banned.

Ledecky, who became the first American to hold the 400, 800 and 1,500m freestyle world records at the same time since Janet Evans, took her latest record-breaking performance in stride.

"Honestly, I didn't think about it too much," the 2012 Olympic 800m freestyle champion told NBC sports. "I just wanted to put together a good swim and go a best time. I did, so

I'm happy."

Ledecky, the reigning 400m world champion, came close to the world record with a time of 3:59.89 in the morning heats.

She went out hard in the final and was under record pace at halfway by more than a second when she turned at 1:57.72.

When Ledecky touched at 300m more than 1.5 seconds ahead of Pellegrini's mark, a world record seemed almost a formality.

She slowed over the next lap to hit 350m in 3:29.41, just .38 seconds ahead of world record pace, but it was enough of a cushion and she held on to touch the wall .29 faster than Pellegrini's mark. — Reuters

Federer cruises into Rogers final, to meet Tsonga

TORONTO, 10 Aug — Roger Federer eased into the final of the Rogers Cup with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Spain's Feliciano Lopez on Saturday, putting the Swiss maestro on the brink of a landmark 80th career title.

Standing between Federer and another trophy is Frenchman Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, who claimed his third straight upset by dispatching seventh-seeded Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov 6-4, 6-3.

After knocking off world number one Novak Djokovic in the third round, twice champion Andy Murray in the quarters and Dimitrov in the semi-finals, the powerful Frenchman will need to



Roger Federer (SUI) returns a shot against Feliciano Lopez (ESP) on day six of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament at Rexall Centre. Federer won 6-3, 6-4. — REUTERS

produce one more upset to deny Federer a third Canadian title.

It will be Federer's 120th career final while Tsonga will be playing for a title for the 20th time.

Federer said Tsonga would be on a high after his series of upsets in Toronto.

"I think it was a matter of time that he got it all together again, especially in terms of confidence," said the second seeded Swiss, who is looking for his third title of the season.

"So for him to beat Murray and Djokovic... it's a really good effort for him and it's going to give him loads of confidence going into the finals.

"He just can overpower

er guys, serve up a storm and then play really aggressive with his forehand and also be solid in his backhand.

"You think you're in a safe place sometimes in the rally, and he takes one step and, you know, just hits it and the point is over."

Federer, who celebrated his 33rd birthday on Friday, was in imperious form, dropping just four points on his serve in taking the opening set.

The 17-time grand slam winner kept up the pressure in the second with a break to open the set and was never seriously challenged, running his record against Lopez to 11-0.

Reuters