The New Light of Myanmar
MYANMAR'S OLDEST ENGLISH DAILY
Volume XXII, Number 135 | 10th Waxing of Tawthalin 1376 ME | Wednesday, 3 September, 2014

Myanmar President pays friendly visit to Germany

FRANKFURT, 2 Sept — President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein arrived at the Changi International Airport in Singapore on 1 September, where he was welcomed by officials of Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomats of the Myanmar's embassy, sources said.

President U Thein Sein and his delegation left Singapore for Germany, arriving at the Frankfurt International Airport on 2 September.

On arrival, the Myanmar president was welcomed by the German ambassador to Myanmar, diplomats, and the Myanmar ambassador to Germany.

President U Thein Sein and his delegation left for the Frankfurter Hof Hotel, where the Myanmar delegation will stay.

MNA

Myanmar President U Thein Sein being welcomed by the German Ambassador to Myanmar and officials at Frankfurt International Airport in Germany.—MNA

INSIDE

Myanmar, Japan private banks to focus on cooperation
PAGE-3

Education ministry discusses higher education bill
PAGE-2

Drafting committee for ASEAN Charter for protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights meets
PAGE-3

Reinventing ourselves as a man of reputation
PAGE-8

Land prices in Yangon new town area skyrocketed

By *Aye Min Soe*

YANGON, 2 Sept — Land prices in the new Yangon town area have sky-rocketed after the Yangon Region Government unveiled the plan located in western part of Yangon on 22 August.

The field flanking the road namely Hlinethaya-Twantay Road which passes through near the area of the new town project has attracted buyers these days and they have offered unexpected price for the land in the area, according to local people.

A 20 ft x 40 ft area priced at around K1.5 million five years ago has reached over K30 million while an acre of land priced at over K15 million has reached over K1 billion, according to local people.

Yangon Mayor U Hla Myint unveiled the plan at the Yangon Region Hluttaw on 22 August, saying that the Yangon new town plan will be implemented on 30,000 acres of land in western part of Yangon.

The new Yangon town will be established in the area between the Panhlaing River and the Twantay Canal and between the Hline River and Hlaingthaya-Twantay Road.

It is targeted that 70 per cent of the project will be completed within three years, and K 7,000 billion and US$ 8 billion will be invested in the project.

The project includes affordable housing complexes with 20,000 apartments, a school with a seating capacity of 2,000, a home for the aged which can give shelter to about 2,000 aged people and five six-lane river crossing bridges.

Yangon Region Government is planning to invite tenders from private developers near future for the new Yangon town plan, according to the announcement of the Yangon Region Government.

With the aim of development of the private sector, the project would not be financed by the government, and is designed for creating opportunities for private developers and investors.

The announcement said the tender will ensure transparency and Yangon Region Government will invite tenders from the private developers soon.

In his monthly speech, Myanmar's President U Thein Sein has stressed the need to expand the country's current affordable housing projects not only in Yangon and Mandalay but also in other larger cities in conjunction with urban and rural development projects.—*NLM*

A satellite map of Yangon City and its satellite areas where a new town project will be implemented.

MEGA Lifesciences Ltd launches SMS campaign to help people with liver diseases

By *Khaing Thanda Lwin*

YANGON, 2 Sept — Thailand-based MEGA Lifesciences Ltd, launches a health campaign on Monday to reduce alcohol consumption rate in Myanmar, source said at its Tuesday press conference here.

Those women under-18 years of age who want to join the contest are to send a SMS message to 18877 number of the company's head office in Yangon and they may type

(*See page 3*)

Education ministry discusses higher education bill

Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein and Union Minister for Education Dr Daw Khin San Yi meet with departmental officials in discussing autonomy of universities.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 2 Sept—The Ministry of Education on Tuesday discussed the higher education bill here, aimed at increasing autonomy of universities and to allow an independent body to coordinate the functions of institutions.

Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein said: "The government is making plans to enact national education law to ensure autonomy of universities after forming an independent body for coordination in the functions of these institutions."

The Union minister also said that the respective universities will propose their projects and required funds to be able to activate their independent management. Union Minister for Education Daw Khin San Yi said that the ministry will not intervene in the management processes of universities after the law has been enacted and an official independent body will manage the functions.

She then invited suggestions to be able to finalize the law.

Myanmar has 185 universities under 12 government departments including the science and technology and health ministries. Some 64 universities are under the education ministry.—*MNA*

Media accreditation cards for ASEAN Summit

Nay Pyi Taw, 2 Sept — The 25th ASEAN Summit will be held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 12 and 13 November, according to officials.

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

Foreign correspondents may dial 067-412227 and 412057 of the ASEAN Affairs Department for further information of the meeting and local-based foreign news agencies and local journalists 067-412125~6 of the News and Periodicals Enterprise for coverage of news on the meeting.

MNA

Suspected patient and close contacts admitted to Waibargi Hospital test negative for deadly Ebola virus

Nay Pyi Taw, 2 Sept — Myanmar's Ministry of Health announced on Tuesday that five people—a suspected Ebola patient and four of his close contacts—admitted to Waibargi Hospital for receiving medical treatment tested negative for the deadly Ebola virus.

On 29 August, their blood samples were sent to a virology lab in Hamburg, Germany to determine whether the Ebola virus was present. Laboratory testing revealed no Ebola virus in the blood samples of all five.

According to the ministry, the male patient and four others are in good health.

MNA

Cash assistance provided to IDP families, volunteer groups

Union Minister Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin presents assistance to victims of relief camps in Kachin State.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 2 Sept — Government departments, peace groups and people are to join hands in improving livelihoods of the internally displaced persons in Kachin State where the peace will be made eternally, Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Dr Daw Myat Myat Ohn Khin said at the ceremony to provide cash assistance to the IDPs and volunteer organizations on 31 August.

At the city hall in Myitkyina, the union minister said that the ministry has provided over K255 million for families of IDPs who will resettle in their respective villages in Kachin State, adding that at the ceremony, the ministry will deliver K64.367 million to the IDP families and K54.121 million to volunteer organizations in Myitkyina, Bhamo, Mohnyin and Putao districts.

Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai explained progress in uplifting living standards of the local people in the state.

The Union minister and Director-General U Soe Aung of Relief and Resettlement Department presented K337,000 for rice, K21.45 million for construction materials, K706,000 for relief items and K216,000 for stationery to 190 people from 33 households who will resettle in the native villages and K31.663 million for rice, K10 million for mosquito nets and K64.367 million for medicines and snacks to 43,378 victims at 101 relief camps.

The union minister handed over K54.121 million as cash assistance to volunteer organizations and schools from four districts through officials.

On 31 August, the Union minister attended the opening of natural disaster reduction volunteer instructor course No. 15/2014 at the city hall in Myitkyina. She also visited the vocational training school and philanthropic centres.—*MNA*

Captain Henry Khin Maung, wife Daw Phyu Phyu Zin and family (RK Shipping Singapore) donate K30 million to mark his birthday to Yankin Children's Hospital in Yankin Township of Yangon Region to Medical Superintendent Dr Aung Myint Lwin and officials on 30 August.
Kyemon

Implementation subcommittee for socio-economic development of Rakhine State meets local officials in Sittway

Sittway, 2 Sept—Deputy Minister for Industry U Thein Aung, secretary of the implementation subcommittee for socio-economic development of Rakhine State, and party toured Sittway on Sunday to inspect relief camps and briefed local officials on the short-term and long-term plans for the state.

On his inspection tour of relief camps, the deputy minister oversaw progress in construction of clinics and stressed the need of unity and peace and stability for achieving prosperity in Rakhine State, saying that job opportunities would be brought about by establishment of new industrial zones in Ponnagyun and Sittway Townships.

During his stay in Rakhine State, the deputy minister on Monday held talks with the Rakhine State chief minister on ongoing works of the subcommittee and construction of Ponnagyun Industrial Zone and Sittway Industrial Park.

In meeting with subcommittee members at a meeting hall of Rakhine State government office, the secretary called for coordination and collaboration with local authorities in dealing with matters related to distribution of paddy strains, boats, motorized boats and fishing nets, construction of reservoirs, education and health care services being provided to local people.

The deputy minister also met with the ministry staff and urged them to facilitate the development of small and medium scale enterprises in the state.

MNA

President U Thein Sein and party being welcomed at Changi International Airport of Singapore by Myanmar Ambassador U Htay Aung and officials on 1 September. **(News on page 1)**—MNA

Myanmar, Japan private banks to focus on cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept—Vice President U Nyan Tun on Tuesday received President and Chief Executive Officer Mr Takeshi Kunibe of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and party of Japan at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw to hold talks with cooperation in private banks between Myanmar and Japan.

They also discussed capital investment for small- and medium-scale businesses, microfinance in rural development and poverty alleviation process, establishment of loans insurance system and conducting capacity building courses and meetings for development of Myanmar banking process.

MNA

Vice Preisdent U Nyan Tun cordially greets President and Chief Executive Officer Mr Takeshi Kunibe of Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and party of Japan.—MNA

Dy Border Affairs tours Maungtaw, Buthidaung Tsps

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept—Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Tin Aung Chit met local people, teachers and health staff at Phawatchaung Village in Maungtaw Township on Monday and explained formation of Rakhine state coordination centres for UN agencies and INGOs in fairly undertaking development tasks.

He also explained arrangements for providing mechanic course to local people to repair tractors and machinery in the villages.

The deputy minister inspected two staff quarters funded by Progress of Border Areas and National Races Department and the plot for extended construction of housing.

In Thukhamyaing Village, the deputy minister viewed settlement of Rakhine nationals who arrived from the other country. He also looked into progress of Basic Education Post-Primary School in Nwayontaung Village.

In Thabyegon BEPS in Buthidaung, the deputy minister presented school uniforms and stationery to students.

MNA

Drafting committee for ASEAN Charter for protection and promotion of migrant workers' rights meets

NAY PYI TAW, 2 Sept—The 13th meeting of the drafting committee for ASEAN Charter for protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers kicked off in Nay Pyi Taw on Monday, attended by Union Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security U Aye Myint and deputy ministers, representatives from ASEAN Secretariat and officials.

The meeting was aimed at holding discussions on progress in drafting the Charter and works to be done. Drafting the Charter started in 2011 will be completed in 2014. The 13th meeting was the second time for Myanmar as it hosted the 9th meeting. The 14th meeting will take place in Malaysia and LPDR will host the 15th meeting.

The ASEAN Charter for protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers is an essential prerequisite for establishment of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) by 2015. With its approval in 2014, an ASEAN standard will emerge and will be of great benefit to migrant workers working not only in the region but also in other countries. Being a host, Myanmar will have an opportunity to lead the discussions on the Charter.

A total of 54 participants are present at the meeting scheduled to hold till Wednesday. — *MNA*

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Thant Kyaw being welcomed by Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Pham Thanh Dung at the reception to mark 69th Anniversary National Day on 2 September in Yangon.—MNA

Professional packaging show kicks off

YANGON, 2 Sept—The Propak Myanmar 2014 will be held in conjunction with the Plastic and Rubber Myanmar 2014 at Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) on Mindhamma Road in Yangon from 4 to 6 September.

The fair will showcases foodstuff and juice packaging machinery, products and applications for modern technology. Twelve countries such as Singapore, China (Taipei) and Thailand will display their products at over 120 booths.

The talks on science and technology on Myanmar foods will be held at the fair.

Sagawah

MEGA Lifesciences Ltd launches SMS campaign to help people...

(from page 1)

about the ways to persuade their fathers and brothers to reduce their alcohol consumption, Dr Aye Mya Mya Linn, the company brand manager, said at press conference on Tuesday.

Brand Business Director of MEGA Myanmar Brajesh Hurkat said the SMS message is limited to 35 words and the company arranges to contribute K1,000 per SMS, which can also support to fulfill the needs of the 500-bed Specialist Hospital in Yangon and two mental health hospitals in Yangon and Mandalay as the company has a plan to donate at most K10 million to them through this campaign. Fifty winners of the contest from 1 September to 31 October will be announced on 19 November through journals and magazines and awarded K20,000 top-up cards each, Dr Aye Mya Mya Linn said.

Brand Business Director of MEGA Myanmar Brajesh Hurkat.

According to a survey in Myanmar, 31 per cent of men are drinkers and 17 per cent of heavy drinkers are found to have alcohol-related diseases, including liver cancer.

The campaign is also aimed at preventing alcohol-related liver diseases and reducing alcoholism in the families as well as pointing out the import of women's role in the daily life of male drinkers, a source said.

For further information, anybody may dial 09 421038632 of the company.

NLM

Cash donated to medical fund of Katha Home for the Aged

KATHA, 2 Sept — A ceremony to donate cash to the medical fund of Home for the Aged was held at its Dhammayon in Katha Township of Sagaing Region on Monday.

Khaing Min Khant Soe Company owner U Myint Sein-Daw Khaing Khaing Min and family of Ward 1 in Katha donated K1 million to the medical fund through Chairman of the Home committee U Myat San.

The wellwishers also donated K3,000 each to 20 older persons.

Members of the Home committee U Win Maung spoke words of thanks for donation.—*Po Naing (Katha)*

Wellwisher donates K3,000 each to the aged at Katha Home for the Aged.

Documentary video telecast in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 2 Sept — A TV crew of Myanma Radio and Television led by Staff Officer Daw Malikha Soe made interviews with fire victim families resettled at the buildings in Chanayethaya Ward of Meiktila in Mandalay Region on 31 August.

Township authorities replied to the questions in the interview for allotment of the victims at the buildings transparently and facilities at the buildings. The TV crew shot the scences of at the buildings, supply of water at the pump station in Ward 4 and in Paukchaung Ward.—*NLM-018*

TODAY'S MYANMAR NEWS SITES

Village electrification successfully implemented

MAGWAY, 2 Sept — A ceremony to launch the village electrification and transformer was held at Basic Education Middle School Branch in Shazaunggan Village of Magway Township on 31 August.

Magway Region Hluttaw representative U Han Maung donated K100,000, U Thet Naing Tun of Magway K300,000 and Kaung Khant Phyo Tha Company of Mingu K100,000 to the electrification committee.

The secretary of the electrification committee explained the efforts for installation of power lines and transformer.

Kyaw Zayya

Bungalow under maintenance in Natogyi

NATOGYI, 2 Sept — Public Works is repairing a bungalow which was built over 100 years ago in Ward 2 of Natogyi in Mandalay Region, said U Hse Thein of Public Works.

The roof of the bungalow was substituted with corrugated iron sheets and the floor, ceiling and ladders are under maintenance.

The Bungalow can give accommodation to very important persons and State level officials. About 20 departmental guests and two families can stay at the bungalow.

Htay Myint Maung

Sales of GSM/WCDMA SIM cards needs more transparency

MANDALAY, 2 Sept — Myanma Posts and Telecommunications sells K-1500 GSM/WCDMA SIM cards to the people through retails shops across the nation as of 1 September.

The retail shops in Mandalay District sell the SIM cards plus K10000 worth top-up cards to the people but they have to wait for buying the cards in a queue.

However, the customers who buy the top-up cards worth K50,000 do not need to wait for purchase the SIM cards. Despite putting up the signboard for sales of SIM cards, some famous mobile shops cannot sell the cards to the people.

Over 100,000 GSM/CDMA cards are allotted to the retail shops in Aungmyethazan, Chanayethazan, Mahaaungmye, Mogok, Patheingyi, PyinOoLwin, Singu, Amarapura, Chanmyathazi, Kyaukpadaung, Kyaukse, Pyigyidagun, Singaing, TadaU and Thazi townships monthly. Moreover, the construction of communication towers is being undertaken in cooperation with the private companies for smooth process of Internet, according to Mandalay Region Myanma Posts and Telecommunications.

Maung Pyi Thu (Mandalay)

Indian PM Modi meets with Japanese emperor in Tokyo

TOKYO, 2 Sept—Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi had an audience with Japanese Emperor Akihito at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo on Tuesday, as part of his five-day trip to Japan to strengthen bilateral ties.

The emperor told Modi that the most memorable moment of his trip to India last year with Empress Michiko was when he saw students learning Japanese at Jawaharlal Nehru University holding a debate in the language, according to the Imperial Household Agency.

Modi was quoted as saying by the agency that he hopes to enhance Japanese language education in his country.

The emperor and empress visited India from late November to early December at the invitation of the Indian government to commemorate the 60th anniversary in 2012 of bilateral diplomatic ties.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) meets with Japan's Emperor Akihito on 2 Sept, 2014, at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. Modi agreed with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe the previous day to strengthen bilateral security relations and set a target of doubling Japanese investment in India within five years.—KYODO NEWS

On Tuesday, Japanese ruling and opposition party lawmakers paid courtesy calls on Modi, who is on his first bilateral trip outside South Asia until Wednesday. Natsuo Yamaguchi, leader of the New Komeito party, the junior ruling coalition partner of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party, agreed with the Indian prime minister to promote exchanges among lawmakers from both countries.

Kyodo News

NZ police to probe building collapse that killed 115 including 28 Japanese

SYDNEY, 2 Sept—New Zealand police said Tuesday they will launch a criminal investigation into the collapse of a building that claimed the lives of 115 people including 28 Japanese students during a magnitude 6.3 earthquake in Christchurch three and a half years ago.

The decision to probe the collapse of the six-story Canterbury Television Building follows an 18-month-long assessment and evaluation of information. "Based on this information, we now believe there is sufficient evidence to warrant further criminal investigation into the collapse of the CTV building in February 2011," Superintendent Peter Read said in a statement. Engineering consultancy firm Beca has been assisting police with their inquiries, providing expert opinion on the collapse of the building and whether accepted standards were adhered to by the designers and those who constructed the building.

While no time frame for how long the investigation will take has been set, Read said, "We will continue to keep all parties informed as we work through the process."

Families of victims have also been advised of the decision by police.

Most of the 185 people who died in the earthquake that hit Christchurch on 22 February, 2011 at 12:51 pm were in the CTV Building, which collapsed and then burned. Among the 115 fatalities there, 71 were foreigners studying at King's Education School for English Language, which was housed in the upper part of the building.

A government Royal Commission report on the Christchurch earthquake released in late 2012 found that the building did not meet construction standards when it was built in the 1980s and should not have been granted a permit.

It also found the engineer who designed the building did not have experience designing multistory buildings and did not have adequate support from his boss, who took a hands-off approach.

Opportunities to identify the building's shortcomings were also missed during the construction phase and a subsequent period when the building had strengthening work done.

Shortly after the release of the report, police began assessing and evaluating information to determine whether a criminal investigation would ensue.

Kyodo News

Afghan turmoil threatens NATO's 'mission accomplished' plans

BRUSSELS/KABUL, 2 Sept—NATO will declare "mission accomplished" this week as it winds down more than a decade of operations in Afghanistan but departing combat troops look likely to leave behind political turmoil and an emboldened insurgency.

The embattled country is also suffering a sharp economic slowdown.

NATO had hoped its summit in Wales on Thursday and Friday would herald a smooth handover of security at the end of this year from the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to Afghan forces. It then plans to cut back its role to a smaller mission to train and advise Afghan troops.

The 28-nation alliance had also hoped to celebrate Afghanistan's first democratic transfer of power by inviting a new president to share the spotlight with US President Barack Obama and the other 27 allied leaders.

Instead, NATO diplomats privately admit that the backdrop to the summit is the "worst case scenario".

A dispute over a presidential election marred by alleged fraud has created a political vacuum which has sown doubts over whether NATO will have a legal basis for leaving any troops in Afghanistan at all after this year.

NATO diplomats were left guessing for weeks about who would represent Afghanistan at the summit. In the absence of a new president, outgoing President Hamid Karzai is staying away, leaving Defense Minister Bismillah Khan Mohammadi to represent Afghanistan.

NATO troops investigate at the site of a suicide car bomb attack in Kabul on 10 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

Sending a lower-level representative rather than a new president will undermine Afghanistan's ability to argue for future Western financial assistance, a US official said.

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen put a brave face on the situation at a Brussels news conference on Monday, declaring NATO had achieved its goals in Afghanistan.

"We have done what we set out to do. We have denied safe haven to international terrorists. We have built up capable Afghan forces of 350,000 troops and police. So our nations are safer, and Afghanistan is stronger," he said.

But despite suffering heavy casualties and spending vast sums in Afghanistan, NATO has failed in its key goal of bringing security to the country, some analysts say.

On NATO's watch, there has been a "marked and measurable deterioration of security", said Graeme Smith, senior analyst at the International Crisis Group (ICG) think tank in Kabul.—*Reuters*

Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop speaks during a joint news conference with Australian Defence Minister David Johnston, US Secretary of State John Kerry and US Secretary of Defence Chuck Hagel (not pictured) at the conclusion of the AUSMIN meeting at Admiralty House in Sydney on 12 Aug, 2014. —REUTERS

Australia to step up formal partnership with NATO at summit

SYDNEY, 2 Sept—Australia is set to step up its partnership with NATO, its foreign minister said on Tuesday, as the country pursues a bigger role in global crises from Iraq and Syria to Ukraine.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott, who is due to host Russian President Vladimir Putin and other world leaders at a G20 summit in November, has used a number of recent speeches to signal a more muscular approach to foreign policy.

Although Australia is not a NATO member, its troops fought alongside the coalition in Iraq and Afghanistan, which Foreign Minister Julie Bishop has called the basis for an expanded partnership in current and future conflicts.

"Tomorrow the defence minister and I will travel to Wales to attend the NATO summit and I can confirm that Australia will be accepting a formal invitation to become what is called an enhanced partner," Bishop told parliament.

Membership in the Enhanced Partnership Program is designed to give non-member states earlier access to the planning of military operations and a presence in NATO's governing bodies.

Australia on Monday unveiled fresh sanctions against Russia over what Abbott called its "bullying" of neighbouring Ukraine, where the Kremlin is accused of backing pro-Russian insurgent groups battling the government in Kiev.

Abbott has struck perhaps the toughest line of any Western leader against the rebels in Ukraine, accused by Western countries and intelligence agencies of shooting down Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in July, killing all 298 passengers and crew, including 28 Australians.

Australia has also joined a multinational relief effort, dropping military equipment and aid to Kurdish forces fighting Islamic State militants in northern Iraq.

Abbott has not ruled out participating in air strikes in Iraq or Syria.—*Reuters*

Record 4.1 million in Syria got food aid in August, UN says

GENEVA, 2 Sept—A record 4.1 million people in Syria received food rations in August due to more convoys being able to cross front lines and borders from Turkey and Jordan, the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) said on Tuesday.

"We are reaching more people every day with urgently needed food assistance – many of them have been going hungry for months," Muhannad Hadi, WFP's regional emergency coordinator for the Syria crisis, said in a statement.

Over the last six weeks, WFP and partner agencies have crossed front lines to reach more than 580,000 people, over four times the 137,000 reached in the preceding six weeks, it said.

The UN Security Council authorized the movement of UN aid through four border crossings in July.

That ended more than a year of aid paralysis caused by Damascus denying permission for UN staff to cross borders into rebel-held areas. Although Syrian forces did not control those areas, the UN said it could not infringe Syrian sovereignty.

*Syrian refugees shop in a hypermarket after receiving their humanitarian aid shopping vouchers at al-Zaatari refugee camp in the Jordanian city of Mafraq, near the border with Syria, on 6 Feb, 2014.—*REUTERS

"Since 25 July, a total of five cross-border convoys, via the Bab Al Salam crossing from Turkey and Al Ramtha from Jordan, carried food rations including rice, lentils, oil, pasta, bulgur, canned food, wheat flour, beans, salt and sugar for 69,500 people in the hard-to-reach areas of Aleppo, Idlib, Quneitra and Deraa governorates," the WFP statement said.

The improved access for humanitarian aid helped boost the number getting food rations from 3.7 million in July. However, WFP has never yet managed to reach its monthly target for feeding Syrians, which was 4.25 million in August, about a fifth of the pre-war population of the country.

WFP says it needs to raise $35 million per week to meet the food needs of Syrians affected by the conflict, including the 3 million refugees in neighboring countries.—*Reuters*

Iran's Zarif 'quite optimistic' of Iran nuclear agreement

*Belgium's Foreign Minister Didier Reynders (R) and his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Javad Zarif hold a news conference after a meeting at the Egmond Palace in Brussels on 1 Sept, 2014.—*REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 2 Sept — Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif voiced optimism after talks with European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton on Monday that a dispute over Teheran's nuclear programme can be resolved by a 24 November deadline.

"I am quite optimistic after discussions with Lady Ashton that we can in fact resolve this issue in time," Zarif said after what he described as "good" talks with Ashton.

"I hope with the readiness and political will that I see in all parties to this discussion to have a resolution within the next three months," he told a news conference following separate talks with Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders.

However, he cautioned that reaching an agreement "requires political will, it requires full awareness of the need to address the issues rather than simply domestic constituencies".

Iran and global powers are working to strike a comprehensive agreement by the 24 November deadline, under which Iran would curb its nuclear activities in exchange for an easing of economic sanctions that have crippled its economy.

An earlier deadline of 20 July was missed.

Western countries suspect Iran's programme is aimed at seeking the capability to build a nuclear bomb, while Teheran insists it is peaceful.

Ashton coordinates the position of the six powers negotiating with Iran — the United States, Britain, Russia, China, France and Germany.

The next round of talks between the six powers and Iran is scheduled to be held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York later in September.

The United States on Friday penalised a number of Iranian and other foreign companies, banks and airlines for violating sanctions against Teheran largely tied to the decade-old dispute about its nuclear programme.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Saturday the new US sanctions were against the spirit of Teheran's nuclear negotiations with world powers.

Zarif described the new sanctions as "impediments to progress" in the nuclear talks.

"Behaviour that has been exhibited by some countries, including the United States, in imposing new sanctions, has been certainly a less than positive indication for progress."

"But we are nevertheless committed to making progress and with Lady Ashton today we discussed both the time frames as well as the issues that are involved," he said.

The EU issued no statement on Zarif's talks with Ashton.

Reuters

New Zealand to ratify global Arms Trade Treaty

WELLINGTON, 2 Sept — New Zealand is to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the first global agreement aimed at regulating and controlling the trade in conventional arms, Prime Minister John Key told visiting United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday.

"The Arms Trade Treaty is a major step forward in global efforts to reduce the harm caused by the illicit arms trade," Foreign Minister Murray McCully said in a statement following the announcement.

"New Zealand has supported the treaty from its inception. We have also developed a model law to assist Pacific states, and small states in other regions, to implement the treaty," said McCully.

New Zealand would be among the first 50 states to ratify, the threshold for bringing the ATT into effect.—*Xinhua*

Market-style reforms widen racial divide in Cuba

HAVANA, 2 Sept— Cuba's experiment with free-market reforms has unintentionally widened the communist-led island's racial divide and allowed white Cubans to regain some of the economic advantages built up over centuries.

Under President Raul Castro, who took over from his brother Fidel Castro in 2008, Cuba has expanded its non-state workforce, loosened travel restrictions and promoted private cooperatives and small businesses.

As the communist government relinquishes its once near-total control of the economy, inequality has widened, undoing some of the progress seen since the 1959 revolution.

Much of the funding for new businesses such as restaurants, transportation services and bed-and-breakfast inns — targeted at tourists, diplomats and dollar-earners — comes from family members who emigrated to the United States over the last 50 years, especially Miami.

They sent almost $3 billion to relatives back in Cuba last year and, as they are mainly white, their investments put black and mixed-race Cubans at a disadvantage as they try to set up their own businesses.

Walter Echevarria, a 60-year-old black man, co-owns a humble cafeteria run out of a ground-floor Havana apartment belonging to one of his partners.

There is no seating, and the clients are mostly state workers who order pork sandwiches and juice or a coffee for about 15 Cuban pesos, or around $0.60.

"It's usually the whites who have family abroad and send them money, and they can set up bigger businesses," Echevarria said while customers lined up at the take-out window during the busy lunch hour.

With the additional economic freedom under Raul Castro's reforms, there is also greater discrimination.

Armed with a substantial resume, Miguel Azcuy quit his job at a state-owned restaurant to go job-hunting in Cuba's incipient private labor market two years ago, hoping to wait tables in the fast-growing restaurant sector.—*Reuters*

*Vendors wait for customers at their stalls, with prices tagged in Cuban pesos, at a market in Havana on 23 Oct, 2013.—*REUTERS

Brazil's Silva looks presidential, but not a shoo-in

SAO PAULO, 2 Sept — Popular environmentalist Marina Silva looks capable of winning Brazil's presidential election in October but a major campaign gaffe and mounting attacks from other candidates and the media suggest the race is still wide open.

Polls have shown Silva with a lead of about 10 percentage points over President Dilma Rousseff if the 5 October election goes to a runoff, as seems likely.

Silva's meteoric rise has led Brazilian stocks to rally 10 percent in the last three weeks on hopes she would be more business-friendly than Rousseff and help stir a stagnant economy.

In the last week, Silva has successfully begun to address some of the doubts voters have about her — namely, whether she has the personal gravitas and organizational support to govern this continent-sized nation of 200 million people.

An anti-establishment icon who grew up poor in a family of rubber tappers, taught herself to read as a teenager, and then became a leading advocate for the Amazon rainforest, Silva has inspired many Brazilians with her earnest demeanour and clear voice on moral issues.

Yet many voters have been unconvinced that a great life story would make for a great president.

Silva, 56, has struggled during her political career to recruit and maintain allies, having quit two parties since 2009 and failed to organizse a third. Her unpredictable record of decision-making, shifting views and even her frail physical figure - the product of malaria and mercury poisoning during her youth — have also raised red flags.

*Presidential candidate Marina Silva of Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB) waves to the crowd as she attends a rally campaign at Rocinha slum in Rio de Janeiro on 30 Aug, 2014.—*REUTERS

To that end, Silva has struck a more sober and inclusive tone in TV ads and on social media compared with her sometimes amateurish presidential campaign in 2010, when she focused overwhelmingly on "green" issues and placed third.

She has also vowed to restore order to deteriorating public finances, and met with a wide variety of investors — including a dinner on Friday with leaders from the agribusiness sector, which accounts for about a quarter of the economy and has historically opposed her with great vigour.

"A lot of myths were broken," Luiz Cornacchioni, executive director of the Brazilian Agribusiness Association, told Reuters after attending the dinner.

"She showed herself to be a person who is open to dialogue and who knows about the importance of agribusiness," Cornacchioni said. "I left with a very positive view."

Perhaps the clearest sign of Silva's growing heft came in last week's presidential debate, when she directly asked Rousseff why she didn't follow through on reforms she promised after huge street protests swept Brazil in 2013.

Rousseff replied that Congress had blocked some proposals, but other public grievances like poor schools have improved. Silva calmly turned to the camera and said: "It's important for us as politicians to recognise our problems ... This colourful Brazil that President Dilma described exists only in the movies."

Silva's greater maturity suggests her rise in polls has staying power, and is more than the result of public sympathy following the death of her Brazilian Socialist Party's previous candidate, Eduardo Campos, in a plane crash last month.

Yet the growing view on Wall Street and in Sao Paulo's financial circles that Silva already has the election wrapped up seems premature.

The last week has seen evidence of why some observers think Silva's support could still decline almost as fast as it surged.

Her campaign had its most embarrassing episode yet over the weekend when her party released her official platform to great fanfare, and then had to "correct" it not once but twice.—*Reuters*

Iranians play role in breaking IS siege of Iraqi town

AMERLI, (Iraq), 2 Sept — Kurdish peshmerga fighters and Shi'ite militiamen paraded through Amerli on Monday, a day after breaking the two-month siege of the northern town by Sunni Islamist militants.

The scenes in Amerli and the surrounding area of Suleiman Beg offered a window into the teamwork among Kurdish fighters, the Iraqi army and Shi'ite militias and into Iran's role in directly assisting their campaign against Islamic State (IS) forces.

An Iranian adviser to Iraqi police was spotted on the road near Amerli and Kurdish officers spoke of Iranians advising Iraqi fighters on targeting the Islamists.

The swift end to the Islamic State's encirclement of the Shi'ite Turkmen town of 15,000 came on Sunday amid a push by Kurdish peshmerga, Shi'ite militias and Iraqi troops, after US air strikes late Saturday hit IS positions.

Shi'ite militias, who battled US troops during their occupation of Iraq, played a song in Amerli on Monday that taunted the extremist Islamic State with the line: "The Americans couldn't beat us and you think you can?"

The town was filled with Kurdish peshmerga and fighters from the largest Shi'ite militias - the Badr Organization, Asaib Ahl al-Haq, Kata'ib Hezbollah and cleric Muqtada Sadr's followers.

Militia fighters spoke of a new alliance with the Kurds, who had been shaken by the Islamic State's offensive on Kurdish-controlled territories last month. They were then helped by US air strikes that forced IS to retreat.

"I'm totally confident that the failure of the peshmerga to stop the Islamic State's advance towards areas around Arbil forced the Kurds to review their wrong policy of refusing to cooperate with us," said a fighter from Asaib Ahl al-Haq.

"Without our help, it will be difficult for them to stop Islamic State fighters alone."

Militia and Kurdish fighters on Monday entered the nearby community of Suleiman Beg, an Islamic State stronghold since earlier this year.

Peshmerga planted their flag on top of a building and Asaib Ahl Haq fighters chanted "Ya Hussein", the name of a revered Shi'ite religious figure. The militia men skirted around the buildings and lobbed dynamite into houses to clear them of any explosives left by the Islamic State.

Reuters

Iraq violence killed at least 1,420 in August

BAGHDAD, 2 Sept — At least 1,420 people were killed in Iraq in August as sectarian violence raged in the country's centre and north, the United Nations said on Monday. A further 1,370 Iraqis were wounded and 600,000 people forced to flee as Islamic State militants, who have grabbed large areas of territory since June, pushed into land controlled by Kurdish troops and targeted religious minorities.

"Thousands continue to be targeted and killed by ISIL (Islamic State) and associated armed groups simply on account of their ethnic or religious background. The true cost of this human tragedy is staggering," the UN representative in Iraq, Nickolay Mladenov, said.The UN said the casualty figures could be far higher but it could not get independemt verification of reports of hundreds of incidents in areas under Islamic State's control. Violence killed 1,737 people, mostly civilians, in Iraq in July, and 2,400 in June, the UN data showed.

The fighting carried on Monday as 18 people were killed and more than 50 wounded when two parked car bombs went off in two mainly Shi'ite districts of Baghdad, police and medical officials said. Both Islamist fighters and Iraqi government forces have committed atrocities in the three months of fighting, senior UN officials said in Geneva during an emergency debate on the conflict on Monday.

Reuters

*A member of the Iraqi security forces walk at the site of a car bomb attack in the New Baghdad neighbourhood on 26 Aug, 2014.—*REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 2 September, 2014

Reinventing ourselves as a man of reputation

By *Kyaw Thura*

It is axiomatic that promises are easier to make than to keep. That is why many people are pretty casual about making promises. People are by nature prone to indulge themselves with promises which are frequently made but hardly kept. It goes without saying that such throwaway promises do have ill consequences. It is therefore imperative to pay greater heed to promises no matter how small they seem to be.

It stands to reason that it just takes a little broken promise to harm a relationship, which once torn tarnishes reputation too. People with bad reputation are no more than a living death. A promise is a promise after all.

Another thing that makes reputation indispensable is that good reputation open doors to wonderful opportunities. Honest people enjoy adulation for the simple reason that they have a clear conscience of their physical, verbal and mental actions. This does not necessarily mean that honest people always keep their promises. They do break their promises, but always with sound justifications rather than with excuses. On the other hand, it is safe to assume that bad reputation is the same as a shadow. Bad reputation, like the shadow, follows us for life wherever we go. Nobody in their right mind will put trust in anyone who refuses to eat their words.

It is natural that there are times we have found ourselves keeping and breaking our promises. To quote Alexander Pope as saying, 'To err is human'. Making mistakes is as normal as breaking promises. What is important is to be frank with our transgressions.

Reputation has come to the fore, especially in this age of information, solely because news travels faster than ever before! Not only what we do but also how others perceive us is what counts most. All in all, we should learn to accept responsibility for our own actions, for our reputation is our possession.

Write for us

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

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

Working for Universal Adult Literacy

By *Myo Myint*

Once again, we celebrate International Literacy Day on 8 September, an event of great significance to many people in the world initiated by UNESCO. The observation of this day throughout the world helps to highlight the need for sustained efforts to realize the literacy goal of halving illiteracy in the world by 2015 set in 1990 in Jomtien, Thailand and restated at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal in 2000, the problems caused to society by illiteracy and the necessity for all sections of the community to join hands to promote literacy.

It has been repeatedly stressed that literacy not only assists individuals to improve themselves socially and economically and allow them to realize their full potential, but it also helps whole communities to achieve multi-dimensional development goals. Literacy alone can provide access to much of the accumulated knowledge of mankind and eradicate ignorance, mistrust, prejudice, misunderstanding, egotism and lack of interaction which together are causing a lot of tensions and unhappiness in many regions of the world. Only literacy can help develop thinking skills which is one of the goals of 21st century education. Literacy can also have much impact on our daily lives as it creates access to information on life skills and social and economic development such as, nutrition, diseases, healthy living, social skills, reasoning ability, better management of family income, principles of democracy, social obligations, one's rights and how to defend them, tolerance of differences, conservation of the environment, better agricultural practices, and income generation based on resources in one's surrounding, etc. Moreover, a literate person is more likely to value education and there is more probability of sending his/her offspring to school.

For an educated person, it might be hard to imagine the stigma and hardships imposed by illiteracy, the extent to which literacy can transform the life of an illiterate person and how poverty alleviation can be achieved by promoting literacy in both rural and urban areas. But transform it does, as testified by the lives of many in both rural and urban areas who have had the opportunity to learn to read and write. At the national level too, the prevalence of a high level of literate population helps the national economy by drawing foreign investment as it is easier to promote the skills of literate persons.

Myanmar has striven to eradicate adult illiteracy and its efforts have received international recognition, having been conferred with two prizes, the Mohammed Reza Phalavi Prize in 1971 and, the Noma Prize in 1983. Successive literacy campaigns in Myanmar have achieved success due to the efforts of the volunteers drawn from among university and college students and teachers from both basic and higher education.

There is no doubt that illiteracy is declining in Myanmar, just as in many parts of the world. However, as many ills of the world can be traced to illiteracy, it is important that sustained campaigns are carried out to achieve universal adult literacy as soon as possible. In addition, it is also vital to ensure that neo-literates do not relapse to illiteracy. Community participation is much needed in these two areas. We need to encourage more university students and teachers to take part in the literacy campaigns, and education authorities should create appropriate incentives and academic credits for volunteers. We also need to solicit wealthy members of the community not only to make more financial contributions to literacy campaigns but also for the development and distribution of graded reading materials for neo-literates and the running of community learning centres that will sustain literacy skills as well as other community development activities. With greater participation, enthusiasm and commitment from the community, it is hoped that Myanmar will be able to gain further progress in its effort to bring universal literacy to its citizens.

Writer's address: No. 39 Shin Saw Pu Pagoda Road, Sanchaung, Yangon

Union H&T Minister participates in Sixth Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations in Indonesia

Nay Pyi Taw, 2 Sept—Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism U Htay Aung attended the Sixth Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations-UNAOC in Bali International Convention Centre in Indonesia on 28 August.

Indonesian President Mr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, UN Secretary-General Mr Ban Ki-moon and guests delivered speeches.

The Union minister held a talk with Netherland Ambassador Mr Jan-Paul Dirkse and Kazakhstani Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Erian Idrissov about cooperation between the two nations.

On 30 August, the Myanmar delegation attended the meeting sessions.

On Monday, the Union minister held a discussion on cooperation in the development of the hotels and tourism sector with Mr Benjamin Galazzo of Belgium at Parkroyal Hotel in Yangon. He then delivered a speech at the opening of a basic tour guide course No 46 at Panda Hotel.

MNA

Stationery, stipend provided to offspring of police

Yangon, 2 Sept—Stipends and stationery donation for students took place at the hall of Township Police Force in Dala of Yangon Region on Monday.

Wellwisher U Maung Hla and U Aung Myo Khin presented exercise books and stationery to Commander of Township Police Force Police Major Ye Myint who returned certificates of honour.

Tamil Culture and Free Tuition School at 979 on 1st Minye Kyawswa Street in Bo Yay Byay Ward of Dala granted K100,000 as monthly stipend to 31 offspring of policemen from Myoma and Pyawbwe police stations.

Khin Zaw (Mingala)

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (2-9-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K667,700 per tical: Selling K668,700

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K667,500 per tical: Selling K668,500

FE RATE

USD	Buying	K970	-	Selling	K974
SGD	Buying	K773	-	Selling	K782
Euro	Buying	K1270	-	Selling	K1290

Master of Business Management Course kicks off at Mandalay University

MANDALAY, 2 Sept—Management is playing a vital role in State-run and private-owned businesses in development of State economy, said Chief Minister of Mandalay Region U Ye Myint at opening of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Course No 4 at the convocation hall of Mandalay University in Mahaaungmye Township of Mandalay on 30 August.

The Chief Minister praised Mandalay MBA Alumni Association for its formation in upper Myanmar with the participation of MBA graduates who attended the course conducted by Economics Department of the university, urging them to serving the interest of the State as much as they can.

Director-General Dr Soe Win of Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) explained the purpose of the course. Vice Chairman of the association U Ye Myat Thu donated cash to the fund for opening ceremony.

The ceremony was attended by Mandalay Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Win Hlaing, Director-General Dr Soe Win, Rector Dr Maung Thin of Mandalay University, Rector Dr Khin Maung Oo of Yadanabon University and faculty members.

Altogether 84 students will attend the course No 4 and 74 are attending at the course No 3. Each course will last two years.

Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Mandalay Football Academy to organize U-15 Grassroots Festival 2014

MANDALAY, 2 Sept—With the aim of raising standard of Myanmar football sports, a coordination meeting on holding the football tournament for new generations and conducting the football technique course was held at the hall of Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) in Chanmyathazi Township of Mandalay on Monday.

U Win Thu Moe (Technical Director) of Myanmar Football Federation discussed holding of U-15 Grassroots Festival 2014 and the purpose of holding the football technique course.

The meeting was attended by 10 coaches from MFA (Mandalay), 10 coaches from Upper Myanmar former selected footballers association and 10 footballers from Amarapura and Myitnge.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Workshop focuses on development of bamboo management

TAIKKYI, 2 Sept—The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is placing emphasis on reduction of using forest products, improvement of forests, management for bamboo extraction and marketing the value-added bamboo products.

A bamboo management development workshop, organized by Forest Department, was held at Saya San Hall in Thayawady of Bago Region on 28 August.

Bago Region Minister for Forest and Mining U Kyaw Htay made a speech. Pro-Rector Dr San Win of University of Forestry, officials of Forest Department and Forest Research Department and officials, the chairman of Myanma Bamboo and Rattan Entrepreneurs Association and local bamboo extractors participated in the workshop.

The workshop was aimed at extending the market for the value-added bambook products.

Director U Kyaw Kyaw Lwin of Forest Department, Director U Zaw Win Myint of Forest Research Department, Bago Region Forest Department Director U Than Soe and Country Representative Dr Maung Maung Than of REPOSTC led the discussions in the workshop.

Officials of Bago and Yangon Region Forest Departments, local bamboo entrepreneurs and enthusiasts from all strata discussed production of value-added bamboo products, extraction of bamooo and management of environmental conservation.

Tun Hlaing (Myaing)

Departmental officials and entrepreneurs participate in bamboo management development workshop in Thayawady.

Milk processing factory under construction in Natogyi

NATOGYI, 2 Sept—The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development is building a milk processing factory in Ward 1 of Natogyi in Mandalay Region with the aim of feeding milk to schoolchildren at basic education schools in the township.

The machines for the factory arrived at the Directorate of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development in Mandalay. A staff officer has been sent to Nay Pyi Taw to attend management of the milk processing factory.

The factory will produce the canned milks to be distributed to the basic education schools in the township for feeding it to the students free of charge.

Khin Zaw Mon Myint (Law)

Servicemen, faculty members plant saplings for greening campus of computer university

THATON, 2 Sept—Servicemen of local station and faculty members of University of Computer Studies (Thaton) grew saplings on the campus of the university on Monday with the aim of greening the university and it environs.

Principal Dr Win Htay presented saplings to Brig-Gen Thet Naing of the local station at the ceremony.

The principle, the commander of the local station and the commanding officer of the local battalion led the servicemen and faculty members in cultivation of 200 saplings.

Thet Oo (Thaton)

Officers and other ranks of local station and faculty members of University of Computer Studies (Thaton) grow saplings for greening university campus.

Ebola health workers should get danger money, expert says

DAKAR, 2 Sept — Doctors and nurses fighting the world's biggest outbreak of the Ebola virus in West Africa should get incentives including better pay, insurance and access to the new Ebola drug ZMapp, an international health expert said.

The hemorrhagic fever, spread through the blood, sweat and vomit of the sick, has killed more than 1,550 people since March, including more than 120 health workers. Many work long hours with no access to proper protective equipment.

Johan von Schreeb, who has travelled to the region to advise officials on how to manage the deadly epidemic, said if health workers were not protected and remunerated for their dangerous work, they could not be expected to report for duty.

"There has to be reciprocity for those that are taking a risk in getting involved in this epidemic and are working to control it. If you take risks, you should be paid," said von Schreeb, head of research on healthcare in disasters at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

"Modern mobile phone technology can be used to track who is coming to work as well as transferring money directly so they can be paid on a performance-based system on top of their normal salaries," he told Thomson Reuters Foundation from Sierra Leone, where he is providing technical support for the outbreak.

The government of Sierra Leone has come under fire for its handling of the Ebola outbreak. On Saturday, health workers went on strike over pay and poor working conditions at a major state-run Ebola treatment center in Kenema in the country's east.

As well as holding formal walkouts, some health workers elsewhere in Sierra Leone, as well as others in Ebola-hit Liberia and Guinea, have simply not reported for work.

In Liberia, where infection rates are highest, President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf has issued orders threatening state officials with dismissal for failing to report for work or for fleeing the country.

Ishmael Mehemoh, chief supervisor at Sierra Leone's Kenema clinic in Sierra Leone, said that "gloves, aprons and boots are either not available at some times or are insufficient". He said the clinic's burial team had only "one broken stretcher" to transport corpses which posed a health hazard.

Health workers wearing protective clothing prepare themselves before to carrying an abandoned dead body presenting with Ebola symptoms at Duwala market in Monrovia on 17 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

In a further sign of strained resources, nurses and members of the burial team at Kenema told *Reuters* the government had stopped paying their wages of $50 a week.

Von Schreeb said advanced treatment centers specifically for infected caregivers as well as insurance packages could help to encourage health care workers to continue their essential work.

"There are negotiations with the UK government to set up an advanced 12-bed facility in Freetown specifically for health care workers. I sincerely hope the new drug ZMapp will be made available for these courageous people," said von Schreeb, noting there had not yet been a response from donors on the proposal.

"There needs to be some sort of insurance scheme too, so if you die, your family are supported so that they can survive despite the loss of income," he added.

Jorge Castilla-Echenique from the European Commission's humanitarian arm (ECHO), said pay incentives and insurance were good ideas and that ECHO would be willing to fund them.

But he had reservations about the concept of favorable treatment for health workers.

"You'd have to be very cold blooded given the lack of drugs. Lab technicians would get priority, followed by international health workers, followed by locals health workers and so on," said Castilla-Echenique, who has just visited Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Sheik Umar Khan, a leading doctor in Sierra Leone, was infected with Ebola but did not receive the scarce ZMapp drug, nor was he flown abroad for advanced care. He died on 29 July.

Early on in the outbreak, two American health workers who contracted the virus at a clinic in Liberia were flown back to the United States, treated with ZMapp and both recovered.

A week ago, British nurse William Pooley was flown to England after contracting Ebola in Kenema, where some 25 health workers have died. He is being treated in London.

Reuters

Twenty years on, Schaeuble pleads again for core Europe

PARIS, 2 Sept — German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble renewed a call for a core group of European Union countries to move ahead faster with economic and political integration, 20 years after his ground-breaking proposal fell on deaf ears in key partner France.

In an article published in the *Financial Times* on Monday, Schaeuble proposed creating an EU commissioner with the power to reject national budgets that breach the bloc's fiscal rules, and establishing an inner-core parliament for the euro zone.

"In order to make progress in all of these areas, we should keep using the approach that proved its mettle back in 1994: to establish cores of co-operation within the EU that enable smaller, willing groups of member states to forge ahead," Schaeuble wrote in the article, co-authored by fellow German Christian Democrat Karl Lamers.

German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble attends a news conference at the Bercy Finance Ministry in Paris, on 28 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS

The centre-right pro-European members of Chancellor Angela Merkel's party said the EU had already taken that direction with the launch of the euro currency.

They acknowledged that many EU countries remain reticent about closer political union that would involve transferring more sovereignty to Europe.

Countries such as Britain should put forward proposals for returning some competences to national governments, they said, while the EU should focus mainly on the internal market, trade, currency and financial markets, climate, environment and energy; and foreign and security policy.

The authors voiced sympathy for British demands for EU action to crack down on alleged "benefit tourism" and what they called a wave of poverty-driven immigration within the 28-nation bloc.

Reuters

Imperial Tobacco closes $13 billion of loans

LONDON, 2 Sept — British cigarette maker Imperial Tobacco has closed loans of about $13 billion to back its acquisition of selected brands and assets from Reynolds American Inc, the lead banks said on Monday.

The jumbo financing covers the $7.1 billion acquisition and refinances Imperial's existing core bank borrowings, which provide working capital and funds for general corporate purposes.

Fourteen banks joined underwriters, mandated lead arrangers and bookrunners on the financing: BNP Paribas, Royal Bank of Scotland and Banco Santander.

The deal closed oversubscribed and all the banks' commitments were scaled back.

Mandated lead arrangers joining the financing were BBVA, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, Bank of China, Barclays Bank, Commerzbank, Credit Agricole CIB, HSBC Bank, Intesa Sanpaolo, Mizuho Bank, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp, Societe Generale, Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ and Unicredit Bank. Wells Fargo was lead arranger.

View of a sign outside the Imperial Tobacco Seita cigarette plant in Carquefou, near Nantes, on 15 April, 2014.—REUTERS

The acquisition financing includes a $4.1 billion term loan with a one-year maturity and a one-year extension option; a $1.5 billion three-year term loan and a $1.5 billion five-year term loan.

The refinancing and working capital facilities include a 1 billion euro ($1.3 billion) revolving credit facility with a maturity of 18 months and three six-month extension options, and a 2.835 billion euro five-year revolving credit with two one-year extension options.

A 500 million pound ($830.5 million) five-year revolving credit with two one-year extension options is also included.

Imperial agreed to acquire a portfolio of US cigarette brands, Winston, Maverick, Kool, Salem and US and international e-cigarette brand blu from Reynolds, after Reynolds announced its merger with Lorillard.

Imperial will also take over Lorillard's national sales force, offices and production facilities.—*Reuters*

China gives Microsoft 20 days to provide explanation in anti-trust probe

BEIJING, 2 Sept — A Chinese anti-trust regulator said on Monday it has given Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) 20 days to reply to queries on the compatibility of its Windows operating system and Office software suite amid a probe into the world's largest software company.

The State Administration for Industry and Commerce (SAIC) questioned Microsoft Vice President David Chen and gave the company a deadline to make an explanation, the agency said in a short statement on its website.

Microsoft is one of at least 30 foreign companies that have come under scrutiny by China's anti-monopoly regulators as the government seeks to enforce its six-year old antitrust law. Critics say the law is being used to unfairly target overseas businesses, a charge the regulators deny.

According to a state media report on Monday, Microsoft's use of verification codes also spurred complaints from Chinese companies. Their use "may have violated China's anti-monopoly law", the official *Xinhua* news agency said on Monday.

Verification codes are typically used by software companies as an anti-piracy mechanism. They are provided with legitimate copies of software and can be entered to entitle customers to updates and support from the manufacturer.

People visit the Microsoft booth during the 2014 Computex exhibition at the TWTC Nangang exhibition hall in Taipei on 3 June, 2014. —REUTERS

Microsoft has long suffered from piracy of its software within China. Former Chief Executive Steve Ballmer told employees in Beijing that the company made less revenue in China than it did in the Netherlands.

Complaints about verification codes potentially violating anti-monopoly laws are Kafka-esque, said Duncan Clark, chairman of Beijing-based tech consultancy BDA.

"It's hard to make sense of and hard to see how Microsoft can appease," said Clark. "How does an anti-piracy measure constitute monopolistic behavior if other suppliers can also use the same technique?"

SAIC also repeated that it suspected the company has not fully disclosed issues relating to the compatibility of the software and the operating system.

"(A) special investigation team conducted an anti-monopoly investigation inquiry with Microsoft Vice President Chen Shi (David Chen), and required that Microsoft make a written explanation within 20 days," the SAIC said in a statement on its website.

Reuters

EU seeks rivals' feedback on Facebook, WhatsApp deal

BRUSSELS, 2 Sept — EU antitrust regulators are asking Facebook's rivals and telecoms operators whether the world No 1 online social network's proposed $19 billion bid for mobile messaging start-up WhatsApp will lead to price hikes and curb innovation.

The move came after Facebook sought EU approval for the deal, the largest in its 10-year history, which will give it a strong foothold in the fast-growing mobile messaging market and pit it against telecoms companies.

The European Commission said on Monday it will decide by 3 October whether to clear the deal unconditionally, demand concessions or extend the preliminary review into a wider probe.

In a questionnaire sent to third parties and seen by *Reuters*, the EU regulator asked if the deal would have a negative, neutral or positive impact on users and customers in mobile messaging and social networks.

"If negative, please explain why and what kind of negative impact (for example price increase, deterrence of innovation, etc)," the document said.

Illustration photo shows "likes'' on WhatsApp's Facebook page displayed on a laptop screen in Paris on 20 Feb, 2014.—REUTERS

The Commission also asked if mobile messaging services could substitute traditional voice calls, text messages and emails. It wanted to know whether Facebook advertisers would be able to switch to another type of advertising in the event of a price increase.

Third parties were asked whether users and rivals would face problems as a result of the deal.

"As a result of the Facebook/WhatsApp transaction, do you expect users of WhatsApp to face greater difficulties in switching to another consumer communications service/app?" the questionnaire asked.

"As a result of the Facebook/WhatsApp transaction, do you expect that it will be more difficult for WhatsApp's competitors to expand their user base or to launch a new consumer communications service/app in the European Economic Area?"

Facebook expects to close the deal this year. US regulators cleared the takeover in April, telling WhatsApp to stick to its current privacy practices after the merger, including not to use users' personal data for targeted ads.

Reuters

Nasty, brutish and artsy? Neanderthal hashtag engraving found

NEW YORK, 2 Sept — Belying their reputation as the dumb cousins of early modern humans, Neanderthals created cave art, an activity regarded as a major cognitive step in the evolution of humankind, scientists reported on Monday in a paper describing the first discovery of artwork by this extinct species.

The discovery is "a major contribution to the redefinition of our perception of Neanderthal culture," said prehistorian William Rendu of the French National Centre for Scientific Research, who was not involved in the work.

"It is a new and even stronger evidence of the Neanderthal capacity for developing complex symbolic thought" and "abstract expression," abilities long believed exclusive to early modern humans.

In recent years researchers have discovered that Neanderthals buried their dead, adorned themselves with black and red pigments, wore shell and feather jewelry and cared for the elderly and infirm, all evidence of complex thought. But no unambiguously Neanderthal art was ever found.

The new study, published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, could change that.

Researchers from 11 European institutions reported that deep in Gorham's Cave in Gibraltar, overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, they found carvings that resemble nothing so much as a rococo Twitter hashtag: eight partially crisscrossing lines with three shorter lines on the right and two on the left, incised on a shelf of bedrock jutting out from the wall about 16 inches (40 cm) above the cave floor.

The engraving is covered by undisturbed sediment that contains 294 previously discovered stone tools. They are in a style long known as the signature of Neanderthals, who had reached Europe from Africa some 300,000 years ago.

Standard techniques had dated the tools at 39,000 years old, about when Neanderthals went extinct, meaning the art below it must be older.

Modern humans, who painted the famous caves at Lascaux in France and Altimira in Spain, by then had not reached the region where Gorham's Cave is located.

The researchers ruled out the possibility that the engravings were accidental or from cutting meat or animal skins.

Instead, they were made by repeatedly and intentionally using a sharp stone tool to etch the rock, reflecting persistence and determination: one line required at least 54 strokes and the entire pattern as many as 317.

"This engraving represents a deliberate design conceived to be seen by its Neanderthal maker and, considering its size and location, by others in the cave as well," anthropologist Clive Finlayson, director of the Gibraltar Museum, and his colleagues wrote. "It follows that the ability for abstract thought was not exclusive" to modern humans.

Another hint that Neanderthals created art came in 2012, when archaeologists dated simple wall paintings (mostly red dots and hand stencils) in Spain's El Castillo Cave to 41,000 years old. That made them the world's oldest prehistoric art and old enough for it to have been made by Neanderthals.

But because no artifacts were found, it was not possible to definitively rule out modern humans as the artists.

Reuters

New Apple iPhone to have 'mobile wallet' function: Bloomberg

SAN FRANCISCO, 2 Sept — Apple Inc plans to enable its next iPhone to become a mobile wallet by allowing owners to securely make mobile payments in a store with the touch of a finger, Bloomberg said on Sunday, citing a person familiar with the situation.

The agreement includes participation by Visa Inc, MasterCard Inc and American Express Co and will be announced 9 September along with unveiling of the next iPhone, according to the source, who Bloomberg said asked not to be identified because the talks are private.

The new iPhone will simplify mobile payment by including a special communication chip, along with a fingerprint recognition reader that debuted on the most recent iPhone, the source said.

Officials could not immediately be reached at Apple, Visa, Mastercard and American Express.

Reuters

The Apple logo is pictured on the front of a retail store in the Marina neighborhood in San Francisco, California on 23 April, 2014. —Reuters

Mosquito traps out in Yoyogi Park as dengue fever numbers rise

TOKYO, 2 Sept — In the face of Japan's first cases of domestic dengue fever infection since 1945, the Tokyo metropolitan government on Tuesday began trapping mosquitoes in hotspot Yoyogi Park to gauge how many of them are harboring the virus.

Set up in 10 different locations in the park, the traps use light and carbon dioxide-releasing dry ice to attract mosquitoes into nets. The trapped mosquitoes will be collected Wednesday, and this process will be repeated once a week for the time being, Tokyo officials said.

Local officials had trapped 35 mosquitoes on the evening of 26 August and the following morning, but none were found to carry the dengue fever virus.

Since the first sufferers of dengue fever were confirmed last week, the total has risen to 22, all of whom recently spent time in Yoyogi Park or nearby. All are in a stable condition.

Dengue fever, an illness found in tropical and subtropical areas in Asia, Latin America and Africa, is transmitted by tiger and dengue mosquitoes, but cannot spread directly from person to person.

Sufferers are struck with a sudden fever around three to seven days after transmission, accompanied by head and muscle pains and a rash. Most sufferers have mild symptoms, but some may develop significant bleeding which can be life-threatening.

Workers remove water from a spray pond at Yoyogi Park in Tokyo on 1 Sept, 2014, to curb mosquito emergence with the total number of dengue fever patients in Tokyo exceeding 20 as the first domestic infection in Japan since 1945.—KYODO NEWS

Tokyo officials have put up warning signs around the usually busy park, warning people to wear long sleeves and trousers and avoid exposing their feet in sandals.

The health ministry has called on anyone experiencing a high fever three to seven days after suffering a mosquito bite, whether in Yoyogi Park or elsewhere, to seek medical attention, but noted that serious complications of dengue fever are rare.

At a news conference on Tuesday, Health, Labour and Welfare Minister Norihisa Tamura said he does not foresee infections spreading rapidly, but noted dengue fever "may become active in people in which it has been latent until now."

"(The virus) is present at a certain level in the world, and Japan's situation in this respect has not changed dramatically."

"Rather than explosively spreading, (infections) will come and go, and I ask that people remain calm," Tamura said.

According to the ministry, only between 10 percent and 50 percent of people bitten by a mosquito carrying the virus will experience dengue fever symptoms, and of those, serious complications are limited to between 1 percent and 5 percent.

Tiger mosquitoes do not transmit the virus between each other during their lifespan of between 30 and 40 days.

Kyodo News

Cambodian PM discusses bilateral ties with visiting Thai FM

Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen (R) meets with new Thai Foreign Minister Tanasak Patimapragorn (L) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on 1 Sept, 2014. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday met with new Thai Foreign Minister Tanasak Patimapragorn to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation. —XINHUA

PHNOM PENH, 2 Sept — Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen on Monday met with new Thai Foreign Minister Tanasak Patimapragorn to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation.

Tanasak, who is also deputy chief of the National Council for Peace and Order, said his visiting entourage consisted of Thai government cabinet members and high-ranking military officers.

"Our visit is to maintain and further develop good relations with Cambodia both bilaterally and multilaterally in the framework of ASEAN," he said. "Thailand is ready to work with Cambodia to advance ties and cooperation for mutual interests."

For his part, Hun Sen expressed gratitude to Thailand for providing legal status to Cambodian migrant workers.

He said Cambodia was keen to cooperate with Thailand to build the border of the two countries as the border of peace, friendship, cooperation and development.

The prime minister stressed that it was essential to narrow dispute and increase cooperation in economics, trade, investment, and tourism for the benefits of the two countries and peoples.

Xinhua

Battle lines drawn in struggle for influence over Turkish judiciary

ANKARA / ISTANBUL, 2 Sept — One of Turkey's most senior judges warned against government interference in the judiciary on Monday, signalling a looming struggle for influence over the courts as President Tayyip Erdogan pursues a drive against his political foes.

Sworn in as head of state last week, Erdogan has vowed to press a struggle against US-based Islamic cleric Fethullah Gulen, an ally-turned-arch-enemy whom he accuses of using influence within the judiciary and police to try to seize the levers of state power.

The power struggle dogged Erdogan's final months as prime minister and saw him purge thousands of police and hundreds of judges and prosecutors, steps that raised concern among Western allies and investors about judicial independence in Turkey.

Western powers are eager to see continued political stability in NATO ally Ankara, even if some are wary of what they regard as increasing authoritarian tendencies in Erdogan. Bordering on Iraq and Syria, Turkey plays a central part in intelligence calculations as tensions over rising Islamist militancy in those countries.

The purges continued on Monday, with dozens more police detained, according to local media reports.

"A judiciary which is under the influence of the executive cannot be expected to implement real supervision of acts and activities which are arbitrary and illegal," Ali Alkan, chairman of Turkey's top appeals court, told a ceremony in Ankara to mark the opening of the legal year.

Neither Erdogan nor new Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu attended the ceremony, contrary to past practise. Erdogan stormed out of a similar ceremony in May after the head of the bar association criticised his government.

Turkey's new President Tayyip Erdogan attends a swearing in ceremony at the parliament in Ankara on 28 Aug, 2014.
REUTERS

Erdogan and Davutoglu, who was appointed prime minister last week, have both made clear that their efforts to curb Gulen's influence will continue in their new roles.

Erdogan accuses Gulen's followers of seeking to establish a "parallel state" and of orchestrating a corruption probe against his inner circle, which began last December with the arrest of sons of several ministers and businessmen close to him.

"All judicial institutions and members must be extremely sensitive, careful and courageous in the face of political, ideological and interest groups which try to affect, influence and virtually cow into submission the judiciary," Erdogan said in a written statement on Monday.

In the final months of his decade as prime minister, he and his government faced accusations of interfering with the judiciary to quash the graft probe he blamed on Gulen.

Parliament in February approved a law boosting government influence over the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors (HSYK), which makes judicial appointments. In April, the constitutional court cancelled some articles of that law in a victory for the opposition.

Reuters

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J014R)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV YANGON STAR VOY NO (7J014R) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (077)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MERATUS GORONTALO VOY NO (077) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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

Advertise with us!
For inqurires to place an advertisement in the NLM,
Please email
wallace.tun@gmail.com

Weather report

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 3rd September, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Sagaing and Magway Regions, Kachin State, scattered in Mandalay, Shan, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

The river is flooding in El Ticui community of the municipality of Atoyac de Alvarez, Guerrero, Mexico, on 1 Sept, 2014. The strong rainfalls registered in the Guerrero's coast in recent days, have caused floodings in the fields and houses of four localities, and the collapse of a temporary bridge due to the strong stream of the river, according to the local press. —XINHUA

S Korea to support "proper" costs for DPRK delegation to Asiad

SEOUL, 2 Sept—South Korea planned to support " proper" costs for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) 's delegation to be sent to participate in the upcoming Incheong Asian Games, local media reported on Tuesday.

A government official was quoted as saying there were no big differences between the two sides on how much to pay for the DPRK delegation's stay, noting that South Korea will provide a financial support at a proper level after considering the past inter-Korean practices.

The official said it would be impossible for the government to support all the costs, adding that it would pay for the amount not to prevent DPRK athletes from competition in the multi-sports event.

The 17th Asian Games will be held in South Korea's western port city of Incheon from 19 September to 4 October. The DPRK will send a delegation of 273 people, including 150 athletes as well as coaches, referees and other officials.

The scale would be smaller than a 362-member delegation dispatched to the 2002 Asian Games held in South Korea's southern port city of Busan, when Seoul paid most of the costs for their stay.

The DPRK announced its decision last week not to send its cheering squad to the Asiad, saying the South Korean side took issue with expenses for their stay, which the DPRK had not mentioned, during the 17 July inter-Korean talks at the truce village of Panmunjom.

Regarding this, the official said that if Pyongyang sends its cheerleaders, Seoul will hail their participation, but he noted that the government has no plan to call for the DPRK once again to dispatch its cheering squad.—*Xinhua*

Shootings reported near New York's holiday parade route

NEW YORK, 2 Sept—Multiple shootings, one of them deadly, were reported early on Monday near the route for one of the city's biggest outdoor events, the West Indian Day Parade, police said.

A 55-year-old man was shot to death in Brooklyn's Crown Heights, and a suspect was in custody, with charges pending, local media quoted police as saying. The police said it was one of several shootings reported in the vicinity before the parade started, adding that they are still gathering details on the others.

The West Indian Day Parade echoes traditional pre-Lenten Carnival festivities and features dancers wearing elaborate, often feathered costumes.

For all the festivity, the parade weekend also has been scarred in recent years by violence nearby. Last year, two people were fatally stabbed at the parade, and a man was shot to death in 2011.

While year-to-year crime in the city is down, there has been an uptick in shootings in some neighborhoods in recent weeks.

Last weekend, a wave of violence in three boroughs left at least 10 shootings, the *New York Post* reported.—*Xinhua*

Three people die of suspected carbon dioxide poisoning in Austria

VIENNA, 2 Sept—Three people have died in the state of Lower Austria of what was believed to have been carbon dioxide (CO_2) poisoning, the *Nachrichten* newspaper reported on Monday. It was reported that a 54-year-old farmer went to a nearby forest to pick mushrooms in Schoenbach in the Waldviertel region. And he failed to return home.

His wife went looking for him, and found his lifeless body at the bottom of a recently-dug eight-metre-deep well. She hurried back to the farm to inform her family members. The couple's 26-year-old pregnant daughter and her 32-year-old husband then set off for the well. They climbed down to check on the man. and at this point it was believed they too quickly succumbed to a lack of oxygen due to a very high concentration of CO_2 in the well.

Emergency services crews later airlifted them to hospital and were even able to momentarily revive the pregnant woman though she died soon after.

An autopsy of the deceased is to be carried out on Tuesday evening, with the official cause of death expected to be confirmed by Wednesday, the authorities said.—*Xinhua*

One injured in train-truck collision in western Japan

OSAKA, 2 Sept—One person was injured after an express train and a truck collided at a railroad crossing in western Japan's Shiga Prefecture on Tuesday, NHK reported.

The accident occurred at around 10:30 am local time (0130GMT) when the express train collided with the truck which stopped at a railroad crossing of the JR Hokuriku Line in Nagahama city in the western Japanese prefecture. The truck driver suffered slight injuries in the collision, which caused the derailment of part of the train, but none of some 180 passengers on board the train was hurt, local police said.

Part of the JR Hokuriku Line was forced to be closed due to the collision, according to the report.—*Xinhua*

Shopping centre fire leaves two dead, two missing in NE China

HARBIN, 2 Sept—Two people have been confirmed dead in a shopping center fire Monday night in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, with two others missing, said the local fire department.

Firefighters are searching the three-story building, which burned down to its frame, for more casualties.

Police are investigating the victims' identities. The cause of the fire was not immediately known.

The blaze broke out at around 9 pm in Jinlong Plaza in the Daowai District of Harbin, the provincial capital city. More than 1,000 residents living nearby have been evacuated.

Some 500 firefighters, with 78 fire engines, managed to put out the fire at 4:23 am on Tuesday.

Xinhua

Business building catches fire in East India

NEW DELHI, 2 Sept—Fire broke out at landmark businessl building in the eastern Indian state of West Begal's capital Kolkata on Tuesday morning, local media reported. Four fire engines have already rushed to the spot along with two hydraulic ladders to rescue any trapped person, fire department said. According to sources, the fire broke out at around 9 am on the 16th floor of Chatterjee International — once considered as the tallest building in Kolkata.

The building houses mostly offices and commercial establishments.

The area has been cordoned off to conduct firefighting operations in the busy area.—*Xinhua*

Italian movie features obsessive fears of society at Venice Film Festival

***Director Saverio Costanzo, actor Adam Driver and actress Alba Rohrwacher (from L to R)pose on the red carpet for "Hungry Hearts" which is selected for the main competition during the 71th Venice Film Festival, in Lido of Venice, Italy on 31 Aug, 2014.—*XINHUA**

VENICE, (Italy), 2 Sept—Hungry Hearts, a film presented on Monday at the ongoing Venice Film Festival, has impressed the audience with a story that reflects the obsessive fears of the present society.

Jude, an American, and Mina, an Italian, meet by chance in New York City. They fall in love and she becomes pregnant. The couple gets married and brand-new life begins.

But since the early months of pregnancy, Mina is convinced that her child will be special and must be protected from the impurity of food and the pollution of the outside world.

Due to his love for Mina, Jude accepts her wife's obsessive fears for some time until he reaches the point where he has to face the terrible truth that his son is not growing and his life is in danger. A covert battle begins between Mina and Jude, leading to a desperate search for a solution. "I appreciated very much the way the film presented some topics that are often discussed in today's society, from mother-child relation to nutrition," a journalist of Italian cinema magazine Sale della Comunita, Simone Agnetti, told *Xinhua*.

"Hungry Hearts said something about the fact that we are in a sick society, where any small thing can lead to exaggeration and even madness," said Maria Rosa Degasperi, a cinema expert of a local cinephile association.

"I am a mother too and I know how difficult it is to raise a son in a society made of one-celled families. Large families also used to have problems, but they were able to face them more easily," she added.

Hungry Hearts, in which Alba Rohrwacher and Adam Driver take on the roles of Mina and Jude, is based on an Italian book that impressed Italian director Saverio Costanzo.

"Time passed by and, one day, I began working on the script, following my memories, without rereading the book again. That is how the story accompanied me in the search of what has turned into a very personal tale," he said.

Xinhua

Gainsbourg reprises Deneuve daughter role in 'Three Hearts'

VENICE, 2 Sept—Charlotte Gainsbourg says the most exciting thing about her role in the French romantic comedy "3 Coeurs" (Three Hearts), shown in Venice, was the chance to once again play Catherine Deneuve's daughter, a role she had in her debut film when she was 12.

Director Benoit Jacquot's film is a love triangle in which a tax auditor, played by Belgian actor Benoit Poelvoorde, unwittingly falls in love with two sisters, played by Gainsbourg and Chiara Mastroianni.

They also do not realise they are in love with the same man because one sister lives in France and the other has moved to the United States.

Playing the sister of Mastroianni, Deneuve's real-life daughter, was the role's biggest challenge, Gainsbourg told *Reuters* in an interview at the Venice Film Festival.

"She was playing my mother then and she was playing my mother now. The difficulty for me was to be believable with Chiara, playing her real daughter, and to feel that I could also be the other daughter, that was for me the most difficult thing because I knew there would be a complicity between them," she said.

"But the thing is that in the story my character takes a step back, so anyway there was some kind of a distance," Gainsbourg said, regarding the film's resolution.

Also screening, out of competition, at the festival is Lars von Trier's "Nymphomaniac Volume I and II, the Director's Cut", in which Gainsbourg is the battered woman of the title.

She said she was forever fielding questions about the Danish director and that working with Jacquot had been a very different experience.

Reuters

Cast member Charlotte Gainsbourg signs autographs during the red carpet for the movie "Nymphomaniac II" at the 71st Venice Film Festival 1 Sept, 2014.
REUTERS

Brad Pitt, Leonardo DiCapro, Robert De Niro in Martin Scorsese's short film

Oscar-winning director Martin Scorsese has recruited Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt and Robert De Niro to star in a short film for a new resort campaign.
PTI

LONDON, 2 Sept—— Oscar-winning director Martin Scorsese has recruited Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt and Robert De Niro to star in a short film for a new resort campaign.

The 71-year-old filmmaker gathered the actors in New York City to shoot the film, which will be used for a campaign to promote Melco-Crown Entertainment's movie-themed resort, Studio City, in Macau, reported *Daily Telegraph.*

The Casino-themed short film was written by 'The Wolf of Wall Street' screenwriter Terence Winter and will debut at the resort next year. While both DiCaprio and De Niro are no strangers to acting in Scorsese's films, this will mark Pitt's first project with the filmmaker, as well as the first time the trio has worked together with Scorsese. Pitt recently got married to longtime partner Angelina Jolie.—*PTI*

Adele's two unreleased songs leak in full

***The two leftovers from her previous album 21 were produced by Fraser T Smith, the same guy behind Adele's hit 'Set Fire to the Rain'.—*PTI**

LOS ANGELES, 2 Sept—'You'll Never See Me Again' and 'Never Gonna Leave You' both recorded in 2010 — have hit the web in full.

The 'You'll Never See Me Again' is an emotional ballad that finds the mother of one singing about leaving a man she still loves, reported Ace Showbiz."I won't face your fears. I need to fight my own. You'll never see me again oh baby," she sings.

While in the second track, 'Never Gonna Leave You', the 26-year-old singer is featured telling her man that she'll never leave him alone despite the difficult times they have to go through.

The two leftovers from her previous album 21 were produced by Fraser T Smith, the same guy behind Adele's hit 'Set Fire to the Rain'.—*PTI*

'Captain America 3' will be exciting: Directors

LOS ANGELES, 2 Sept—'Captain America 3' will be different from its prequel and exciting for the audiences to watch, director duo Joe and Anthony Russo have assured fans.

The helmers said they are making sure the film is as successful as its earlier instalments, 'Captain America: The Winter Soldier' (2014) and 'Captain America: The First Avenger' (2011), reported *Entertainment Weekly*.

"That's what we're in the middle of on ('Captain America 3') right now, pushing really hard to make sure that what we deliver is something that's going to be different from 'The Winter Soldier'," they said.

'Captain America 3', starring Chris Evans, is scheduled for release on 6 May, 2016.—*PTI*

***'Captain America 3', starring Chris Evans, is scheduled for release on 6 May, 2016.—*PTI**

GENERAL

Book fair establishes record as exports rise

BEIJING, 2 Sept—A record of more than 2,100 publishers from 78 countries and regions gathered in Beijing for this year's Beijing International Book Fair, according to a senior official.

A 3-D book catches visitors' attention at the Beijing International Book Fair. —XINHUA

The five-day fair, which concluded on Sunday, also witnessed 4,346 copyright deals, a year-on-year increase of almost 20 percent. The number of export copyright deals jumped by 24 percent.

The annual fair, now in its 21st year, showcased 300,000 items. It also attracted 200,000 visitors, mostly local residents.

"BIBF has grown against the general downturn in the industry," said Zhang Fuhai, director of the international exchange and cooperation department of the State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television. "The number of participants here now outnumbers that of the London Book Fair."

"The steady growth of BIBF has a lot to do with the ever-expanding Chinese market," he said at a news briefing on Monday.

"For a long time, foreign publishers came to China because they wanted to get in the country."

But that has changed as Chinese exports come into the limelight, he said.

According to the administration, China's Paths from the China Publishing Group, Why Is China Successful? from the China International Publishing Group, and other books that reflect the country's recent growth, changes and mentality, were among the most popular at this year's event.

The number of export deals signed at BIBF outstripped import deals.

The exports now head to countries in addition to China's Asian neighbours. They are available in more languages, too, according to the administration.

The book fair owes its success in part to the "going-out" project, in which items are introduced overseas with national support. The going-out aspect of the publishing business exceeded 23 million items and more than $104 million in exports last year, according to administration statistics. —*Xinhua*

Ecuador trains for Bolivia, Brazil friendlies

QUITO, 2 Sept—Ecuador's national football team gathered Monday for its first training session in the lead up to upcoming friendlies against Bolivia and Brazil.

Both games, to be played in the United States on 6 September and 9 September respectively, aim to prepare players for the 2015 Copa America Championship in Chile, the Ecuadorian Football Federation (FEF) said. The Ecuadorian players called up by coach Sixto Vizuete met at noon at the team's headquarters in northeast Quito to train prior to travelling Tuesday to Miami, Florida, for their first friendly, against Bolivia.

National team members playing for foreign clubs are to meet up with the rest in Miami, according to an FEF Press release, including Walter Ayovi, who plays for Mexico's Pachuca; Segundo Castillo (Al-Hilal, Saudi Arabia); Enner Valencia (West Ham, England); Carlos Gruezo (Stuttgart, Germany); and Cristhian Noboa (Dynamo Moscow, Russia).

Coach Vizuete has assembled a 22-man lineup, with the notable absences of Felipe Caicedo, Jefferson Montero and Antonio Valencia.

The Ecuador-Bolivia match will take place at Lockhart Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, while the game against Brazil will be in New York.

The team is to train from Tuesday to Thursday at the campus of the Florida Atlantic University, and spend Friday on a familiarization tour of the stadium. *Xinhua*

Pakistani men cross a flooded street after heavy rain in eastern Pakistan's Lahore on 1 Sept, 2014.—XINHUA

Brazil's 2014 growth forecast further lowered

BRASILIA, 2 Sept—Brazilian financial analysts have cut their economic growth projection for 2014 to between 0.7 percent and 0.52 percent, according to a poll released on Monday by Brazilian Central Bank.

The forecast is below the previous prediction of 0.86 percent published four weeks ago. The bank's Focus poll of the nation's leading financial institutions represents the 14th consecutive downward adjustment in projected gross domestic product growth (GDP).

Projected growth for 2015, which previously stood at 1.5 percent, was also cut to between 1.2 percent and 1.1 percent.

The new forecast followed last week's announcement by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) that the country's GDP contracted by 0.6 percent in the second quarter compared with the previous three months, and by 0.9 percent year on year. Industrial production in 2014 is expected to see a contraction of 1.76 percent to 1.7 percent, but to expand 1.7 percent in 2015.

Inflation in 2014 and 2015 would register 6.27 percent and 6.29 percent respectively, falling into the government's target range of 4.5 percent with a two-percentage-point wiggle room.

The basic interest rate in 2014 would remain at the current level of 11 percent annually, but is expected to rise to between 11.75 percent and 12 percent annually in 2015. This year's trade surplus is expected to stand at 2.17 billion US dollars and at 9 billion in 2015.

The Focus poll also projected foreign direct investment of 60 billion dollars in 2014, and of 56 billion dollars in 2015.H The Brazilian real-US dollar exchange rate forecast remains unchanged at 2.35 reals to the dollar by the end of 2014.—*Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(3-9-2014, Wednesday)

6:00 am
* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
6:45 am
* Documentary
7:00 am
* News/Weather Report
7:20 am
* Myanmar Language
8:00 am
* News/ International News
8:30 am
* TV Drama Series
9:00 am
* News/ International News
10:15 am
* TV Drama Series
11:15 am
* Solo Favourites
12:00 pm
* News / International News / Weather Report
12:25 pm
* Myanmar Movie
3:00 pm
* News
4:15 pm
* Science and Technology Programme
4:45 pm
* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Physic)
5:00 pm
* News
5:15 pm
* TV Drama Series
6:00 pm
* News/Weather Report
7:00 pm
* News
7:20 pm
* TV Drama Series
8:00 pm
* News/ International News/ Weather Report
8:35 pm
* Documentary
9:00 pm
* News
9:30 pm
* Fine Arts Bosom Of Dramatic Performance
* Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(3-9-14 07:00 am~ 4-9-14 07:00 am) MST

* Local News
* Products of Myanmar: Shin Ma Taung Thanakhar
* World News
* Will you feed the pigeons
* Local News
* Sagaing: Gold Leaf
* World News
* "Myanmar's Traditions and Culture" Tea
* Local News
* Kyaikhteeyoe: Mountain Drivers
* World News
* Myanmar Alert to Ebola
* Local News
* Glorious MraukU & Its Pagoda Festival
* World News
* Natural Lake: Fish Breeding Business
* Local News
* Ancient Shwe-San-Taw Pagoda
* World News
* Ngapali Beach: Real Paradise
* Local News
* Sagaing: Youth Leader
* World News
* Goldsmith
* Local News
* Myanmar Performing Arts-Puppet
* World News
* Lawka Nandar Wildlife Sanctuary
* Local News
* Myanmar's Traditions and Culture" Novicehood in Myanmar
* World News
* Natural Lake: Fish Breeding Business

The New Light of Myanmar

Barcelona's soccer player Andres Iniesta

Spain's Iniesta ruled out of France, Macedonia games

MADRID, 2 Sept—Spain playmaker Andres Iniesta will miss Thursday's friendly against France in Paris and their opening Euro 2016 qualifier against Macedonia in Valencia four days later due to a knee injury.

Iniesta, sidelined for Barcelona's 1-0 La Liga win at Villarreal on Sunday, was included in coach Vicente del Bosque's 23-man squad for the two games.

However, problems with his left knee mean he will not be joining up with his team mates in Madrid on Tuesday, Spain said on their official website (www.sefutbol.com).

Del Bosque will not be naming a replacement.

Spain, the defending champions, and Macedonia are in Euro 2016 Group C which also includes Ukraine, Belarus, Slovakia and Luxembourg.

Reuters

Ronaldo raises questions about Real transfer policy

MADRID, 2 Sept—Cristiano Ronaldo appeared to offer a criticism of Real Madrid president Florentino Perez on Monday by saying the club's transfer policy would probably be different if he was in charge.

After winning a record-extending 10th European Cup crown last season, when dressing-room heavyweight Ronaldo was the team's top scorer, Real sold midfielders Xabi Alonso and Angel Di Maria and brought in Toni Kroos and James Rodriguez.

The departure of Alonso to Bayern Munich, in particular, has raised questions about whether the Madrid club will have enough quality and experience in midfield without him.

Alarm bells rang when they let slip a two-goal lead to crash to a 4-2 defeat at Real Sociedad in La Liga on Sunday, with Ronaldo sidelined by injury.

"I have a very clear opinion but I cannot always say what I think," the Portugal forward told reporters at a promotional event in Jerez when asked about his club's recent transfer dealings.

"If not I would be on the front page of the newspaper tomorrow and I don't want that. But, if I was in charge, maybe I would not have done it like that.

"But if the president thinks that the best thing for the team is to buy the players he bought and let others leave we have to respect and support his decisions." Ronaldo's comments will make uncomfortable reading for construction magnate Perez who has spent hundreds of millions of euros on top players and turned Real into the world's richest club by income.

"With the new players the style will change but it could change for the better or for the worse," added the World Footballer of the Year.

Cristiano Ronaldo

"Hopefully it will be for the better because they are players of a very good level. It would be normal for them to adapt well.

"Di Maria and Xabi were very important for us but they are not here any more and we have to be happy with the new ones. I am sure that it will go well for us," said Ronaldo.

Reuters

Defending champ Serena Williams reaches quarter-finals

NEW YORK, 2 Sept—Two-times defending champion Serena Williams rode her big serve to a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Kaia Kanepi of Estonia to advance to the quarter-finals of the US Open on Monday.

Serena Williams

Williams won every one of her first serve points in the opening set, including six aces, as she pounded in 63 percent of them and never faced break point in the set.

The second set saw both players struggle on serve, with a total of six breaks registered, as Williams, who belted eight aces, won with her fourth service break in the final game of the 65-minute match between the ferocious hitters.

"She hits the ball incredibly hard and moves the ball around," said Williams, who hopes to make up for a disappointing grand slam season in which she failed to advance past the fourth round in any of the previous majors. "I just keep fighting."

"I finally made a quarter-final this year!" she shouted to the Arthur Ashe Stadium crowd with arms upraised. "Glad to do it in New York."

Williams will meet Italian 11th seed Flavia Pennetta, a semi-finalist last year who advanced with a 7-5, 6-2 win against 29th-seeded Australian Casey Dellacqua.—*Reuters*

Pennetta returns to quarters with win over Dellacqua

NEW YORK, 2 Sept—Flavia Pennetta reached the US Open quarter-finals for the fifth time in seven years on Monday, beating Australian Casey Dellacqua 7-5, 6-2.

A semi-finalist 12 months ago, the Italian was two points away from losing the opening set, then ran away with the second to set up a clash with top seed Serena Williams.

Having led by an early break, the 32-year-old Pennetta rallied from 4-5, 15-30 to win the first set against the number 29 seed.

Growing in confidence, Pennetta showed deft touch with a series of drop shots and eased to victory in one hour, 20 minutes.

Reuters

Flavia Pennetta of Italy celebrates her win over Casey Dellacqua of Australia at the 2014 US Open tennis tournament in New York on 1 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

Hull break transfer record to sign Uruguay striker

Uruguay's Abel Hernandez celebrates after scoring a goal against Tahiti during their Confederations Cup Group B soccer match at the Arena Pernambuco in Recife on 23 June, 2013. **REUTERS**

LONDON, 2 Sept—Hull City completed the signing of Uruguay striker Abel Hernandez from Italian Serie A club Palermo for a club record fee of 9.5 million pounds on Monday.

The Premier League club confirmed the deal for the 24-year-old, who has signed a three-year contract, in a statement on their website.

Hernandez scored 14 goals last season as Palermo won promotion as Serie B champions and he has scored seven goals in 14 internationals for Uruguay since his debut in 2010.

He made two appearances as a substitute at this year's World Cup finals.

"Abel is a fantastic signing and highlights how far the club has come in such a short space of time," said manager Steve Bruce.

The fee for Hernandez broke the previous record of seven million pounds ($11.63 million) paid to Tottenham Hotspur for midfielder Jake Livermore in June, according to media reports. That move followed just months after the then-record signing of Croatian striker Nikica Jelavic from Everton for a reported fee of 6.5 million pound.

Reuters

Gmail thenewlightofmyanmar@gmail.com Editorial Section — + 95 01-8604529
www.facebook.com/thenewlightofmyanmar Advertisement & Circulation — + 95 01-8604532
The New Light of Myanmar
R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, The News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.