

President U Thein Sein visits Albert Einstein Museum in Bern



President U Thein Sein visits the Albert Einstein Museum of Bern Historical Museum in Switzerland.—MNA

BERN, 5 Sept—President U Thein Sein left Berlin for Zurich, Switzerland, on Thursday afternoon where the president and party were welcomed by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland and Myanmar Ambassador to Switzerland U Maung Wai.

President U Thein Sein met with journalists from NZZ news agency and responded to their questions at the Hotel

Bellevue Palace in Bern, where the president and party are staying, on Friday morning.

Then, the president and party visited the Albert Einstein Museum of Bern Historical Museum where they were greeted by Head of Asia-Pacific Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland Mr Johannes Matyassy.

Head of Internal Affairs of House of Cantons Mr Thomas Minger, Head

of Liaison Department Mr Christian Kraeuchi and Governor of Berns Dr Iur Jury Wichtermann explained the administrative affairs of federal government, states, wards and villages to the president and party at the museum.

Afterwards, the president presented souvenirs to the local authorities and posed for a documentary photo with them.

Then, the president and party view round the

museum and signed on the visitors' book.

Before leaving the museum which was built

in 1894, the president presented souvenirs to an official of the museum.

MNA

Myanmar wins prizes of Animation Contest for ASEAN 2014

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—Myanmar won first, second and third prizes of Animation Contest for ASEAN 2014 while Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia got consolation

prizes, according to the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Winners Lin Htet Maw (Epic Digital Media), Aung Ye Kyaw (Neutron Animation Group) and Ye

Win (Freelance Animator) won over their rivals from South East Asian countries with one minute animation videos which provide copyright knowledge to audiences, source said.—MNA

Sector-wise impact assessment for Myanmar oil & gas sector launched

By Ye Myint & Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 5 Sept—The oil & gas sector-wise impact assessment (SWIA) developed by Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB) in partnership with its two co-founders, was launched on Thursday, identifying positive and negative impacts in the growing oil and gas sector of Myanmar and making recommendations to the government, businesses and civil society on how to max-

imize the positive and minimize the negative impacts of the sector in the future.

Emphasizing on four main themes that range from establishing engagement, information and two-way communication to stressing the need to fill gaps in legislation and policies, the SWIA report assists companies in carrying out environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) by prompting them

to consider a full range of potential impacts in scoping and conducting their assessments.

Launching the report at Pansodan Scene in Yangon, (See page 3)

MCRB officials make clarification on sector-wise impact assessment for Myanmar's growing oil and gas sector to the media.

PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN



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Thura U Shwe Mann leaves for Vietnam

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Rise above differences to build peace and then keep peace

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UEC holds talks with foreign guests on elections

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — U Tin Aye, Chairman of Union Election Commission (UEC), met a Japanese delegation led by Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tateshi Higuchi on Friday morning at his office here to discuss preparations for holding the country's general elections in 2015.

Their talks also covered arrangements to educate the public on the electoral systems now under discussion at parliament; issues to further cooperate with political parties, civil society and media in making elections more transparent; ways to deal with electoral disputes; security measures at polling stations; and arrangements for free and fair elections.

In the afternoon, Sen-



Chairman of Union Election Commission U Tin Aye receives Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Tateshi Higuchi and explains preparations for holding the country's general elections in 2015.—MNA

ior Political Officer Ms Hiroko Miyamura of UNDP called on UEC Chairman U Tin Aye at the latter's office. They discussed budgetary policies of the UEC,

international cooperation and donors' assistance, the organizational structure of the commission, ways to solve election-related complaints and appeals, rela-

tions among the UEC and political parties, and preparation for by-elections and general elections in line with the law.

MNA

Agreements on loans and financial assistance signed



Signing of loan agreements for public finance management project in Myanmar in progress at Ministry of Finance in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — Country Director for Myanmar Mr Ulrich Zachau of East Asia and Pacific Region of the IDA and Di-

rector-general U Maung Maung Win of the Budget Department of the Ministry of Finance of Myanmar signed agreements for

loans and assistance at the Ministry of Finance in Nay Pyi Taw on Thursday.

Reform process of Myanmar has been carried

out in accordance with the Framework for Economic and Social Reform-FESR and the public finance management modernization project has been implemented in cooperation with the World Bank and international organizations.

To implement the project, the IDA-16 of the World Bank will provide US\$ 30 million loan without interest and Britain and Australia will provide US\$ 20 million financial assistance through Multidonor Trust Fund of the World Bank.

Present at the signing ceremony were Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung, representatives of the World Bank and Multidonor Trust Fund and officials

MNA

Committees meet to hold International Day for Democracy

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — The second coordination meeting of the Central Committee for Holding the International Day for Democracy (2014) was held at the parliament building in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday.

It was attended by Chairman of the central

committee U Htay Oo and members and the chairman made a speech at the meeting. Members of work committees reported on preparations for the ceremony and the chairman reviewed the preparations and fulfilled the requirements.—MNA

U Ko Ko Latt presents his Credentials to Saudi King

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept —U Ko Ko Latt, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, presented

his Credentials to His Majesty King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 29 August in Jeddah.

MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw

Announcement (35/2014)

12th Waxing of Tawthalin, 1376 ME
(5 September, 2014)

Two Pyithu Hluttaw representatives of Armed Forces substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute two representatives of the Armed Forces who are parliamentarians, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following Pyithu Hluttaw representative announced under the Notification No.1/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 and Notification No.41/2012 of the commission dated 16-10-2012.

The Pyithu Hluttaw representative to be substituted were nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

BC 18632	BC 21046
Colonel Win Naing	Colonel Hla Oo
BC 27271	BC 30489
Major Soe Thein Htut	Major Kyaw Zin Moe

By Order,
(Tin Tun)
Secretary

Union Election Commission

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Union Election Commission

Nay Pyi Taw

Announcement (36/2014)

12th Waxing of Tawthalin, 1376 ME
(5 September, 2014)

Amyotha Hluttaw representative of Armed Forces substituted

According to a request made in accordance with Section 33 of the Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute a representative of the Armed Forces who is parliamentarian, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following Amyotha Hluttaw representative announced under the Notification No.2/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011.

The Amyotha Hluttaw representative to be substituted was nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Services in the first multi-party general election held on 7 November 2010.

BC 27283	BC 34711
Major Zaw Khin Htut	Major Tint Lwin Aye

By Order,
(Tin Tun)
Secretary

Union Election Commission

**BRIZIL
INDEPENDENCE
DAY MARKED:
Brazilian Ambassador
to the Republic of the
Union of Myanmar
Mr Alcides G.R. Prates
welcomes Deputy
Minister for
Foreign Affairs
U Thant Kyaw at the
reception to mark
192nd Independence
Day of Brazil
on 5 September 2014.**

MNA



NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein, German counterpart discuss development of Myanmar's economy

BERLIN, 5 Sept—President U Thein Sein met German President Mr Joachim Gauck on Thursday at the Presidential Palace in Berlin, Germany, to discuss development of Myanmar's economic and education sectors.

They also discussed progresses of Myanmar's political and economic reforms, national unity and peace-making process, development of small and medium industries, increasing scholarships for Myanmar as well as rural regional development.

President U Thein Sein attended a luncheon at Bayerische Landesvertretung in Berlin hosted by Chairman of Hanns-Seidel Foundation Prof Ursula Maennle.

The Hanns-Seidel Foundation is implementing more than 50 projects with the ministries, the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs Association as well as social organizations.

MNA



President U Thein Sein meets German President Mr Joachim Gauck and discusses Myanmar's development.—MNA

Sector-wise impact assessment for Myanmar oil & gas . . .

(from page 1)

Vicky Bowman, the MCRB director, said that the report aims to support companies, communities and workers to engage on an informed and meaningful basis, taking into account the key concerns about potential impacts of operations in the sector.

She went on to say that the MCRB stands ready to facilitate a broader dialogue among companies, government and civil society organizations on identifying and managing impacts.

Following the launch of its impact assessment for Myanmar oil and gas sector, the MCRB is currently developing future sector-wise impact assessments on tourism, information and communication technologies (ICT) and agriculture.

According to the MCRB, its reports are intended to support the government and CSOs in the respective roles as regulators and monitors of company performance in the growing sector of the country's economy. Furthermore, the recommendations in the report are intended to support wider multi-stakeholder collaboration.

The Yangon-based centre is a joint initiative of UK-based Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR). The centre encouraging responsible business activities throughout Myanmar is funded by six European governments, UK, Denmark, Norway, Switzerland, Netherlands and Ireland.—NLM

Committees meet to find ways to promote national education

YANGON, 5 Sept—A coordination meeting on education took place at the office of the Yangon Region Government here on Friday, with union ministers and the chief minister of Yangon Region participating in discussion, sources said. U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Chief Minister, gave a brief account of efforts being exerted on the development of the education sector in line with the third wave of reform initiated by the union government.

U Tin Naing Thein, Union Minister at the

President's Office, said that the cooperation of social organizations plays a key role in promoting the education sector, stressing the need of unity among education committees, teachers and students in the process.

Dr Daw Khin San Yi, Union Minister for Education, talked of plans to continue to write laws for basic, higher and pedagogic education as well as laws for independent universities and schools, based on the ongoing national education law.

MNA

Public safety talks given in Mingaladon Tsp

YANGON, 5 Sept—An educative talks on crime prevention and public safety was given on Thursday in a satellite Ward in Mingaladon Township of Yangon North District, aimed at raising public knowledge to reduce crimes and accidents. At the talk, educators from the township departments shared knowledge on electrical

Appointment of Malaysian Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mr. Mohd Haniff Bin Abd Rahman as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Malaysia to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in succession to His Excellency Dato' Dr. Ahmad Faisal Muhamad.

Mr. Mohd Haniff Bin Abd Rahman was born in Kedah, Malaysia on 30th August 1960. He obtained Bachelor of Science (Hons.) from Universiti Malaya.

He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia in 1989 and has served in various capacities at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Malaysian Embassies in Fiji, Japan and Kosovo. He has been serving as Consul General at the Consulate General of Malaysia in Vancouver, Canada, since 2011.

Mr. Mohd Haniff Bin Abd Rahman is married, and has one child.—MNA

Thura U Shwe Mann leaves for Vietnam



Thura U Shwe Mann seen at the airport before departure for Vietnam.—MNA

YANGON, 5 Sept — A Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) Thura U Shwe Mann left here by air on Friday to pay a goodwill visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Speaker and delegation members were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win and Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung and

officials of the Pyithu Hluttaw Office.

Together with the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House), U Thein Zaw, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw national races affairs, improvement in rural affairs and internal peace-making committee, U Hla Myint Oo, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw international relations committee, U Htay Myint, chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw investment and industrial development committee, and Dr Khin Shwe, chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw (Upper House) relief and resettlement committee left for Vietnam on the same flight.—MNA

fire safety, the importance of traffic rules and its advantages and drone safety to residents, urging them to participate in reducing accident rate in the township.

The talks was attended by the residents, towns' elders, members of social organizations, and police officials as well as fire service personnel.—Khin Zaw (Mingala)

Myanmar, Britain strengthen cooperation in environmental conservation



NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—Mr Matthew Hedges, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy, called on U Win Tun, Union Minis-

ter for Environmental Conservation and Forestry, at the latter's office here on Thursday, sources said.

They discussed ways to

closely cooperate in the forestry sector between the two countries, allow a British delegation of timber traders to hold talks with Myanmar

private timber traders, facilitate legal exports of finished wood products, curb poaching of wildlife, and arrange high-level meetings on wildlife poaching.

Their discussions also covered the progress of forums on green economy and green growth, known as GEGG forums.

Matthew also asked the union minister for the inclusion of British experts in green growth platforms as well as the prospect of the release of a statement on climate change reduction at the coming ASEAN Summit.—MNA



**TODAY'S
MYANMAR
NEWS SITES**

Health care provided to women and children

PYINMANA, 5 Sept — Under the Vaccination and Reproductive Health project, Nurses from Pyinmana 200-bed hospital and members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, provided health care to pregnant women and children under 1 and a half year of age on Wednesday.

Zaw Myo Naing



Tyre blowout causes fatal rollover accident on Yangon-Mandalay highway

MEIKTILA, 5 Sept—Theegon Highway Police Station said a fatal rollover accident happened to a car on Yangon-Mandalay highway after a front tyre of the vehicle went flat, leaving three Chinese citizens onboard dead on Wednesday evening.

As a result of the fatal car accident in which flat tyre caused vehicle to overturn near mile post No (316/6), the three Chinese citizens— Chen Runroi, 46, Chen Ximu, 40, and Chen Yueqiu, 41, were pronounced dead on the spot, according to the police.

But, Zaw Naing Tun, 45, driver of the overturned vehicle, only suffered injuries and he was sent to Mandalay People's Hospital, police added.

NLM-018

Myanmar, ROK discuss further cooperation in banking service

YANGON, 5 Sept—Chairman U Min Htain of Construction and Housing Development bank met President and CEO Mr. Kun-Ho Lee of Kookmin Bank of the Republic of Korea and party recently

in Yangon to discuss future bilateral cooperation between the two banks.

They also discussed a reasonable design for housing finance system, planning for housing development and managing reserve

funds for accommodation of low-income families.

The meeting is also aimed at providing technical assistance according to the MoUs signed between the two banks.

NLM



NEW ROAD FOR LOCALS: Road on Myingyan-Yaywun section in Mandalay Region, central Myanmar, is being upgraded from 12-feet wide to 18-feet one. The length of the upgraded section is about five miles.

ZAW MIN NAING (MYINGYAN)

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (5-9-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K661,400 per tical: Selling K662,200

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K661,200 per tical: Selling K662,000

FE RATE

USD Buying K970 - Selling K974.5

SGD Buying K771 - Selling K780

Euro Buying K1255 - Selling K1280

REGIONAL

Indonesia's next leader, Widodo, faces party divided over fuel subsidies

JAKARTA, 5 Sept—A plan by Indonesia's next leader to hike fuel prices this year faces opposition within his coalition, party officials said, stirring concern whether he will have the political support to take such a contentious step during his first weeks in office.

President-elect Joko Widodo, who takes office on 20 October, wants to fast-track a cut in fuel subsidies that are the main reason behind a current account deficit that is expected to exceed 3 percent of gross domestic product this year.

Fuel subsidies cost the government about \$20 billion (12.25 billion British pound) a year, or nearly a fifth of its budget, and economists say they mainly benefit the rich in southeast Asia's largest economy.

But raising fuel prices is a sensitive issue that typically sparks protests and contributed to the downfall of long-serving autocrat



Indonesia's president-elect Joko Widodo addresses supporters at an event in Jakarta on 22 Aug, 2014.

REUTERS

and then president Suharto in 1998.

"If we have other potential income, why should we increase the price?" Dolfie Palit, a lawmaker for Widodo's Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle (PDI-P), told Reuters.

"For us, raising the fuel price is the last resort."

In July, Jusuf Kalla, the vice president-elect, told Reuters the new government's top priority would be to confront the fuel subsidy problem, and it was likely take action within its first 100 days in office.

Economists have mixed views on a fuel price

hike this year, with opponents saying the resulting inflationary pressures could drive off investors.

"If the timing is not right, that could spark liquidity problems and investors could suddenly pull out their money and make liquidity even tighter," said Wisnu Wardana, Jakarta-based economist at Bank CIMB Niaga, adding that Widodo should wait until next year to raise fuel prices.

Widodo had hoped the outgoing government would raise fuel prices before the handover, due in October. But President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono rejected the request last week, saying conditions were not right for such action.

The president does not need parliamentary approval to cut fuel subsidies, but Yudhoyono sought its support anyway, before raising fuel prices by an average of 33 percent last year.

PDI-P has regularly opposed fuel price hikes over the last decade as the main opposition to Yudhoyono, but has switched its policy after Widodo's election victory.

"Jokowi's commitment to professionalism and his technocratic approach has left some people feeling like he is not paying attention to political pressures," said a PDI-P insider who supports a fuel price hike.

"That upsets not just the opposition but also people within his own party," added the insider, who asked not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the issue.

PDI-P lawmaker Rieke Diah Pitaloka, who is opposed to a hike, said there were no instructions from party leaders to back an increase.

Widodo's transition team, which is in charge of advising on policy and potential cabinet ministers,

has decided on five options on the fuel subsidy issues, one of its members said, but declined to discuss them in detail.

"There are options to raise the price and there are also options that don't involve raising the price," said Andi Widjajanto, one of the transition team's deputies.

"There might be a rise this year. There might be a rise next year."

Widodo could still have a trump card, however.

If he wants to get the support of the entire party for his fuel subsidy decision, Widodo will need the backing of PDI-P chairwoman and former president Megawati Sukarnoputri, who has supported a hike in prices before. "If he has the support of Megawati, it won't be a problem. The party is a queendom and ... they will follow what she says," the PDI-P insider said.—Reuters

Singapore officers seize 1.9 kg of heroin

SINGAPORE, 5 Sept — Singapore officers seized 1.93 kg of heroin recently, the Central Narcotics Bureau said on Thursday.

The officer stopped a Malaysian man at the motorcycle lane of a checkpoint linking Singapore and Malaysia on Wednesday. With the help of a dog, he discovered a bundle of drugs hidden in the back seat compartment of the vehicle. The man had also hidden drugs in his groin area.

Officers from the Central Narcotics Bureau at the checkpoint conducted a further search and more drugs were found hidden on the motorcycle and on the Malaysian suspect. In total, four bundles of heroin with a street value of more than 135,000 Singapore dollars (108,000 US dollars) were seized.

The 27-year-old suspect was arrested and investigations are ongoing. If convicted, he may face the death penalty. —Xinhua



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi (R) and the visiting Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott gesture during a welcoming ceremony at the Presidential Palace in New Delhi, India on 5 Sept, 2014.—XINHUA

With free visas, Thailand tells Chinese tourists 'please come back soon'

BANGKOK, 5 Sept—To make vacationing in a country still under martial law a little more attractive, Thailand's military junta is offering tourists from China free visas.

Chinese are the biggest visitors to Thailand, accounting for 18 percent of total arrivals in July, but they also proved among the most nervous, with numbers slumping more than other nationalities after May's military coup. Tourism accounts for about 10 percent of the Thai economy, and the imposition of martial law in May after the coup hit the industry hard. Winning back the Chinese visitors is imperative—spending by mainland tourists jumped 80 percent to \$6 billion in 2013 from 2012.

The slump in tourist

numbers after the coup was much more pronounced among visitors from East Asia than from Europe.

Chen Wei, the manager of an outbound travel department for Asia at Shanghai Huating Overseas Tourist Co, said his firm had only one group of 20 tourists a week travelling to Thailand this month, compared with two to three groups a week of more than 30 tourists each last year. The number of visitors from China fell 41 percent in June—the first full month under military rule—from Hong Kong 46 percent, Japan 25 percent, and Korea 29 percent, while arrivals from Europe fell by three percent.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand said its new tourism promotion measures included a 30-day ex-

MH370 search discovers "interesting" objects on seabed

CANBERRA, 5 Sept—Investigators searching for the missing Malaysian Airlines flight MH370 have discovered "hard objects" on the Indian Ocean seabed that seem inconsistent with their surroundings, according to media reports.

Fresh mapping of the MH370 search area has detected the objects with

satellite-tracking data and flight-simulation analysis.

The Times newspaper reported in London that Martin Dolan of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau said new surveys of the seabeds had revealed the interesting findings, even if it was possible they were rock formations.

Speaking to The Times, Dolan said, "there is



Chinese tourists take photographs as they visit the Grand Palace in Bangkok on 4 Sept, 2014.

REUTERS

tension of stay for visitors from 48 countries and one territory, in addition to the free visa for Chinese guests, although tourists from many other countries don't need holiday visas.

The return of some normality to Thailand, and possibly the 1,000 baht (\$30) visa saving, could be starting to work with visa applications from China

rising, while tourism operators say visitor numbers picked up last month.

With less than half their rooms filled, compared with occupancy rates of 60 to 65 percent in July 2013, Thailand's hoteliers are impatient for martial law to be lifted now that political unrest has subsided.

Reuters

nothing that has screamed out and said 'I look like an aircraft'."

"It's still a hell of an area. The area is horribly, horribly complicated."

Dolan, who is conducting the search, is also confident that a smaller search area will be announced soon, based on satellite data and the use of flight simulators.

The aircraft disappeared from radar screens on 8 March with 239 passengers and crew on board after it departed Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia en route for Beijing.

But the most expensive search in aviation history as so far failed to spot any wreckage from the airliner.

Xinhua

Japan to extend \$300,000 in humanitarian aid to Ukraine

TOKYO, 5 Sept — Japan said on Friday it will extend \$300,000 in emergency financial aid to Ukraine to help it deal with an increase in displaced people in the eastern part of the country amid the conflict between government forces and separatists.

Japan hopes the aid will help stabilize the situation in

Ukraine, the Foreign Ministry said in a news release. The aid will be channeled through the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, it said. In June, Japan extended similar humanitarian assistance worth \$270,000 to Ukraine.—*Kyodo News*

Iran receives \$1 billion under extended nuclear deal

DUBAI, 5 Sept — Iran's central bank has received a total of \$1 billion (608 million pounds) of previously frozen oil revenue from Japan under the terms of an extended nuclear agreement with six world powers, state news agency IRNA reported on Thursday. Iran and the United States, China, France, Germany, Britain and Russia agreed in July to extend a six-month interim accord until 24 November after they failed to meet a 20 July deadline for reaching a long-term deal to end their nuclear dispute.

In return for continuing action to curb its nuclear programme, Iran would receive \$2.8 billion during the four-month extension of its funds held in foreign banks, in addition to \$4.2 billion paid during the January-July period. US officials say more than \$100 billion of Iran's funds are held abroad and are difficult to access because of tightening sanctions on the major oil producer in recent years.

The UN nuclear agency confirmed on 20 August that Iran was moving to meet the

requirements of the extended agreement, paving the way for some of the money to be released. Citing the Iranian central bank's public relations office, IRNA said Japan's central bank deposited the funds in two instalments at the Iranian central bank's account in Oman.

Japan, China, India and South Korea are the biggest buyers of Iranian crude. Japan, along with South Korea and India, cleared some of its oil dues earlier under the payment schedule agreed with the six powers in the interim agreement.

The nuclear negotiations are due to resume later this month in New York. The six powers want Iran to significantly scale back its uranium enrichment programme to make sure it cannot produce nuclear bombs. Iran says the programme is peaceful.

Under the interim deal that was reached in Geneva in November and took effect in January, Iran agreed to halt its most sensitive nuclear activity in exchange for some sanctions easing. It was designed to buy time for talks on a long-term settlement.—*Reuters*

Poland proposes 700 billion euro EU investment plan to boost growth



Mateusz Szczurek is being sworn in as Poland's new Finance Minister during a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Warsaw on 27 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

BRUSSELS, 5 Sept — Poland's finance minister called on Thursday for the creation of a European Fund for Investments that would be able to finance, through leveraging its own capital, 700 billion euros (US\$906.4 billion) worth of investment, to revive the stagnant European economy.

The fund could be a special-purpose vehicle under the umbrella of the European Investment Bank Group, the existing EU bank owned by European governments, Mateusz Szczurek told an annual dinner of the Bruegel think tank, which often researches ideas for EU institutions. The additional resources should supplement — not replace — European Investment Bank financing and the multiple functions of the EU budget, he said. "To start operating, the new vehicle would require a gradual injection of paid-in capital

and guarantees by all EU member states, in a similar way and on the similar scale as was done for the European Stability Mechanism," Szczurek said in a prepared speech. The ESM, the euro zone bailout fund, has 80 billion euros of paid-in capital and 620 billion in callable capital, which enables it to raise 500 billion euros on the market in case a euro zone sovereign needs emergency financing. "The capital of the Fund would be leveraged by borrowing in the financial market and directly invested in the selected infrastructure projects because Europe needs actual capital expenditures, not merely extra funding," Szczurek said.

Such a structure would be necessary to ensure its triple-A credit rating, he said. All 28 European Union countries should take part in the fund "to prevent free-riding." To avoid widening the budget deficits of EU coun-

tries, the capital contributions to the fund would be excluded from the calculation of the budget deficit under EU rules, Szczurek proposed. Also, its borrowing on financial markets would be recorded as the fund's debt, and not re-routed to the books of governments.

"This treatment would be exactly the same as it is the case under the ESM, and in line with the rules underpinning the Stability and Growth Pact," Szczurek said. Top European policy-makers see structural reforms and investment as key methods of boosting European economic growth, at a time when most governments are still trying to consolidate public finances and interest rates are at record lows.

Szczurek said that based on conservative assumptions about the size of the current output gap and fiscal multipliers, Europe needs public investment of around 5.5 percent of European Union GDP, or 700 billion euros, over the medium term.

"The capital spending would start at 0.5 percent of European GDP in 2015, peak at 2 percent in 2017, and be gradually phased out afterwards," Szczurek said in his speech. Such a path would allow time for large-scale public investment projects to get started and give policymakers time to react and adjust if economic conditions change in time.

Through leveraging, the fund would help direct the currently idle private savings towards large-scale, pan-European infrastructure projects, with particular focus on energy, transportation and ICT, Szczurek said.

Reuters

Afghan candidates' unity pledge eases NATO's worries

NEWPORT (Wales) / KABUL, 5 Sept — Afghanistan's rival presidential candidates pledged to NATO leaders on Thursday that they would form a government of national unity and sign legal

agreements allowing foreign troops to stay on next year.

The message to a NATO summit from Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah was meant to reassure allies concerned that

a lengthy deadlock over the disputed presidential election could force NATO to pull all its troops out of Afghanistan this year.

The rival politicians said they were fully committed to signing two agreements on the status of foreign forces that would NATO to stay on and train and advise the Afghan army after its combat operations end in December.

"We believe in an inclusive political vision. We will form a government of national unity and will honour the participation of our people in the election process," the candidates said in a message read out in Kabul by Abdullah aide Mahmoud Saiqal.

Talks on a power-sharing deal between Ghani, winner of the election according to an initial count, and Abdullah collapsed this week, rekindling fears of ethnic unrest over an election marred by allegations of fraud.

Days earlier, Abdullah's team walked out of a UN audit of

votes from a 14 June run-off ballot, saying it was dissatisfied with the way fraudulent votes were being handled.

The political turmoil created the worst possible backdrop for a summit that heralded the end of more than a decade of inconclusive NATO combat operations against Taleban militants.

Adding to a general climate of uncertainty were news reports that an Afghan army colonel had requested asylum upon arrival in Britain on Tuesday.

Afghan Defence Minister Bismillah Khan Mohammadi, asked by *Reuters* at a news conference, denied the officer was travelling with his delegation to the NATO summit.

An Afghan official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the colonel was believed to have arrived on a military exchange programme, but officials were still looking into the matter.

Reuters

Russian naval helicopters conduct Baltic exercises

ST PETERSBURG, 5 Sept — Russian anti-submarine helicopters conducted earlier on Thursday attacks against a hypothetical foreign submarine target in the waters near Russia's Baltic enclave Kaliningrad.

"After detecting and fixing the coordinates of the target, pilots destroyed the improvised vessel from the air," Western Military District spokesman Captain Vladimir Matveev confirmed to local media. The exercises take place following an earlier announcement by the French government that the delivery of two Mistral-class helicopter-carriers to Russia would be suspended in light of European sanctions against Russia for its ongoing role in the Ukraine crisis.—*Xinhua*



Afghanistan's presidential candidate Abdullah Abdullah (L) addresses a news conference with rival Ashraf Ghani (R) at this side as they announced a deal for the auditing of all Afghan election votes at the United Nations Compound in Kabul, late on 12 July, 2014.—REUTERS

WORLD

UN cites concerns over possible gaps in Syria's declared chemical arms

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Sept — The United Nations said on Thursday that discrepancies and questions still surround Syria's chemical weapons declaration as the United States expressed concern that any omitted toxins could fall into the hands of the Islamic State extremist militants.

Sigrid Kaag, head of a joint UN and Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) mission overseeing the destruction of Syria's chemical weapons, said that since President Bashar al-Assad's government submitted its original declaration late last year, Damascus had made four amendments. "The declaration by the Syrian authorities themselves — there are still some discrepancies or questions that are being asked," she said after briefing the UN Security Council for the last time before the joint mission ends on 30 September "It's a discussion that's continuing in Damascus as well as The Hague."

"There are concerns over possible discrepancies in volume and other such matters," she said. "I am heading back to Damascus in the coming period and we will also pursue that."

But with the ultra-hardline al-Qaeda offshoot Islamic State now in control of large swaths of Syria and Iraq, US Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power said there were worries that any undeclared chemical arms could fall into their hands.

"The United States is concerned about all discrepancies, also the potential that there are real omissions in the declaration," Power, who is president of the Security Council for September, told reporters after Kaag's briefing.

"Certainly if there are chemical weapons left in Syria, there will be a risk that those weapons fall into (Islamic State's) hands. And we can only imagine what a group like that would do if in possession of such a weapon," she said.—Reuters

Fire from fighting in Syria hits Israeli-held Golan, Israel shoots back

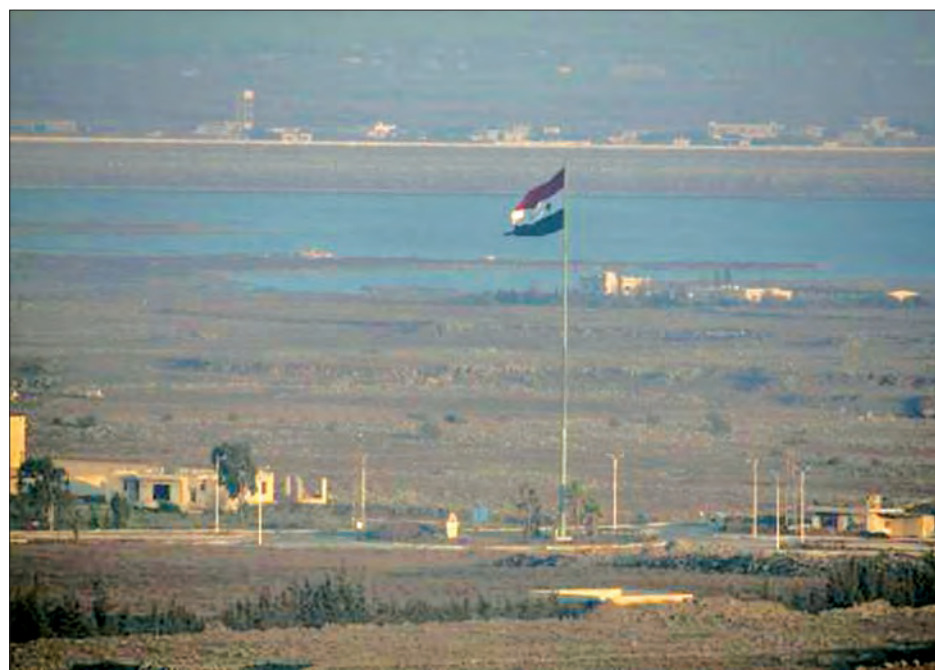
JERUSALEM, 5 Sept — A projectile from fighting in the Syrian civil war struck the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on Thursday and Israeli forces responded by attacking a Syrian army position, the military said.

In a statement, the military said it appeared the shooting from Syria was "errant fire" from battles between forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and rebels trying to topple him.

Such fighting, now in its fourth year, has often spilled over into Israeli-held parts of the Golan Heights, territory Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war.

The military said that in response to the latest fire from the Syrian side of the frontier, "the IDF (Israel Defence Forces) targeted a Syrian army position, and hits were confirmed".

It did not say what type of attack Israel carried out. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said it was an air strike on a Syrian army base on the Golan. There were no immediate



A Syrian flag flutters on a pole near the Quneitra crossing in Syria close to the border fence with the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights on 1 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

reports of casualties from either side.

Islamist fighters battling the Syrian army last week overran a UN-controlled crossing point on the "disengagement line" that has separated Israelis from Syrians on the Golan Heights since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

The fighters then

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

The militants, believed to be part of an al-Qaeda-

linked group known as Nusra Front, are still holding the 45 Fijian members of the United Nations' UNDOF Golan Heights force.

On Sunday, an Israeli Patriot missile shot down what the military described as a Syrian drone over the strategic plateau.

Reuters

US may intensify air raids in Iraq, unlikely to send combat troops

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept — US President Barack Obama announced this week extra military personnel would be sent to protect US diplomatic facilities after Islamic

State terrorists overran vast areas in north Iraq. The move is unlikely a pre-cursor to resending massive combat troops, but air raids may be intensified.

The United States aims to keep terrorism in check more than a decade after the 11 September, 2001 attacks on New York and Washington, which is why Wash-

ington is hitting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in an airpower campaign.

The militants' territorial gains have made Washington worry that its ulti-

mate nightmare could come true — that the group could eventually carve out a haven in Iraq or Syria and use it as a staging ground for attacks against the US, much like al-Qaeda did in Afghanistan in the lead-up to the 11 September attacks.

Indeed, the terrorists have already threatened America, saying earlier this month they will "raise the flag of Allah in the White House."

This statement has alarmed many US observers, experts, policy makers and politicians.

"I have no doubt the US will partner with the Kurdish Peshmerga, the Iraqi Army and willing US allies to mount a major effort against the ISIS in Iraq," said Wayne White, former deputy director of the US State Department's Middle East Intelligence Office.

However, experts say Obama is unlikely to put US combat troops on the ground, as he is concerned about his legacy, and wants to be known as the president who ended the war in Iraq.

Instead, he will likely ramp up the US air cam-

paign. "When the Iraqi and Kurdish ground component of an overall anti-ISIS military package has been better prepared and armed, the tempo of US and possibly other NATO airstrikes against ISIS will rise markedly," White said.

Many in the Congress are on board with such increased US air involvement. In reaction to the Islamic State radicals' beheading of American journalist Steven Sotloff, leading lawmakers on both sides of the aisle this week called for a greater US roll to fight what they believe is a deadly terror threat.

For his part, Obama would not be averse to toughening air attacks, and the Congress would likely approve such a move, Republican strategist Ford O'Connell told Xinhua. "Congress is pretty much prepared to authorize him to use more force," O'Connell said. But the White House faces a dilemma: While Obama is unlikely to deploy US combat troops, the fight against the Islamic State militants cannot be won by airstrikes alone, experts said.

Xinhua



A vehicle and a horse cart move on a flooded street after heavy monsoon rains in eastern Pakistan's Lahore on 5 Sept, 2014. At least 72 people were killed and over 100 others injured when heavy monsoon rains lashed parts of eastern Pakistan's Punjab province and northeast Kashmir area over the past two days, local media reported on Friday.—XINHUA

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 6 September, 2014

Rise above differences to build peace and then keep peace

By Kyaw Thura

A glance at the developments around the world is enough to notice that conflicts are common in poor countries. Newspapers are filled with news about numerous areas of tension around the world.

Immense ideological differences are the breeding ground for distrust and hostility, which get worsened by fierce assertions of nationalism. It goes without saying that the cohesion of a nation, no matter how strong, can be torn apart by brutal ethnic and religious strife. Unrest in any form will

result in instability that is invariably followed by new assertions of discrimination and exclusion, and on a greater degree by acts of terrorism plotting to impede reforms.

Building peace requires comprehensive efforts to identify and support domestic structures capable of consolidating peace and advocating a sense of confidence and well being among ethnic groups. This process might involve entering into agreements to end racial discord and disarming warring groups to ensure the restoration of order as well as rule of law.

For a nascent democracy like Myanmar, reform is a continuous process. Reform will come to a halt in the absence of peace. If there is no peace, there will be no prosperity across the nation. That is why peace is the name of the game in modernizing a nation.

The essence of democracy lies in respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as set forth in the UN Charter. Another noteworthy thing about

democracy is a deeper understanding and respect for the rights of minorities and respect for the needs of the more vulnerable groups of society.

With the government having pledged to reduce poverty to 16 percent in 2015, the pace set should be increased if the government is to keep abreast of neighbouring countries in terms of the acceleration of development as characterized by this age.

Last but not least, the restoration of peace at home necessitates the strengthening of individual domestic communities as a whole.

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.

Letter to the Editor

Dear sir,

During these days I saw some people who were selfish and not considerate of others. The first event I encountered took place on the busy road I usually used to drive to my office. After about 5 minutes drive from my home, I saw a trishaw (side – car) locked and parked on the road and the vehicles including mine were forced to line up behind it and wait until the vehicles driving from the opposite side passed. If trishaw driver had been considerate of others, he would have parked his trishaw at the side of the road and the flow of vehicles would not have been affected. I realized that some people are unaware of social responsibility no matter whether they are rich or poor, educated or non-educated, old or young.

After a waste of time

about 10 minutes there I was able to proceed by accelerating the speed to get to the office in time. But unfortunately I faced another problem. I saw vehicles slowly moving towards the entrance of the narrow



bridge because the approaching road was a 4-lane while there were only 2 lanes on the bridge. Sometimes the vehicles were hardly moving. When I looked forward, I found that some drivers were not fol-

lowing the traffic rules and they used the opposite lane and tried to intercept other vehicles which were driving on right track leading to entrance of the bridge. Again I noticed those drivers were selfish, opportunists and lack of social responsibility. They may

think themselves that they were clever and cunning to behave like that. I felt this kind of mindset will not lead to democratic right equally enjoyable to all the people.

There are still some

more examples like these in daily life. At bus stops, passengers never think about queuing and on the arrival of bus they rush to the door and try to get on the bus. Females and senior citizens are left at bus stops though some of them reach there earlier than those who are able to successfully get on the bus. Contrary to this, we see people in some countries are used to queuing at many places such as bus stops, departmental stores, at banks, at hospitals, at restaurants and etc... . Our people should learn the benefit of queuing and change their mindset for fairness and for not taking advantages over the weakness of the other people.

Another example is also concerned with unlawful use of road area. For the purpose of smooth transportation, the regional government built or reconstruct wider roads in many town-

ships in Yangon Region. We can see 2 lanes roads were expanded to 4 lanes road and 4 lanes roads were upgraded to 6 lanes in many places. But actually we saw vehicles can use the middle two lanes for the four lanes road and middle four lanes for the six lanes road because the outer lane near the pavement were blocked with cars permanently parked or breakdown cars or roadside vendors. Therefore, the purpose of road expansion is not achieved as expected.

Some other examples are concerning with waste of electricity and water due to the negligence and lack of social responsibility. We can see lights on at some houses and at road lamp post till day times. And water flows out from the pipe at some places but nobody thinks of closing the water tap. This negligence causes losses for the gov-

ernment and shortage of electricity and water in some parts of the area. Therefore, I would like to give message to the fellow citizens to take lessons from these events so that they will become dutiful citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sincerely yours,

U Tin Tun

Dear U Tin Tun,

I agree with you. This is a photo taken at Tamwe traffic light on 5-9-2014. I have to encounter the problem every day as my office is located near the area. I do believe bus drivers or taxi drivers do not want to breach the traffic rules because they are good citizens of Myanmar. But if they follow the rules, their earnings will be declined. In such a situation, they have to compete each other. So, what is the root cause of the problem? Let us find the root cause and root out it. —Ed

Living With God

In God, we live and move and have our being.

-The Bible

For a Big-Sky mind, God means :

G for Goal
O for Opportunities
D for Daring
GOAL

For those people with the BIG-SKY MIND, the goal could be to become servant leaders who earnestly practice:

“LOVE ALL, SERVE ALL, HURT NEVER, HELP EVER”

In Loving All, our daily practice should be reinforcing and multiplying the forces of “LOVING KINDNESS, COMPASSION, SYMPATHETIC JOY AND EQUANIMITY.

It means : Sowing the seeds of LOVE wherever there is
Sowing the seeds of PARDON wherever there is
Sowing the seeds of JOY wherever there is
Sowing the seeds of HOPE wherever there is
Sowing the seeds of FAITH wherever there is
Sowing the seeds of LIGHT wherever there is

In Serving All, our consistent practice should be serving the people and the world in the following aspects :

* P = Politically
* E = Economically
* S = Socio-culturally
* T = Technologically
* E = Educationally
HATRED;
INJURY;
SADNESS;
DESPAIR;
DOUBT;
DARKNESS;
* E = Ecologically
* L = Legally
In serving people and the world, we had better go all-out, give all we have got,

Kyí Mun

give every bit of ourselves, holding nothing back. We should give disinterested, wholehearted service.

In Never Hurting people and the planet's ecological systems, we have got to resolutely refrain from COVETOUSNESS, ILL-WILL, JEALOUSY and NIGGARDLINESS. Towards all others, we have got to be good-hearted, big-minded and merciful. We should always practice “do unto others as you would be done by”.

In Helping Ever, we should always give a helping hand, empathize with others, especially the haves - not and down-and-outs, learn to raise their morale and morality and sincerely practice altruism.

OPPORTUNITIES

We, who aspire to be servant leaders as our goal, should look ahead and relentlessly seize the opportunities for a better future for the broad masses of the people, just as the great poet Tennyson said; “To strive, to seek, to find and not to yield!” In finding opportunities for the future all-round development, we should bear in mind what Napoleon Bonaparte had said; “I don't seek opportunities. I create them.” In fact, opportunities are there; we only have ourselves to be activated to find and seize them with real enthusiasm.

DARING

In Living with GOD, we have got to :

“Dare to struggle and dare to win; and

Dare to scale the heights.”

We must have the determination and capability to turn heaven and earth upside down in living and moving and having our being in GOD.

WHAT IS POSSIBLE

By patience the animal spirits can be disciplined. By self-control one can unify the character. By close attention to the will, compelling gentleness, one can become like a little child. By purifying the subconscious desires one may be without fault.

Ref :TAO TEH KING by Laotzu

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

NATIONAL

Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham meets locals, wraps up Rakhine tour

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept —Chairman of the Central Committee for Stability and Development of Rakhine State Vice President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, together with union ministers, the chief minister and official of Rakhine State, heard report on Kyaukphyu Special Economic Zone Project at Kyaukphyu District General Administration Department on Friday.

After hearing the report, the vice president said Rakhine State will develop after the project has been successfully implemented.

Then, the vice president proceeded to Shwe Natural Gas Project and heard report on the project and inspected the gas distribution operations there.

Afterwards, the vice president visited the education college and its training school in Kyaukphyu.

The vice president

also inspected Thahtay Hydro Power Project, which will be completed in 2019. Up to this date the project completed 36.39 percent. After completion, the project with the capacity of 111 megawatt (3x37) will have annual generating power of 386 million kilowatt hours.

Vice President Dr SaiMauk Kham observes

Thahtay Hydro Power Project which can generate 386 million kilowatt hours per year.

MNA



Production sharing contracts signed for inland oil blocks

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept —Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, Pacific Hunt Canada and Young Investment Group signed production sharing contracts for inland oil blocks PSC C-1

in Indaw-Yanan area and PSCH in Taungoo-Pyinmana area at the Thingaha Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw on Friday. Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission and Union Minister for Energy U Zeya Aung witnessed the signing ceremony.

It is the sixth signing ceremony for inland oil blocks offered through tender in 2013 and Myanmar will receive US\$ 8.1 million signature bonus. Foreign oil companies are required to conduct EIA and SIA before drilling and to cooperate with local authorities for regional development.—MNA

Signing of production sharing contracts between MOGE, Pacific Hunt Energy Corporation of Canada and Young Investment Group in progress.

MNA



Japan to provide ODA loan of 63.166 billion yen

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept — Myanmar and Japan inked an Exchange of Notes concerning an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of 63.166 billion yen for four development projects in Myanmar and loan agreements on Thursday.

During the signing ceremony at the Ministry of Finance in Nay Pyi Taw, Mr. Tateshi Higuchi, Japanese Ambassador to Myanmar, and Deputy Minister for Finance Dr Lin Aung signed the Exchange of Notes and Mr. Hidetoshi Irigaki, Director-General of Southeast Asia and Pacific Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency and Director-General U Maung Maung Win of Budget Department ODA loan agreements.

According to the exchange of notes, Japan will provide Myanmar 63.166 billion yen in loans for Yangon-Mandalay railroad upgrading project (Phase I), Greater Yangon Water Supply Improvement Project, infrastructure development project in Thilawa Area (Phase II) and irrigation development project in western Bago region.

It is learnt that the terms and conditions of 0.01% interest rate and a repayment period of 40 years including a 10-year grace period are applied to the ODA loans.

MNA



Image provided by Presidency of Mexico shows Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto (front R) greeting his supporters during the event for the presentation of the "Prospera" programme in the Ecatepec de Morelos municipality, Mexico State, Mexico on 4 Sept, 2014.—XINHUA

Venezuelan president unveils new stage of "revolutions" on economic, social development

CARACAS, 5 Sept—Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro announced "five revolutions" on economic and social development on Wednesday, local press reported on Thursday.

During an official event in Aragua state, Maduro announced that the five revolutions are new guidelines of action concerning economy, politics, culture, knowledge, and science and technology.

The economic revolution is for Venezuela to "develop a progressive economy with the capacity

to satisfy the needs of the people," said the president.

The revolution on knowledge, culture and science and technology will integrate the social and material development to build a new society guided by the socialist ideal of unity and harmony, Maduro said.

Maduro also said the political revolution was designed to help build a democratic state based on social justice and the rule of law while expanding the political participation of the people.

The revolution of commune socialism has the

goal of reorganizing public services and consolidating the community model by boosting an ecological socialist planning scheme.

During the event, Maduro praised the installation of more than 1,500 community centers where the social programmes known as missions are being implemented in the poorest regions all over the country.

These centres, Maduro said, will guarantee the enforcement of public policies in every corner of the Venezuelan territory.

Xinhua

BP bears 67 percent of responsibility in 2010 Gulf oil spill: US federal judge rules

HOUSTON, 5 Sept—A federal judge announced in the US city of New Orleans Thursday that oil giant BP, which had been found guilty of having committed a gross negligence in the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill, should bear the majority of responsibility among the companies involved in the nation's worst offshore oil spill that killed 11 workers and sent millions of barrels of oil into the ocean.

In his 152-page ruling, US District Judge Carl Bar-

bier accused the British oil company of making "profit-driven decisions" during the drilling of the well, saying that "these instances of negligence, taken together, evince an extreme deviation from the standard of care and a conscious disregard of known risks," said the *Times-Picayune*, a local newspaper, in an online report.

In the ruling, Barbier said BP bears 67 percent of the responsibility for the oil spill, Swiss-based owner of the drilling rig Transocean

takes 30 percent and Houston-based cement contractor Halliburton shoulders the remaining 3 percent.

It is believed that in accordance with Clean Water Act, the ruling about the division of responsibility for gross negligence involved could lead to the maximum penalty of 18 billion US dollars fines for the part of the British oil giant.

The ruling triggered strong opposition from BP, which said on Thursday that it would appeal the ruling as the company

believes that an impartial view of the record does not support the erroneous conclusion reached by the District Court in New Orleans.

On 20 April, 2010, BP's Deepwater Horizon drill platform caught fire and exploded, killing 11 workers and triggering one of the worst environmental disasters in US history.

BP said it had so far paid more than 26 billion US dollars in cleanup costs and damage claims to individuals, businesses and governments.—Xinhua

Lebanon not to compromise on safety of abducted soldiers

BEIRUT, 5 Sept—The Lebanese government stressed on Thursday that the safety and lives of the soldiers and policemen held captive by Islamist militants following the clashes with Syrian Islamist gunmen in the border town of Aarsal is not for compromise.

Information Minister Ramzi Jreij told reporters following the cabinet meeting held by Prime Minister Tammam Salam that "the cabinet will not carry out an exchange for the captives and it will contact influential countries to help it resolve the case."

He revealed that influential countries had been contacted previously in order to ensure the safety of the recent batch of soldiers who were released by the kidnappers. Further contacts will be carried to release the remaining captives, he added.

The cabinet also tasked a ministerial crisis committee with following up on the case. The minister also stressed the need to maintain a united stance in the cabinet over the issue.

Army soldiers and members of the Internal Security Forces were abducted by Syrian Islamist gunmen who infiltrated the border town of Aarsal and engaged in bloody gun battles with the military on 2 August following the arrest of Imad jomaa, one of al-Qaeda linked "al-Nusra Front."

The jihadists have called on the Lebanese government to release Islamist inmates from the country's largest prison in Roumieh in exchange for the captive security personnel.—Xinhua

75 pct achieved in Somalia's peacekeeping activities

BUJUMBURA, 5 Sept—The African Union Peacekeeping Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) has achieved at least 75 percent of peacekeeping activities in Somalia from February 2013 to date, AMISOM Commander Lieutenant General Silas Ntigurirwa said here in a

press conference on Thursday. "With regards to military operations we (AMISOM troops) have made and localities captured from the hands of Al Shabaab insurgents, we can say that at least 75 percent of peacekeeping activities in Somalia have been achieved from

February 2013 to date," said AMISOM Commander Lieutenant General Silas Ntigurirwa.

According to General Ntigurirwa, ten Somali localities were liberated from Al Shabaab hands in what he termed "Eagle Operation" from February 2013

to March this year.

Ntigurirwa indicated that another three-month operation running from August this year to October termed "Indian Ocean Operation" will help the AMISOM troops liberate areas that are still under Al Shabaab control.—Xinhua

8,000 people displaced by conflict in northern Yemen

UNITED NATIONS, 5 Sept—About 8,000 Yemenis have been displaced recently by conflict in north part of the country, a UN spokesman said here on Thursday.

"The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) says that fighting in Al Jawf, in northern Yemen, has displaced about 8,000 people in recent weeks," UN Deputy Spokesperson Farhan Haq told reporters at a daily briefing. Noting information is limited and access is difficult even for local non-governmental organizations, Haq said

the majority of people displaced by recent conflict in Amran have returned home as conflict subsided.

"About 300,000 people remain long-term displaced in Hajjah, Amran and Saada. Food distribution targeting 20,000 households in Hajjah and Saada Governorates has taken place," he quoted OCHA as saying. The spokesman also said that in August, a national polio immunization campaign in Yemen, supported by the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), reached 96 percent of 4.9 million

targeted children under five years old. Yemen has been undergoing a shaky political transition after the government was formed in 2012 following a year-long protest that led to the resignation of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Taking advantage of the security vacuum, Shiite rebels have since expanded their control over northern provinces. They have controlled the northern Saada province since August 2010, when they signed a ceasefire deal with the government and ended a six-year intermittent war.

Xinhua



Policemen check the accident site after a sport utility vehicle (SUV) collided with a truck on a highway in Waze Township of Kangding County, southwest China's Sichuan Province on 4 Sept, 2014. Six people were killed in the road accident which occurred on Thursday afternoon.—XINHUA

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

A hot cup of genome: Scientists percolate coffee's genetic secrets



Coffee beans are seen as they are being packed for export in Medan, Indonesia's North Sumatra Province in this on 25 April, 2013 file photo. —REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept — If you prefer your genetic research to be rich, bold, flavourful, steaming hot and with a bit of a kick, try a mug full of this: Scientists have deciphered the coffee genome and found genetic secrets that may make your cup of joe even better in the future. An international team of researchers on Thursday unveiled the newly sequenced genome of the coffee plant. They pinpointed genetic attributes that could help in the development of new coffee varieties better able to endure drought, disease and pests, with the added benefit of enhancing flavour and

caffeine levels.

The researchers studied the species *Coffea canephora*, better known as Robusta. It accounts for about 30 percent of the world's coffee production and is common in instant coffee. It is second in importance to Arabica, generally known for a less strong, smoother taste. Separate work is under way on Arabica's genome.

Along with its the popular beverage's distinctive flavour and aroma, caffeine undoubtedly is a big part of its appeal. The researchers said their study, published in the journal *Science*, found, not surpris-

ingly, that the coffee plant boasted a broad collection of enzymes involved in the production of caffeine.

They also concluded that the coffee plant's caffeine enzymes evolved independently from those in cacao (chocolate) and tea.

Compared with other plants the scientists examined, coffee possessed larger families of genes related to making alkaloid and flavonoid compounds that contribute to the aroma and bitterness of beans.

"For any agricultural plant, having a genome is a prerequisite for any sort of high technology breeding or molecular modification," said plant genomist Victor Albert of the University at Buffalo, one of the researchers.

"Without a genome, we couldn't do any real advanced research on coffee that would allow us to improve it—not in this day and age," Albert added.

Coffee is one of the world's most valuable agricultural commodities.

With an estimated 2.25 billion cups consumed every day worldwide, more than 8.7 million tons of coffee

were produced last year. Production and export are a multibillion-dollar enterprise, employing millions of people in more than 50 countries. A tropical and subtropical crop, it is vital to the economies of many developing countries. "Coffee is as important to everyday early risers as it is to the global economy," said another researcher, Philippe Lashermes of the French Institute of Research for Development.

Albert said the coffee genome is of average size for a plant. It had about 25,500 genes responsible for various proteins. Scientists have debated why coffee and certain other plants began their outsize caffeine production. Albert said it could get pollinators to come back again and again—like people to their favourite Starbucks store—or stop herbivorous insects from chomping on the plant's leaves. When the leaves fall to the forest floor, caffeine and other compounds may leach into the soil and possibly inhibit the germination of the seeds of other competing plant species, he added.

Reuters

Huawei unveils phone with sapphire glass, finger-sensor, just days before Apple's iPhone 6 release

BEIJING, 5 Sept — Huawei Technologies Co Ltd [HWT.UL] unveiled on Friday a slate of new devices meant to showcase the Chinese company's hardware technology, just days before Apple Inc releases its highly-anticipated iPhone 6 on 9 September.

Huawei, which began as a telecom equipment company in 1987, has rapidly transformed itself in recent years into the world's No 3 smartphone maker behind Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and Apple.

Today it markets its devices as comparable to Samsung and Apple products, which are often viewed by consumers as the technological

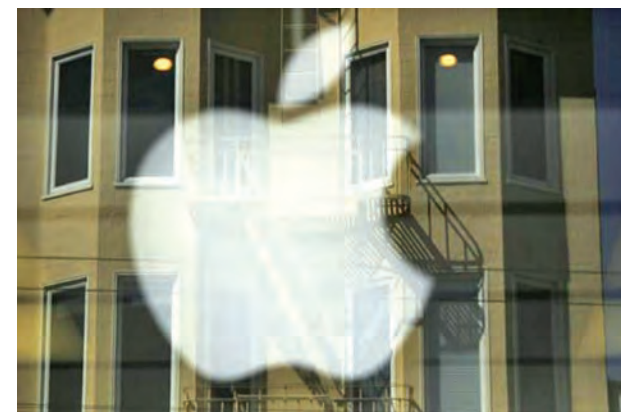
cutting edge.

Huawei said Friday it would release a limited edition of its high-end Ascend P7 phone with a sapphire glass display — the costly but durable material that's been the subject of industry chatter following reports this year that Apple would begin mass producing devices with sapphire.

Huawei also said at an electronics trade show in Berlin that its Ascend Matenew Ascend P7 phone7 "phablet" would become the first Android smartphone on the market with a finger-print sensor, a technology that was first seen on Apple's iPhone 5s, announced last September.

Reuters

Apple, Google appeal rejection of \$325 million hiring settlement



The Apple logo is pictured at a retail store in the Marina neighbourhood in San Francisco, California on 23 April, 2014. — REUTERS

SAN FRANCISCO, 5 Sept — Four technology companies including Apple and Google blasted a US judge for rejecting a proposed \$324.5 million settlement over hiring practices in Silicon Valley and asked an appeals court to intervene, according to a court filing.

Plaintiff workers accused Apple, Google, Intel and Adobe in a 2011 lawsuit of conspiring to avoid poaching each other's employees.

Last month US District Judge Lucy Koh in San Jose, California, rejected the proposed class action settlement, saying the amount was too low.

In a court filing late on Thursday, the companies asked the 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals to overrule Koh's decision.

Koh "committed clear legal error" and "impermissibly substituted the court's assessment of the value of the case for that of the parties who have been litigating the case for more than three years," they wrote.

Adobe declined to comment, as did an attorney for the plaintiffs. Representatives for the other three firms could not immediately be reached for comment.

Tech employees alleged that the conspiracy limited their job mobility and, as a result, kept a lid on salaries. The case has been closely watched because of the possibility of big damages being awarded and for the opportunity of a glimpse into the world of some of America's elite tech firms.—Reuters

Hackers break into server for Obamacare website: US officials



A man looks over the Affordable Care Act (commonly known as Obamacare) signup page on the HealthCare.gov website in New York in this on 2 Oct, 2013 photo illustration. — REUTERS

NEW YORK, 5 Sept — An unknown hacker or hackers broke into a computer server supporting the HealthCare.gov website through which consumers enroll in Obamacare health insurance, a government cybersecurity team discovered last week, apparently uploading malicious files.

The Centres for Medicare and Medicaid Services,

the lead Obamacare agency, briefed key congressional staff on Thursday about the intrusions, the first of which occurred on 8 July, CMS spokesman Aaron Albright said.

The malware uploaded to the server was designed to launch a distributed denial of service, or DDoS, attack against other websites, not to steal personal

information, Albright said.

In a DDoS, Internet-connected computers are so overwhelmed by malware attempting to communicate with their website that, unable to handle legitimate requests, they crash. "Our review indicates that the server did not contain consumer personal information; data was not transmitted outside

the agency, and the website was not specifically targeted," Albright said. "We have taken measures to further strengthen security," Albright said the attack would have no impact on the second open enrollment period for Obamacare, which begins on 15 November. The Office of Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, CMS's parent agency, and HHS leadership were notified of the attack, which was first reported by the *Wall Street Journal*. Representative Diane Black of Tennessee, a longtime Republican critic of Obamacare, criticized CMS for the breach, saying: "Designing a secure website should have been a top priority for this administration." Republican Darrell Issa, chairman of the House of Representatives Oversight and Government Reform Committee, said the committee would seek answers from CMS Administrator Marilyn Tavenner at a hearing on 18 September.—Reuters

EU develops innovative textiles to boost seaweed farming

BRUSSELS, 5 Sept — A European Union (EU)-funded research project has developed advanced textiles that give high yields from floating seaweed farms and allow easy, mechanized cultivation, the EU said on Thursday.

Seaweed is an important but under-exploited resource for food and feed ingredients, biochemicals and the production of bio-fuels, but it has been difficult to harvest efficiently on a large scale.

Farming seaweed on a large scale, made possible by the new textiles, can help create a multi-billion euro industry in Europe — boosting growth and jobs, an EU statement quoted project coordinator Bert Groenendaal of Belgium-based Sioen Industries as saying.

Sioen is one of seven

companies involved in the project, along with four research centres.

“The economic potential for seaweed is huge. Businesses are interested in seaweed for many different applications such as food and food additives, animal feed, chemicals and even fuel,” Groenendaal said.

Currently, seaweed is obtained by harvesting wild seaweed or by rope-based cultivation.

Neither of these scale up easily as both methods are labour-intensive with relatively low yields.

The project team developed textiles that can support large numbers of seaweed plants without breaking up or attracting unwanted plants or molluscs.

Bio-sourced coatings on the textiles protect young seaweed and boost growth.—Xinhua

Operator mulling scrapping 2 old nuclear reactors at Mihama plant

OSAKA, 5 Sept — Kansai Electric Power Co, the operator of the Mihama nuclear power plant in western Japan, is mulling scrapping the Nos 1 and 2 reactors at the complex, both of which are more than 40 years old, sources familiar with the matter said on Friday.

Under a set of new safety regulations introduced following the 2011 accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, nuclear reactors are not allowed to operate for more than 40 years in principle.

They may be allowed to continue operating for an additional period of up to 20 years, however, if operators upgrade old equipment to enhance plant safety and pass a Nuclear Regulation Authority screening, which would be a highly costly and difficult process.

Kansai Electric will



Photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter in May 2013 shows Nos 1 (front) and 2 reactors at Mihama plant in western Japan. Kansai Electric Power Co, the operator of the plant, is mulling scrapping the two reactors, both of which are more than 40 years old.—KYODO NEWS

consult with the government as well as local authorities before making a final decision on the matter,

the sources added.

The three-reactor Mihama plant is located on the Sea of Japan coast in Fukui

Prefecture. The No 1 unit started commercial operation in 1970 and the No 2 in 1972.—Kyodo News

Taleban detonate truck bombs in central Afghanistan, 18 killed



Afghan police stand guard among damaged buildings after a suicide attack in Ghazni Province on 4 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

GHAZNI (Afghanistan), 5 Sept — Taliban insurgents detonated truck bombs and fired rocket-propelled grenades outside the office of Afghanistan's spy agency and a police compound in the central town of Ghazni on Thursday, killing 18 people, the provincial governor said.

More than 150 people

were wounded in the attack, the biggest in recent weeks, as Afghanistan's leadership grapples with a political crisis and a security vacuum as most foreign troops prepare to leave the country.

Ghazni provincial governor Musa Khan Akbarzada said a group of 19 insurgents was involved in the simultaneous at-

tacks on the local office of the National Directorate of Security and a quick reaction team housed in the police building.

The men armed with light machine guns drew up in trucks at a back gate of the NDS, the crack US-trained agency leading the fight against the insurgency, and the police building early on Thursday and ex-

ploded their bombs.

“The bombs were so powerful that many civilians were wounded because of falling roofs and shattering of windows in their homes,” Akbarzada said. Soon after, several of the attackers entered the NDS compound and fought a gunbattle with Afghan forces.

Dozens of the wounded were taken to a lone hospital in Ghazni where doctors were forced to treat many of them outside.

The attack in Ghazni, one of the provinces that surround the capital city of Kabul, is the latest in a series of offensives launched by the Taliban in the summer fighting season.

Insurgents have carried out complex attacks on government installations, including in Logar and Wardak Provinces which are the gateways to the heavily guarded national capital.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack and said dozens of Afghan soldiers were killed.

“It is a success for us and failure to our enemies that they didn't even no-

tice how our fighters in big numbers reached the intelligence agency with explosive-laden cars and carried out attacks,” Mujahid said.

The attack on the NDS was the second in less than a week after a similar bombing in the eastern city of Jalalabad.

Afghan officials have in the past blamed such truck bombings near the capital and in Kabul itself on the Haqqani network, one of the deadliest Taliban factions.

The network based along the border with Pakistan is believed to be behind some of the most audacious attacks in Kabul including the bombing of the Indian embassy and the 2011 attack on the US embassy.

A prolonged political deadlock over a disputed presidential election has added to anxiety over the threat posed by the Taliban once most foreign combat forces leave by the end of this year.

The troubled political transition has led to a prolonged delay in signing a security pact with the United States governing how many troops will remain.

Reuters

Former Virginia governor found guilty of corruption

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept — A jury on Thursday found former Governor of US State Virginia Bob McDonnell and his wife, Maureen, guilty of a slate of public-corruption charges.

According to a report of NBC News, the jury of seven men and five women deliberated for about 48 hours after hearing testimony for more than a month in the federal court, not far from the governor's mansion where the couple lived from 2010 through January. The jury rejected the couple's defence that their marriage was too broken for them to conspire and that they didn't accept lavish gifts in exchange for backing a wealthy donor's business, the report said.

McDonnell was convicted on 11 conspiracy-related counts, and Maureen was convicted on nine counts, including conspiracy and obstruction of justice, according to the report. McDonnell and Maureen had both pleaded not guilty to the charges they faced. They were acquitted of making false statements on bank-loan applications and Maureen was found not guilty of charges related to accepting golf games and gear, among other things.—Xinhua

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV KULNATEE VOY NO (10/14)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KULNATEE VOY NO (10/14) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W(1) 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 KULNATEE CO LTD.

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1450)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1450) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.9.2014 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Announcement of Engagement**Roger Chai Yu**

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Eldest son of Dr Fuxian Yu & Mrs. Wen Chai Yu of No. 109, Breckenridge Place, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, U.S.A.

and

Eimon Thet Htun

Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.), Master of Laws (L.L.M.) in International and Comparative Law, Duke University School of Law; Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service (BS/FS), Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington D.C.

Only daughter of (Dr Pyi Thet Htun) & Dr Thidar Aung of No.7774, Chipwood Lane, Jacksonville, Florida, U.S.A. and grand-daughter of Professor Aung Than

Batu, Director-General (retired), Department of Medical Research & Dr Khin

Khin Htwe of 112 (A), Mingyi Street, Insein, Yangon, Myanmar

in the presence of parents of both sides, grand-parents and relatives, at the residence of Dr Thidar Aung, Jacksonville, Florida, U.S.A. on 30th August, 2014.

Zimbabwe president launches Chinese-contracted power project

HARARE, 5 Sept — Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe on Thursday officiated the expansion of the country's second largest power station, a massive hydro-power project partially funded by China and undertaken by a leading Chinese construction company.

The expansion of Kariba South Power Station will raise Zimbabwe's power generating capacity by a quarter in more than three years, officials said, moving a step closer to end the country's chronic power shortages.

The Chinese contractor, Sino-Hydro Corporation Limited, will add two power generating units, each providing 150 megawatts of electricity a year,

to the hydro-station which runs six 125- megawatt generating units.

The power station, straddling at the mid-section of the Zambezi River on the borders of Zambia and Zimbabwe, was built by the Italians in the 1950s, two decades before the independence.

The project will cost 533 million US dollars, about 319 million US dollars of which is covered by a preferential buyer's credit, or a soft loan, offered by the Export and Import Bank of China, officials say.

Zimbabwe, relying mainly on Kariba South and Hwange Thermal Power Station, produces about 1,400 megawatts of electricity a year, a far cry

from the annual demand of 2,400 megawatts.

Energy and Power Development Minister Dzikamai Mavhaire said the expansion of the power station is expected to be completed by the end of 2017 and will significantly reduce "load-shedding" which has become the order of the day in power-thirsty Zimbabwe.

"Power projects are an important part of our goal towards an empowered society, and a growing economy," Mugabe said. "Adequate power supply infrastructure, not only helps attract investors to our country, but in bringing electricity to rural areas, which improves the quality of life of our rural people."

Xinhua

Weather report

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observation at (14:30)hrs MST today, a low pressure area has formed over

North Bay of Bengal. Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 6th September, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be widespread in

Taninthayi Region, Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States, fairly widespread in Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kachin State, scattered in Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Shan State and isolated in the remaining Regions and States. Degree of

certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA: Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) m.p.h.

Tom Hanks, Sting, Lily Tomlin to get Kennedy Centre honours



Musician Sting performs "The Last Ship" onstage during the American Theatre Wing's 68th annual Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall in New York on 8 June, 2014.—REUTERS

LOS ANGELES, 5 Sept — Actor Tom Hanks, British rock star Sting and comedian Lily Tomlin are to receive this year's Kennedy Centre Honours, one of the top cultural prizes in the United States.

"Let's Stay Together" singer Al Green and ballet dancer Patricia McBride will round out the five 2014 honouree in recognition of their lifetime contributions to US culture through the performing arts, the Kennedy Centre said on Thursday.

"Al Green's iconic voice stirs our souls in a style that is all his own; Tom Hanks has a versatility that ranks him among the greatest actors of any generation," the Kennedy Centre said in a statement.

Sting, whose hits include "Every Breath You Take" with his band The Police, was lauded for his "unique voice and memorable songwriting," while Tomlin, star of stage, screen and TV for more than 40 years, "has made us laugh and continues to amaze us with her acting talent and quick wit."

McBride spent almost 30 years with New York City Ballet and worked with choreographers Jerome Robbins and George Balanchine.—Reuters

US comedienne Joan Rivers dies at 81



NEW YORK, 5 Sept — Legendary American comedian Joan Rivers died at a New York hospital on Thursday. She was 81.

Rivers, who was hailed as a comedy icon and trailblazer, was hospitalized last week after she went into cardiac arrest following a routine procedure.

"It is with great sadness that I announce the death of my mother, Joan Rivers," her only child and daughter Melissa Rivers announced in a statement. "She passed peacefully at 1:17 pm surrounded by family and close friends." Her

daughter confirmed the comedian died at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York.

"My mother's greatest joy in life was to make people laugh. Although that is difficult to do right now, I know her final wish would be that we return to laughing too."

New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo on Thursday also issued a statement to mourn the death of Joan Rivers, sending his condolences to her family by saying "Joan Rivers was an iconic New Yorker whose wit and humor will always be remembered. Joan made the nation laugh for more than fifty years, and for that we will always be grateful."—Xinhua



Kelly Brook

I have traumatic childhood memories: Kelly Brook

LONDON, 5 Sept — Actress Kelly Brook has revealed that she has violent and horrific memories from her childhood.

Brook, 35, opened up about her younger days in her autobiography and has said she was a witness to regular fights between her parents, reported Contactmusic.

"I used to dread the weekends growing up. Sundays especially. Sunday was pub day. We used to have a roast dinner every Sunday, and every other Sunday it

would be burnt. There would be a fight and the police would be called. Or my dad would drive off in his truck," she wrote on her book 'Kelly Brook-Close Up'. The actress admits she remembers one occasion when the police took her father, who died from cancer in 2007, away kicking and screaming.

"One of the worst times was when my dad came back from the pub and started throwing furniture around, while Mum and I huddled out of the way".

PTI

I'm not easy as my 'Shameless' character: Emmy Rossum

LONDON, 5 Sept — Actress Emmy Rossum has said she is not easy to be pleased, unlike her on-screen character on TV comedy drama 'Shameless'.

The 27-year-old actress plays the role of Fiona Gallagher, who does not get too much time to be charmed by a guy, reported Contactmusic.

"I feel like on the first date with a guy he'll think I'm easy (like Fiona), and that's so disconcerting," she said, adding that she believes in long term relationships than just fooling around.—PTI



Emmy Rossum

Actress Scarlett Johansson gives birth to daughter

LOS ANGELES, 5 Sept — Actress Scarlett Johansson has given birth to a girl, her first child with her journalist fiancé, the actress' representative confirmed on Thursday.

Johansson, 29, and French journalist Romain Dauriac welcomed daughter Rose, the first child for both of them. The couple have been engaged since September 2013. The "Captain America" actress was previously married to actor Ryan Reynolds. They divorced in 2011.—Reuters



Scarlett Johansson

GENERAL

ဒုတိယဗိုလ်မှူးကြီးခင်အောင် (ငြိမ်း)
Commander Khin Aung (Cyril)
BN - 1039
အသက် (၈၅) နှစ်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ သယ်န်းကွန်းမြို့နယ်၊ သုဝဏ္ဏ၊ ကမာကြည်ဥယျာဉ် အိမ်ရာ၊ အမှတ် (S-14) နေ (ဦးမောင်မောင်လှမ်း - ဒေါ်ဘီဘီ) တို့၏သား၊ (ဦးရီဆင်း - ဒေါ်အေးအိုင်) တို့၏ သားသမက်၊ ဒေါ်ခိုင်အိုလက်ခင်အောင် (ခ) ဒေါ်ခင်ဝင်း၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဒေါ်စန္ဒာခင်အောင်၊ ဒေါ်သီတာခင်အောင် (ကျောင်းအုပ်ကြီး၊ အထက (၅) ဒဂုံအရှေ့) ဦးအောင်ခင် - ဒေါ်သစ်သစ်ပိုင်၊ ဒေါ်မာလာခင်အောင် - ဦးနေလ၊ ဒေါ်ဥဗ္ဗာခင်အောင်၊ ဦးဝင်းမြင့်အောင် - ဒေါ်ခင်အေးဝင်း၊ ဦးခင်အောင်ဝင်း - ဒေါ်အေးအေးလွင်တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ကျေးဇူး ရှင်မွေးသဖေ၊ ဒေါ်တင်မျိုးသက် - ဦးမြတ်မင်းလင်း၊ မခင်ချောစန္ဒီ၊ မောင်နေလင်းအောင်၊ မောင်အောင်မင်းသူ (DERRICK) ၊ မတင်ဇာဝင်းမြင့်အောင်၊ မအိန္ဒြာဝင်းမြင့်အောင်၊ မသဒ္ဓါဝင်းမြင့်အောင် တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော အဘိုး၊ မဆောင်းမြတ်အိန္ဒြေ ၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ဘိုးဘိုးကြီး - ဒုတိယဗိုလ်မှူးကြီးခင်အောင် (ရေငြိမ်း) သည် ၃-၉-၂၀၁၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့) ညနေ (၅:၃၅) နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါကြောင်း ဆွေမျိုးမိတ်သင်္ဂဟဗုဒ္ဓအား အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။
(ကြွင်းကျန်ရစ်သော ရုပ်ကလပ်ကို ၃-၉-၂၀၁၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ (၂)နာရီတွင် ရေဝေးသုဿာန်၌ မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း။)
(ကုန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု)

False bomb alarm scares Venice film festival

VENICE, (Italy), 5 Sept — The Palace of Cinema in Lido of Venice was evacuated here on Thursday during the ongoing film festival after a backpack was identified as possibly containing explosive, but the threat was later found to be a false alarm.

The building was evacuated around 4:30 pm local time (1430 GMT) shortly after the screening of a film in a cinema theater inside it, Io sto con la sposa (On the bride's side), on illegal immigration to Europe.

The screening of the following film on the agenda, Chuangru zhe (Red Amnesia) by Chinese director Wang Xiaoshuai, among the 20 titles competing for the Golden Lion, was delayed nearly an hour due to the duty security checks.

Luigi Cuciniello, cinema department managing director at La Biennale di Venezia, the festival's organizer, told *Xinhua* that a backpack was found unattended inside the cinema theater.

Bomb disposal experts said after an inspection that the threat was a false alarm caused by the mistake of a police dog that signaled the backpack as possibly containing some kind of explosive, according to local officials.

Cuciniello said it was the first time that a bomb alarm was raised at the Venice film festival since he was appointed as managing director 14 years ago. All activities were later restored at the 11-day international event, which ends on Saturday. — *Xinhua*

Cuban grandmaster Dominguez to play at chess World Mind Games

HAVANA, 5 Sept — Cuban Grandmaster Leinier Dominguez will participate in the 4th World Mind Games to be held in Beijing from 11 to 17 December, 2014, the World Chess Federation (FIDE) said on Thursday.

Dominguez is 13th in the world ranking with 2,755 Elo points. The organizers of the World Mind

Games said he reached 7th position in the qualification stage. The Cuban chess player will face several world stars such as Armenian Levon Aronian (2,804), 2nd in the world ranking.

Other participants include Russians Alexander Grischuk (2,789), Ian Nepomniachtchi (2,710), Azerbaijani Shakhriyar Mamedyanov (2,756), French

Degenkolb wins again as Contador stays in front

LOGRONO, (Spain), 5 Sept — German John Degenkolb avoided a late crash to triumph in the 12th stage of the Tour of Spain on Thursday, his third victory of this years race.

Spain's Alberto Contador retained the overall leader's red jersey that he snatched in Tuesday's individual time trial. Tinkoff-Saxo rider Contador leads compatriot Alejandro Valverde by 20 seconds and Colombian Rigoberto Uran by 1:08.

Degenkolb, who holds the green jersey for the overall points classification, was among a dozen riders who avoided the late accident as he beat Belgian Tom Boonen and Italian Jacopo Guarnieri who were second and third respectively.

"I did not see the crash, it happened behind me and I

did not want to look back as I would have risked crashing myself," Giant-Shimano rider Degenkolb told reporters.

"It was not easy to find a good position in the finale because everybody was jockeying for a good spot but we managed that well."

Top sprinters Nacer Bouhanni of France and Australian Michael Matthews could not contest the sprint at the end of the 166.4-km stage as they were held up by the crash.

"I knew it would be tense," said FDJ.fr rider Bouhanni who won the points classification at the Giro d'Italia. "I had good legs, it's frustrating." Friday's hilly 13th stage will take the peloton from Belorado to Obregon.

"It's going to be a busy day," said Contador.

Reuters



Giant-Shimano team rider John DeDegenkolb of Germany adjusts his sprinter's green jersey on the podium of during the seventh stage of Paris-Nice cycling race between Mougins and Biot Sophia Antipolis on 15 March, 2014. —REUTERS

Besides chess, World Mind Games include bridge, checkers and xiangqi, a type of Chinese chess. —*Xinhua*

MYANMAR TV

(6-9-2014, Saturday)

- 6:00 am**
* Paritta by Venerable Mingun Sayadaw
- 6:35 am**
* Nice & Sweet Song
- 7:00 am**
* News/Weather Report
- 7:40 am**
* Hyper Sports
- 8:00 am**
* News/International News
- 8:30 am**
* TV Drama Series
- 9:30 am**
* Documentary
- 10:25 am**
* Current Affairs
- 10:50 am**
* TV Drama Series
- 11:35 am**
* Game for Children
- 12:00 pm**
* News / International News / Weather Report
- 12:25 pm**
* Round Up of The Week's TV Local News
- 2:20 pm**
* Musical Programme
- 3:45 pm**
* Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition
- 4:35 pm**
* University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Fourth Year (Law)
- 4:50 pm**
* Peace Trophy Initational Tournament (Myanmar & Philippines) (LIVE Broadcast)
- 6:50 pm**
* Musical Programme
- 8:00 pm**
* News/International News/ Weather Report
- 9:00 pm**
* News
* Myanmar Series

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- * Local News
- * The Sacred Hair Relics Hailing Pagodas
- * World News
- * Nang
- * Local News
- * Glorious Meiktila Festival
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Bamboo Guns
- * Local News
- * Black Gold (Part - I)
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- * Kayah



Illustrators participate in the creation of the "World's Largest Comic" in the framework of the National Comic Book Day, in the Two Congress Square, in the city of Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina on 4 Sept, 2014. The initiative created by the Argentinean Culture Ministry, to remember the first Argentinean comics, and as a tribute to the appearance of the first issue of the magazine "Hora Cero Semanal", created by Hector German Oesterheld, writer of the comic "The Ethernaut". The event is part of the celebration for the National Comic Book Day, according to the local press. — XINHUA

McIlroy shares lead at weather-hit BMW Championship

CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE, (Colorado), 5 Sept — World number one Rory McIlroy grabbed a three-way share of the clubhouse lead at the BMW Championship on Thursday before the opening round was suspended due to inclement weather.

McIlroy fired a three-under-par 67, putting him in a tie with American's Jordan

Spieth and Gary Woodland before play was stopped with nine players yet to complete their rounds at Cherry Hills Country Club just outside Denver. It was a surprising top score after plenty of competitors, including McIlroy, had suggested earlier in the week that much lower numbers could be attainable at the third of the

PGA Tour's four lucrative FedExCup playoff events. Americans Billy Horschel, Russell Henley, Chesson Hadley, Kevin Chappell and Matt Every plus two-times major winner Martin Kaymer of Germany, Canadian Graham DeLaet and Spain's Sergio Garcia were part of a group of nine players one shot back. —Reuters

Neymar named Brazil captain

MIAMI, 5 Sept — Brazil coach Dunga has confirmed Neymar will captain the Selecao for friendlies against Colombia and Ecuador in the United States.

Speaking at a Press conference on Thursday, Dunga confirmed the 22-year-old would replace injured defender Thiago Silva, who has captained Brazil since 2011.

"It has already been confirmed. It's going to be Neymar," said Dunga, who did not say whether the appointment was permanent.

"He is a reference for Brazilian football. He has quality and despite his age, he is experienced. He is an example for his teammates."

Brazil's clash against Colombia at Miami's Sun Life stadium on Friday will be a replay of this year's World Cup quarter-final between the teams,

which Brazil won 2-1.

It will be Dunga's first match in charge since replacing Luiz Felipe Scolari after Brazil failed to make the World Cup final as hosts and pre-tournament favorites.

The Selecao will also play Ecuador at Boston's MetLife Stadium on 9 September.

Dunga said Neymar had responded positively after being told of his new leadership role.

"He is a player who likes challenges and to win," said Dunga, who also coached Brazil from 2006 to 2010.

"When we broached the subject we spoke about the advantages and disadvantages."

"The position brings with it responsibility, but there are also other players in the squad who are leaders," Dunga suggested the



new role could lift the Barcelona forward's career to new heights.

"We have to create a

strong group so that Neymar grows as a player and person, as well as being an example to the younger

players," Dunga said.

"We don't want to have just one leader. Winning Brazil teams have

always had several leaders with different personalities. That's what we want."

Xinhua

Federer pulls off great escape to reach semi-finals



Roger Federer (SUI) celebrates after recording match point against Gael Monfils (FRA) on day eleven of the 2014 US Open tennis tournament at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre on 4 Sept, 2014.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 5 Sept — Roger Federer pulled off a great escape by fighting off two match points to beat Frenchman Gael Monfils and reach the semi-finals of the US Open on Thursday, keeping his bid for an 18th grand slam on track.

The stirring 4-6, 3-6 6-4, 7-5, 6-2 comeback win marks the ninth time in his career Federer has rallied from two sets down to snatch victory, setting up a final-four meeting with 14th seed Marin Cilic.

Sixth seeded Tomas Berdych had no chance of conjuring a similar escape and lost 6-2, 6-4, 7-6(4) to big-serving Croat Cilic,

who is making his return to Flushing Meadows after missing last year's grand slam due to a doping suspension.

Federer, a near perfect 25-1 playing under the floodlights of Arthur Ashe Stadium court, must have wondered which Monfils would show up on Thursday.

Labelled one of the game's great natural talents, Monfils can be wildly entertaining or maddening, depending on his mood and the near capacity crowd saw both sides of the 28-year-old Frenchman during a riveting the three hour, 20 minute encounter.

Monfils added several highlight reel shots to his collection in winning the first two sets, and after Federer won the third he carved out two match points in the fourth.

But with Federer on the ropes the 20th seeded Frenchman could not deliver the knockout punch.

"When I was down two match points, I wasn't feeling so great ... I thought 'this is it, this is the last point, man,' said Federer. "Just go down fighting, don't miss an easy shot and let him have it."

Misfiring most of the night, Federer slowly began to find his mark and seized his chance when it arrived, holding serve for 5-5 to close out the fourth set and then breaking Monfils in the first game of the fifth. "It was one of those moments where you got the back against the wall and hope to get a bit lucky and you hope to play exactly the right shots that you need or that he completely just messes it up," said the 33-year-old Swiss.

"Either way works as long as you get out of it."

"It's just unbelievable to win matches like this at slams." "I'm not sure I have ever saved match

point before in a slam. If that hasn't happened, I'm unbelievably happy that it was today." Cilic, who pounded out 19 aces, had Berdych under pressure right from the start, breaking the Czech at the first opportunity in the first two sets to grab a 2-0 lead.

Berdych turned the tables on Cilic in the third and raced out to a 3-0 lead but the Croatian, relying on his booming serve, broke back and forced a tiebreak before clinching the match with a thundering ace and forehand winner on the final two points.

It has been a turbulent few years since Cilic's last grand slam semi-final at the 2010 Australian Open.

His problems came to a head last year when he was handed a nine months drug suspension for taking a banned stimulant which was later reduced to four months but he was still unable to compete at last year's US Open.

"I mean, it was a difficult period. I didn't know when I'm going to start back," said Cilic, who becomes the first Croatian to reach the US Open semi-finals since his coach Goran Ivanisevic in 1996.

Reuters

Messi recovering well from hamstring strain, Barca say

BARCELONA, 5 Sept — Argentina captain Lionel Messi is recovering well from a hamstring strain that ruled him out of Wednesday's friendly against Germany, his club Barcelona said on Thursday.

Messi had been examined by Argentina team doctor Daniel Martinez and Barca medical staff and "both parties agreed that there have been considerable improvements", the La Liga club said on their website (www.fcbarcelona.es).

"The player will continue doing specific recovery exercises until he is ready to resume normal

training with the rest of his team mates," they added, without specifying when that might be.

After leading Argentina to the World Cup final, where they lost 1-0 to Germany, Messi has made a bright start to Barca's La Liga campaign and scored twice in their 3-0 opening-day win at home to Elche last month.

He set up Barca's goal in their 1-0 success at Villarreal in their second outing but was diagnosed with the injury after the game. Argentina won Wednesday's friendly in Duesseldorf 4-2.

Reuters



Barcelona's Lionel Messi (R) is challenged by Villarreal's Victor Ruiz during their Spanish first division soccer match at the Madrigal stadium in Villarreal on 31 Aug, 2014.—REUTERS