

President U Thein Sein visits Payerne solar impulse project, Nestlé Plant in Switzerland



President U Thein Sein and party looking at a solar-powered plane at Payerne Air Base in Bern, Switzerland during his 10-day official visit to three countries of Western Europe. —MNA

BERN, 6 Sept — President U Thein Sein and party observed a solar-powered plane at Payerne Air Base in Bern, Switzerland on Saturday morning.

On their arrival at the air base which is also the home base for solar impulse project, they were welcomed by officials concerned.

At the briefing hall, Swiss officials made a video presentation of solar airplane and gave an account of the aircraft to the President and party.

Next, the President observed the solar-powered plane.

Then, the project officials presented a book about the plane to the President who also presented them gifts and posed for documentary photos with them.

The solar-power aircraft will take off for its second test flight in 2015

and it will make a stop in Mandalay in March, 2015 during its round-the-world flight.

Then, the President and party also visited Nestlé in Konolfingen where they were welcomed by Mr. Nandu Nandkishore, executive vice president and zone director for Asia, Oceanic, Africa and Middle East, and officials from the plant.

At the luncheon hosted in honour of the President and party, Mr. Nandu Nandkishore extended greetings.

Officials concerned, then, explained NHW journey and the micronutrient impact studies and fresh milk sourcing to the President and party at the briefing hall.

Afterwards, the President signed on visitors' book and posed for documentary photos with Nestlé officials. — MNA

President sends message to Brazil

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to Her Excellency Ms. Dilma Vana Rousseff, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Federative Republic of Brazil, which falls on 7th September 2014.

MNA



Myanmar 3-2 Philippines to win the 2014 Peace Cup title

YANGON, 6 Sept—Myanmar claimed the PFF Peace Cup, beating the Philippines in a come from behind win 3-2 in extra time of final match at the Rizal Memorial Stadium of Manila, the Philippines on Saturday.

The Azkals took a 2-1 edge after goals by Daisuke Sato in the 50th minute and Phil Younghusband in the 70th but gave up three goals the rest of the way.

Myanmar, which opened up the scoring less than 10 minutes into the match, equalized in stoppage time to

forge the extension where the Myanmar scored the winner courtesy of striker Soe Min Oo.

Myanmar overwhelmed Chinese Taipei, 4-1, to book a slot in the finals.

This is the first time that Myanmar won against the Filipinos. The Azkals triumphed in their first two meetings, including a 2-0 victory at the AFF Suzuki Cup in Bangkok two years ago.

NLM



PHOTO: Myanmar Football Federation.

Ambulance import needs to comply with rules

YANGON, 6 Sept — Donors at home or abroad can import ambulance into Myanmar in comply with the rules of import of ambulance.

According to the rules, import of ambulance is required a respective regional government's recommendation that a hospital, a clinic or an organization to which a donor wants to donate an ambulance must be the one which has been acknowledged by the government or is registered at the government.

The vehicle must be



the model manufactured between 1997 and 2013, according to the rules.

Besides, the importa-

tion procedure of the ambulance is also required an invoice and a recommendation from the Ministry

of Health that the vehicle will be used for a clinic or a hospital.

When apply the importation an ambulance into Myanmar, the donor or the charity group also need to provide the Directorate of Trade with their address, contact phone numbers and an official declaration that they donate the ambulance to a clinic or hospital.

The compilation of the rules is designed to prevent illegal import of vehicles with tax evasion, according to Ministry of commerce.—NLM

To win the trust of people

MANDALAY, 6 Sept — To win the trust of people, ensuring the rule of law, people focus and to protect the people are the main themes of conducting people-centered Police procedure course jointly conducted by Mandalay Region Police Force and EU International Management Team, said coach Mr David Hamilton of the team at the conclusion of

the course on 5 September. At the course concluding ceremony police officers received EU brooches and course conclusion certificates. The course was conducted for the first time in Mandalay Region from 27th August to 5th September attended by 20 police officers of the respective police stations in Mandalay Region.

Thiha Ko Ko
(Mandalay)



Green gram price falls in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 6 Sept — Up to the last week of August, merchants and brokerages gave K 34000 to K 34000 for a basket of green gram in Meiktila. The price falls by K 3000 in the first week of September and stood at just K 30000 for a basket. It is due to drought in May when the crop was started

to grow and due to rains when the crop was ready to be harvested. In July, when the crops met good harvest, the price stood at K 38000 to K40000 for a basket. Climate change has direct effect on growing seasonal crops in central Myanmar and farmers get less income.—NLM-018

More GSM SIM cards needed for people

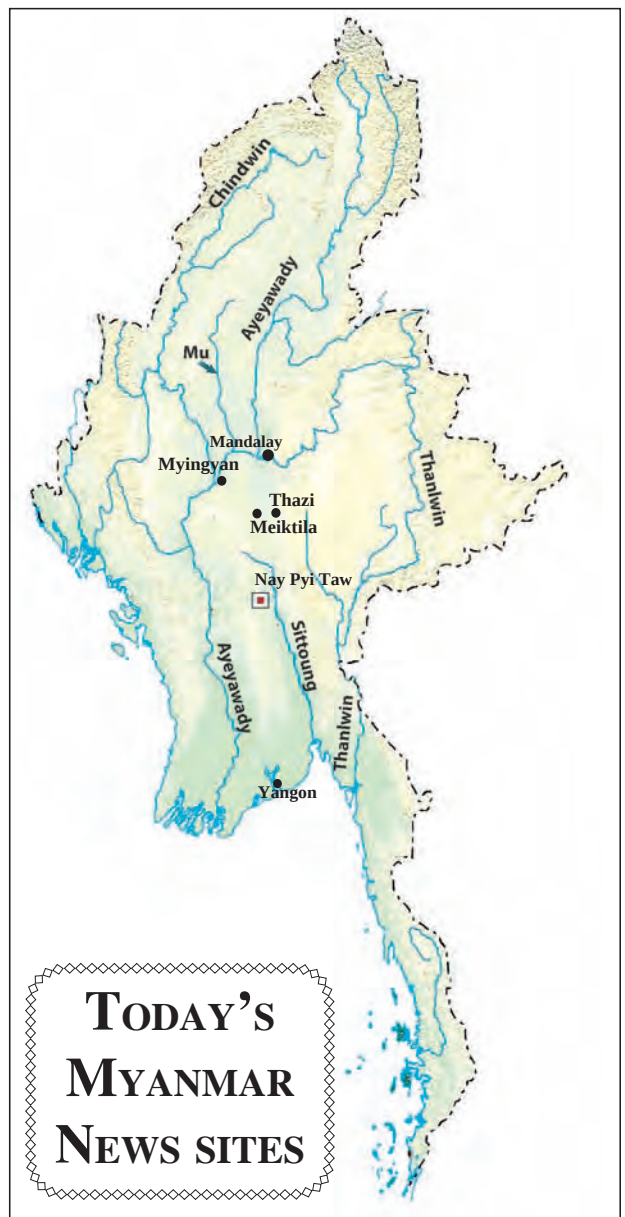
MEIKTILA, 6 Sept — K 1500 worth SIM cards were distributed to Meiktila dwellers as of 2 September by KMD agent of Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications.

When the news of selling the SIM cards spread, about 700 people

rushed to the shop and queued. But the agent got only 500 cards and within two days the cards were sold out.

As the ratio of the cards and population is too great people want more SIM cards for them.

NLM-018



Preparation made for firefighting



MYINGYAN, 6 Sept — After the rainy season, there will come a dry season in Myanmar. As a preparation for the dry season when the fire is common, Myingyan township in arid zone of central Myanmar conducted firefighting course which concluded on 5 September. The course was attended by 50 trainees. —U Zaw Min Naing (Myingyan)

Drugs seized in Thazi

THAZI, 6 Sept — A combined team led by Sub-inspector Chit Ko Ko of Pyinyaung Police Station in Thazi Township in central Myanmar searched a bike with Zaw Hteik on it on Meiktila-Taunggyi

highway en route from Taunggyi to Meiktila on 5 September. The team found K 7.8 million worth stimulant tablets on the bike and the suspect Zaw Hteik was taken into custody.

NLM-018



RAINS BLOCK ROADS IN UPPER MYANMAR:
Due to heavy rains in the first week of September, Mandalay, Sagaing and Magway Regions saw road blocks caused by flood on the road.

NATIONAL

President U Thein Sein attends welcome ceremony of Swiss President

BERN, 6 Sept— President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein attended a welcome ceremony held by the President of Switzerland Mr Didier Burkhalter

at the Lohn Manor in Bern, Switzerland on Friday evening.

When President U Thein Sein arrived at the welcome ceremony, the Swiss President cordially

greeted him before the President inspected the Guard of Honour after receiving the salute.

Next, President U Thein Sein held talks with the Swiss President.

During a meeting between the two countries held at the Grand Salon, both sides discussed matters related to improvement in vocational training schools, development of

agriculture and livestock breeding sectors, capacity building for service personnel and local authorities, peace-making process, human right promotion, constitutional af-

firmation of Myanmar.

Then, the two Presidents held discussions on organizing an exhibition on cultural heritage of Bagan and Pyu periods in Switzerland and preservation of



President U Thein Sein and Swiss President Mr Didier Burkhalter take the salute of the Guard of Honour at the Lohn Manor in Bern, Switzerland on Friday evening.—MNA



fairs and free and fair elections, Rakhine State peace and stability and development, racial and religious conflict prevention and relations between ASEAN and regional countries.

The meeting agreed the establishment a deputy minister-level coordination mechanism between the two foreign ministries for strengthening bilateral friendship and Switzerland's contribution of US\$164 million to Myanmar under a five-year plan from 2013 to 2017 for the develop-

ment of historic buildings in Yangon.

After the meeting which was also attended by the ministers, ambassadors and officials from both sides, the two Presidents held a joint press conference and answered the queries raised by the media on the first floor of Salon Churchill.

Afterwards, President U Thein Sein and party attended a dinner hosted by the Swiss President.

MNA

President U Thein Sein and his Swiss counterpart Mr Didier Burkhalter agreed to establish a deputy minister-level coordination mechanism between the two foreign ministries.

MNA



Swiss president hosts a state dinner for President U Thein Sein, government dignitaries and high-ranking officials.—MNA



President U Thein Sein and Swiss President hold a joint press conference on the first floor of Salon Churchill. —MNA

Malaysia, Australia to continue cooperation in handling duo air tragedies

PUTRAJAYA, 6 Sept— Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak and his visiting Australian counterpart Tony Abbot said here on Saturday in a joint Press conference that the two countries would continue their cooperation in dealing with the tragedies of MH370 and MH17.

Najib expressed his gratitude for Australia's help in the search of MH370, saying the two countries would continue to work together to locate the missing aircraft.

Abbot said a new search would start in a fortnight's time, and all humanly possible efforts were taken to scour the zone. On the cost of the search for MH370, he said Malaysia and Australia would contribute 60 million Australian dollars (about 56.3 million US dollars) each.

Abbot said it would be the intention of the Australian government to erect a monument on its western coastline in memory of those on board of the MH370, however, which would be guided by the wishes of Malaysia and the families of the victims.

As to the downing of MH17, Najib said the intelligence reports on MH17 were "pretty con-

clusive," and Malaysia and the international investigation teams were working to assemble the physical evidence.

Najib said once the physical evidence assembling process was finished, the criminal side of the incident would be looked into to find out who was responsible for the crime.

He said Malaysia demanded a full, independent and transparent international investigation into the incident.

Najib also said it was important for Malaysia and Australia to work together in the follow-up process of recovering other remains of the MH17 victims, investigating the air crash and ensuring criminal investigation.

The two leaders also exchanged their views on regional and international issues of mutual interests and concerns, such as the developments of the situation in Syria, Iraq, and particularly with the emergence of the radical Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

Najib said Malaysia would work closely with the international community to meet the threat of ISIS, which they consider very serious to the world.

Xinhua

86 militants killed, 62 injured in Afghanistan

KABUL, 6 Sept — About 86 Taliban militants have been killed and 62 others got injured as the Afghan security forces carried out cleanup operations in different provinces within the last 24 hours, said the country's Interior Ministry on Saturday morning.

"The cleanup operations were conducted by the Afghan police, army and the National Directorate of Security or intelligence agency personnel in Balkh, Helmand, Zabul, Kandahar, Paktika, Herat, Badghis and Kapisa Provinces. Six militants were also detained in the above operations. Several Taliban local leaders were among the killed," the ministry said in a statement providing daily operational updates.

Majority of the militants were killed during a raid in Chamtal district of northern Balkh Province, the statement noted. The security forces also recovered and defused six roadside bombs recently planted by the militants in Kandahar, Jawzjan, and Herat Provinces, according to the statement.

The statement did not disclose if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

The Taliban-led violence continues in Afghanistan. Security forces have pressed on to clear the militants in restive provinces.

The Taliban, which has been waging an insurgency since its regime was toppled by a US-led invasion in late 2001, has yet to make comments.

Xinhua

Blackouts cast shadow over Modi's economic recovery



Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks during the launch of the Jan Dhan Yojana, or the Scheme for People's Wealth, in New Delhi on 28 Aug, 2014. —REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 6 Sept — Narendra Modi took decisive action as chief minister of Gujarat to secure round-the-clock supplies of electricity. Now, as prime minister of India, he is under attack for failing to avert a national power crisis.

More than half of India's thermal power stations have less than a week's supply of fuel — the lowest levels since mid-2012 when hundreds of millions of people were cut off in one of the world's worst blackouts.

Coal stocks at thermal stations have hit critical levels as payment disputes escalate, unleashing power cuts that could choke off an economic recovery before it takes hold and hurt Modi's prospects at forthcoming state elections.

Financial metropolis Mumbai was plunged into darkness for most of Tuesday, amid a row between private generators and regional distributors that is symptomatic of an industry mired in debt and arrears of at least \$100 billion.

It's a headache for Modi that experts say will only get worse. His government is resisting political pressure for a bailout, just two years after a rescue by the last government that it denounces as a "farce".

"The moment I start with financial assistance for one state, all the states will be asking me," Power and Coal Minister Piyush Goyal told reporters on Wednesday as he marked a rocky first 100 days in the job. "States have to improve their own systems. I can't fund their coal purchases," said Goyal, who is mediating in payment disputes in an attempt to mitigate the power crisis.

Prithviraj Chavan, chief minister of Maharashtra, has from Mumbai pointed the finger of blame at Modi, who won election by a landslide in May with promises of economic reforms, new jobs and dynamic growth. "The centre is responsible," said Chavan, a leader of the oppo-

sition Congress party. He added that he urged Modi two weeks ago to call crisis talks on the power industry, but says New Delhi "has not taken serious note".

Maharashtra is one of several states that are at odds with New Delhi on power and coal supplies, and will soon hold elections. Modi's nationalist party hopes to boost its strength in the upper house of parliament, where it lacks a majority.

Since Modi took power, coal stocks at thermal power stations that generate three-fifths of India's power have nearly halved to just six days' cover. Of 100 plants, 56 are now 'critical' with less than a week's supply. The shortages have arisen not because India lacks coal — it has reserves of 61 billion tonnes. Nor does India consume much power: per capita use is one-seventeenth of the US level, and 400 million Indians have no electricity at all.—Reuters

Indian nuclear plant runs for two years uninterruptedly

NEW DELHI, 6 Sept — A nuclear plant in the western Indian state of Rajasthan has made history by running continuously for two years, local media reported on Saturday.

Most nuclear plants

need to shut down once in a year for maintenance.

But this indigenous nuclear plant in Rajasthan, with a 220 MW reactor, has broken the record of an American unit which ran for 739 days at a stretch,

the report said.

The reactor generated 4,258 million units of electricity during this period.

"The achievement of Rajasthan's Unit-5 is another excellent example of how nuclear energy sup-

plies clean, affordable and reliable electricity around the world," Agneta Rising, the head of the World Nuclear Association in London, told an Indian news channel.

Xinhua



Job seekers fill in online application to meet prospective employers at Job Fair 2014 held by Indonesia's Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration at JIEXPO Kemayoran in Jakarta, capital of Indonesia on 5 Sept, 2014. Job Fair 2014, held from on 5 to 6 Sept, supports government programmes in reducing the number of the unemployed and facilitate job seekers to find a job.—XINHUA

WORLD

Obama says key allies ready to join US action in Iraq

NEWPORT, 6 Sept—President Barack Obama said key NATO allies stood ready to join the United States in military action to defeat Islamic State militants in Iraq as he vowed to ‘take out’ the leaders of a movement he said was a major threat to the West.

Obama said the Washington would hunt down and dismantle the organization, which has seized swathes of Iraq and Syria, in the same way it had tackled al-Qaeda since the 11 September attacks on the United States and was doing to al-Shabaab in Somalia.

“Key NATO allies stand ready to confront this terrorist threat through military, intelligence and law enforcement as well as diplomatic efforts,” Obama said after ministers of 10 nations met on the sidelines of a NATO summit in Wales to form what Washington called a “core coalition”.

Ministers from Britain, France, Germany, Canada, Turkey, Italy, Poland, Denmark and non-NATO Australia attended the talks with the US secretaries of state and defence, John Kerry and Chuck Hagel.

“Already allies have joined us in Iraq where we

have stopped ISIL’s advances, we have equipped our Iraqi partners and helped them go on offence,” Obama told a news conference.

The United States hoped a new Iraqi government would be formed next week and was confident it would have a coalition for the sustained action required to destroy the militants.

French President Francois Hollande confirmed Paris was willing to join US air strikes if requested by a new Baghdad government as part of a comprehensive international strategy to confront IS. He also raised the possibility of hot pursuit operations in Syria or assisting other rebels fighting IS there.

British Prime Minister David Cameron, who failed to win parliamentary backing for military action in Syria last year, was more cautious about participating in armed action, saying: “We are not at that stage yet.”

The British public is deeply wary of foreign military intervention after London joined Washington in the 2003 invasion of Iraq based on false information about weapons of mass destruction. France, which



US President Barack Obama (C) arrives for a meeting on the second and final day of the NATO summit, at the Celtic Manor resort, near Newport, in Wales on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

opposed that operation, is more open to overseas action.

Obama drew criticism last week for saying he had not yet developed a strategy for confronting the Islamic State in Syria, which has provoked public outrage in the West with the gruesome beheading two US journalists.

The United States stressed the need for a comprehensive approach in the talks on Friday and acknowledged that action against IS in Iraq would have implications in Syria

as well. “We are going to degrade and ultimately defeat ISIL, the same way that we have gone after al-Qaeda,” Obama said in some of his toughest comments since Washington began air strikes last month to halt the Islamists’ advance in northern Iraq.

“You initially push them back, you systematically degrade their capabilities, you narrow their scope of action, you slowly shrink the space, the territory that they may control, you take out their leadership, and over time they

are not able to conduct the same kinds of terrorist attacks as they once could.”

In an attempt to counter the threat of US and European militants returning from the region to attack the West, NATO announced plans for allies to share more information on westerners fighting for the militants. A man with an English accent was filmed beheading the US journalists and Britain raised its terrorism alert last week to its second-highest level over the threat posed by IS, meaning it assessed a strike

was “highly likely”.

European officials said Cameron and Hollande, the leaders of Europe’s main military powers, told Obama in private meetings that Washington had to do more than simply conduct air strikes on IS targets in Iraq and needed an overall strategy.

“It can’t be just ‘let’s go and bomb a few targets and see what happens’,” said one Western defence official familiar with the talks among allied leaders.

A British official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said: “There is a growing sense that this is going to take more than we are doing... but it needs to be a measured, cautious approach.”

Though it was unclear how many nations would ultimately join Washington in supporting military operations in Iraq, Kerry and Hagel set out the limits of such action at a hastily arranged meeting in Newport — no land forces.

“Obviously I think that’s a red line for everybody here: no boots on the ground,” Kerry told the meeting. Obama said Kerry would visit the Middle East to help build a broad-based coalition to tackle the militants.—Reuters

Plane carrying Americans leaves for Dubai after being diverted to Iran

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept—A chartered aircraft carrying about 100 Americans from the US airbase at Bagram, Afghanistan, has left for Dubai after it was diverted to Iran because of issues with its flight plan, a US official and the Fly Dubai airline said on Friday.

“It ... has taken off,” the US official said of the aircraft. The plane had left Bagram for Dubai several hours late but failed to update its flight plan, the official said.

When Iranian civil aviation officials identified the plane, they could not find it in their system because it was supposed to have flown through hours earlier, the official said.

Iranian officials first asked it to turn around and then to land at Bandar Abbas, Iran, when told it did not have enough fuel to return to Afghanistan, the official said.

Fly Dubai confirmed in a statement its charter

“is now en route to Dubai.”

Washington and Teheran have had an antagonistic relationship for decades.

The United States cut diplomatic ties with Iran in April 1980, five months after Iranian students occupied the US Embassy in Teheran and took US citizens hostage. Fifty-two Americans were ultimately held for 444 days.

The two countries are now at odds over the Iranian nuclear programme, which Washington suspects is aimed at building a bomb but which Iran says is for strictly civilian purposes.

Washington, which has spearheaded sanctions against Teheran for its refusal to give up sensitive uranium enrichment work, is negotiating with other major powers to try to get Iran to curb its nuclear work in exchange for sanctions relief.

Reuters

UN, EU welcome E Ukraine ceasefire

BEIJING, 6 Sept—Leading international bodies including the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU) have welcomed the latest ceasefire agreement for eastern Ukraine.

Meanwhile, analysts and observers from across the international community have sounded a note of caution, stressing that the truce deal was only the first step toward peace.

The ceasefire protocol was inked on Friday in the Belarusian capital of Minsk, where envoys from Ukraine’s government and insurgent leadership as well as Russia and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) held talks for a political settlement of the Ukraine crisis.

The deal has brought forth a glimmer of hope that an end to the bloodshed in eastern Ukraine is within reach. Armed clashes in the region, starting in March, have claimed at least 2,600 lives.

UN Secretary-Gener-



A Ukrainian serviceman loads a shell onto a tank at a checkpoint in the southern coastal town of Mariupol on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

al Ban Ki-moon on Friday welcomed the truce deal, encouraging all parties to “display good will and take concrete steps toward urgent, full and effective implementation.”

“The Secretary-General stresses that credible and comprehensive monitoring and verification are essential elements for successful implementation of the ceasefire and the peace

plan,” said UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric.

Ban also welcomed the recent discussions between the presidents of Ukraine and Russia, which played a part in the breakthrough, and strongly encouraged such contacts to continue.

Dujarric said the cessation of hostilities will further allow the UN and other humanitarian actors of the international com-

munity to deliver critical humanitarian assistance and other needed support to the impacted areas.

The EU also welcomed the agreement. A statement released on Friday by the European External Action Service said: “We welcome the agreement ... The ceasefire agreement must now be respected and fully implemented by all sides.”—Xinhua

Illinois hospital asks children not to visit due to unknown virus

KANSAS, 6 Sept — A hospital in Illinois has barred children under 12 from visiting the facility until further notice due to an outbreak of an unknown respiratory virus that has affected more than 70 young children in the area, hospital officials said on Friday.

More than 70 children complaining of respiratory virus symptoms visited the Blessing Hospital in Quincy, southwest Illinois, during the Labour Day weekend, they said.

Hospital spokeswoman Lisa Neisen said the hospital will not release the status of the children.

The virus, has yet to be identified, but resembles HEV68, a respiratory infection that broke out in nearby St Louis and Kansas City a week earlier, Dr Robert Merrick, an epidemiologist at the hospital, said in a statement.

Hannibal Regional Healthcare System in nearby Hannibal, Missouri, which issued a similar warning to children, lists the symptoms on its Facebook page as fever, runny nose, sneezing, cough, mouth blisters, body and muscle aches and rash.

Last week, St Louis Children's Hospital reported that intakes related to the virus increased 50 percent and Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri, had 300 cases of children with the virus.—Reuters

Third American Ebola patient brought back to US "stable but seriously ill"

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept — A third American aid worker infected with Ebola while working in Liberia was evacuated back to the United States on Friday, and the hospital treating him said he was "stable, but seriously ill." Rick Sacra, 51, who was treating obstetrics patients at a Liberian hospital when he tested positive for the deadly virus, arrived at the Nebraska Medical Centre in Omaha on Friday morning. "He was safely brought to our biocontainment unit and is currently being cared for by our medical staff," the hospital said in a statement. "Right now, they plan to use aggressive supportive care, fluids and electrolytes. They're also exploring options to see what experimental therapeutics are available."

According to the hospital, Sacra is being treated in its 10-bed biocontainment unit, which is specifically designed to care for patients with highly infectious diseases, and "is staffed with infectious disease experts who have prepared for years for situations like this one." Along with the hospital's biocontainment unit, there are only three other similar facilities in the United States, including the unit at Emory University in Atlanta that successfully treated two other US aid workers with Ebola last month.—Xinhua



The flag of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) flies in front of its headquarters during a board of governors meeting in Vienna on 28 Nov, 2013.—REUTERS

Little progress made in verifying alleged Teheran's nuclear research programme

VIENNA, 6 Sept — Little progress was made in verifying alleged Iran's nuclear bomb research programme by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to the agency's latest confidential report obtained by Xinhua on Friday.

The report said Iran did not complete implementing two practical measures agreed with UN nuclear agency in clarification of the issues related to the so called possible military dimensions (PMDs) of Iran's nuclear programme by deadline.

Under the framework of cooperation between Iran and IAEA agreed in last November, Teheran was supposed to implement five practical measures,

two of which were aimed to clarify issues related to the PMDs of Iran's nuclear programme, an allegation that Iran denies, to strengthen IAEA's verification of Iran's nuclear programme by deadline 25 August, 2014.

However, Iran has yet to implement the two measures while both sides have only "begun discussions" over the two practical measures, the report said. According to the agreement reached in May, the two measures are related to the "initiation of high explosives and to neutron transport calculations."

In an IAEA's November 2011 report, the agency said based on the credible information, Teheran might carry out nu-

clear weapon research programme under cover of its civilian nuclear plan. IAEA also identified 12 items of outstanding issues related to the alleged nuclear bomb research, while Iran said the information was forged and provided by western spy agencies.

Regarding the exploding bridge wire (EBW) detonators, the first PMD issue which Iran cooperated with the agency to resolve, the report said the agency needs to "consider all past outstanding issues, including EBW detonators, integrating all of them in a 'system' and assessing the 'system' as a whole."

The EBW detonators is a dual use device which could be applied in nuclear bomb research and also has

other civilian applications.

Iranian nuclear talks are undergoing in two tracks. One is between Iran and IAEA. The other, called P5+1 talks, is between Iran and five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany, which is set to continue in New York amid big differences, aiming to find a solution for the disputed Teheran's nuclear programme.

Western states want Iran to significantly scale back its nuclear plan in order to lower the nuclear-proliferation risk and resolve all the past issues of Iran's atomic programme with IAEA. On its part, Iran wants the West to recognize its nuclear right.

Xinhua

Five Bosnian coal miners killed by earthquake

ZENICA, (Bosnia), 6 Sept — Five Bosnian miners were confirmed dead on Friday, a day after an earthquake triggered a collapse at the Raspotocje mine, as emergency teams helped 29 others to the surface.

The manager of the mine, Esad Civic, said a total of 34 miners had been trapped 500 metres (1,600 feet) below ground by Thursday's rock burst.

"The mining accident in the Raspotocje pit is a huge tragedy for all of Bosnia and Herzegovina. We lost five lives, unfortunately," Nermin Niksic, the prime minister of Bosnia's autonomous Bosniak-Croat

federation, told the Fena news agency.

Survivors had earlier reported seeing four bodies in a still-inaccessible underground passage.

Thursday's 3.5-magnitude earthquake near the central Bosnian town of Zenica caused rocks in the nearby mine to fracture explosively, officials said.

Thirty-nine miners died in a rock burst in Raspotocje in 1982, and Civic said two previous rock bursts at the mine this year had injured 16.

Dozens of relatives waited anxiously inside the rundown socialist-era complex for news of their loved

ones.

"We are so worried," 12-year-old Maida Isakovic said through tears before her father Fejzo was

named as one of the dead.

Some relatives criticised the mine management, particularly for saying initially that only eight



Coal miners carry out a fellow miner who was injured while he was trapped in Raspotocje coal mine in Zenica on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

people were trapped.

Several miners with faces blackened by coal dust were stretchered to emergency vehicles as soon as they came to the surface, while others were able to walk unaided.

Dzenan Hodzic, spokeswoman for the local hospital, said 26 miners had been admitted to the hospital and another two to a local emergency ward. "None of them has life-threatening injuries," she said.

Raspotocje produces coal for Bosnia's largest power utility, EPBiH, and employs 430 miners.

Civic said it had been

one of the best equipped mines in the region before the collapse of Yugoslavia in the 1990s, but had been damaged by shelling in the Bosnian war and had not been substantially upgraded since.

In 2009, the Federation government merged seven coal mines, including Raspotocje, with EPBiH to supply its coal-fired plants, and the utility pledged to invest more than 200 million Bosnian marka (\$133.5 million) over five years to improve working conditions. It has so far spent 140 million marka, but Raspotocje has seen little of that.—Reuters

WORLD

Syrian troops recapture town near Damascus

DAMASCUS, 6 Sept — The Syrian troops on Friday recaptured a town in the eastern countryside of the capital Damascus, as part of the Syrian forces' wide-scale offensive to dislodge the rebels from the eastern rim of the capital, according to the pan-Arab al-Mayadeen TV.

The Syrian troops' recapture of Htartet Jarash town came in tandem with the troops' advancement in Damascus' eastern suburb of Jobar, where intense battles have been raging for over a week.

The recapture of Htartet Jarash enables the Syrian troops to cut the rebels' supply lines between rebel-held towns of Jisrin and Zibdin in the eastern countryside of Damascus.

Meanwhile, the pro-government Sham FM radio said that the Syrian troops called for reinforcement to confront rebel groups that infiltrated the al-Kabbas neighbourhood in eastern Damascus on Friday morning.

It said that armed militants infiltrated al-Kabbas from adjacent rebel-held Ain Tarma suburb and locked civilians in their homes there after clashing with Syrian troops. The radio said that five Syrian soldiers were killed during the clashes.

Citing sources, the radio also said that the Syrian troops started a "precise" operation to retrieve all civilians there "swiftly and safely and coerce the rebels into surrendering themselves to the Syrian forces or retreat to their controlled areas in the eastern Ghouta countryside of Damascus."

Battles in eastern Damascus have been raging recently as part of the Syrian army's wide-scale offensive to strip the rebels of their key areas in the eastern countryside of Damascus. Over 191,000 people were reportedly killed in Syria between March 2011 and April 2014, according to an updated UN study released last month.

Xinhua

Pakistan gov't, opposition resume talks to discuss end to protests

ISLAMABAD, 6 Sept — An opposition party, which has staged anti-government sit-ins in Islamabad and demands resignation of Prime Minister (PM) Nawaz Sharif, held talks with a government team on Friday to defuse the political tensions.

Supporters of Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf party (PTI) started the protest on 14 August to press for the PM resignation as it claimed last year's parliamentary elections were rigged, in which Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party won. The government rejected calls for resignation of the PM but agreed to investigate the alleged rigging in the polls.

The dialogue had earlier faced a deadlock over the demand for the resignation of the PM. However the talks were resumed after a delegation of other opposition parties mediated between the two sides.

A government team led by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar met senior PTI leaders and discussed the opposition party's demands. "There has

been tangible progress in talks between the government and PTI negotiating teams," Finance Minister Ishaq Dar and PTI leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi told press after the meeting. They said both sides proactively discussed the drafts exchanged by the two sides for resolution of the political crisis. Ishaq Dar said PTI had given a written proposal and the PML-N gave its response yesterday. "Today our talks were focused on these drafts and they are trying to forge consensus." He said the two sides would meet again on Saturday and expressed the hope to conclude the dialogue process at the earliest opportunity.

He said the country has suffered huge economic and diplomatic losses. Important visits by foreign dignitaries could not materialize due to protests. He said Moody's, a rating agency, has said that Pakistan's rating could go down if political instability persists. Both sides have already held several rounds of talks, but the process could not make any progress due



Leader of Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf party Imran Khan (C) addresses supporters during an anti-government protest near the prime minister's residence in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan on 5 Sept, 2014. —XINHUA

to the demand for the PM's resignation. PTI had later suggested Nawaz Sharif should transfer power to other leaders of his party for 30 days until investigations into the elections are completed.

A religious leader, Dr Tahir ul Qadri, is also leading a protest sit-in in Islamabad against the government and wants to bring

out a "revolution." He had also suspended talks with the government this week and has not yet decided to end the deadlock. The protests have disrupted life in Islamabad and affected the economic situation in the country. The rupee has depreciated against the dollar since the protest started.

Xinhua

UN to set up Ebola crisis centre, aims to stop spread in six to nine months



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (R) speaks as Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Margaret Chan looks on during a press briefing at the UN headquarters in New York, the United States, on 5 Sept, 2014. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said Friday that the world organization is going to establish an Ebola crisis center to stop the spread of the virus in six to nine months. —XINHUA

UNITED NATIONS, 6 Sept — The United Nations plans to set up an Ebola crisis centre to coordinate the response to the deadly virus and to strive to halt its spread in West African countries in six to nine months, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced on Friday.

Ban called on the international community to provide \$600 million needed for supplies in West Africa, where more than 3,500 confirmed or probable cases of the hemorrhagic fever have been reported and more than 1,900 people have died since March.

"The number of cases

is rising exponentially. The disease is spreading far faster than the response. People are increasingly frustrated that it is not being controlled," Ban told reporters.

"The goal is to stop Ebola transmission in affected countries within six to nine months, and to prevent the international spread of the

virus," he said. "This can be done only if the urgent and necessary mobilization is done both in the affected countries and by the international community."

Countries affected by the epidemic include Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. An outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo is unrelated to and independent of the West African epidemic, the World Health Organization has said.

It is the worst outbreak since the virus was discovered in 1976 near the Ebola River in what is now Democratic Republic of Congo. The WHO has said casualty figures may be up to four times higher than reported, and that up to 20,000 people may be affected before the outbreak ends.

"We need contributions — people, material and funding — from governments, the private sector, financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and other groups at the grass roots," said Ban after meeting with heads of UN agencies on the issue.

Reuters

Morocco seizes 226 kg of cocaine worth 27 mln USD

RABAT, 6 Sept — The Moroccan authorities seized 226 kg of cocaine worth 27 million US dollars and arrested six drug traffickers in the central city of Marrakech, the official news agency MAP reported on Friday.

The drugs were found in cases of fish inside a refrigerated truck coming from the south of the country, MAP said, quoting Marrakech police. The driver

and his aide as well as two other accomplices were arrested in Marrakech, while two others were arrested in Rabat, MAP added, but did not detail on the origin of the drugs that was destined for sale abroad.

Given its geographical position, Morocco has become a transit point for cocaine heading to Europe from Latin America via western African countries.

Xinhua

Telenor wins approval to fully own India phone unit

NEW DELHI, 6 Sept — India has approved Norwegian telecoms group Telenor ASA's proposal to fully own its local unit, the government said in statement on Friday.

Telenor, which is investing 7.8 billion rupees (\$129.16 million) to raise its stake in the unit from 74 percent currently, will be

the second mobile phone carrier after Vodafone Group Plc to fully own its Indian unit after the government relaxed rules last year.

India's Foreign Investment Promotion Board has approved 22 foreign direct investment proposals worth a total 39.52 billion rupees, the statement said.

Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 7 September, 2014

The youth of today are partners of today and leaders of tomorrow

By Kyaw Thura

It is no exaggeration to assume that young people are an indispensable element of society as well as a driving force for the future development of a nation.

Unfortunately, young people are still pressed to stay away from other things rather than education in many a community.

The world is full of excellent examples of young people who have made a lot of contributions to the betterment of the entire mankind. In

the past decades, we have witnessed young people with exceptional passions, skills and commitment to doing incredible things through great innovations and inventions.

Nowadays, youths have come to the sense that leadership is not synonymous with a position of authority. They now see leadership as a position of responsibility. The emergence of youth groups worldwide is an end in itself.

It is encouraging to see that more and more young people are getting involved in philanthropic services and humanitarian activities, with no discrimination. There is every reason to believe that when given the opportunity, they will astonish us with brand new ideas.

The time has come for us not to be eluded by the clichéd saying that goes 'The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow'. Unless young people are given an opportunity to demonstrate their potentials today, they will no way become leaders

of tomorrow in the same way that there cannot be a tomorrow unless today exists.

It is therefore undeniable that the youth of today can be not only partners of today but also leaders of tomorrow. Poetically speaking, young people form the backbone of a country and as a result need to be encouraged to better themselves, simply because the future of a nation will fall in their hands.

All in all, young people should be allowed to help decide the future of a nation in the world of today and that of tomorrow.

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.

Grow Strong, Stand Tall and Add Value Kyi Mun

He seeks to allay appetites but strengthen bones.

-Tao Teh King

TO GROW STRONG

Day by day in the **Physical Way**, Grow Strong in **Health & Fitness**.

Day by day in the **Mental Way**, Grow Strong in **Vision & Strategy**.

Day by day in the **Emotional Way**, Grow Strong in **Passion & Values**.

Day by day in the **Spiritual Way**, Grow Strong in **Selflessness & Service**.

Day by day in the **Achievement Way**, Grow Strong in **Character & Competence**.

- In order for the Health & Fitness to grow strong, you must be disciplined in diet, and you must be diligent in exercise which are appropriate for you. You have got to be strong in body as well as in mind.
- In order for the Vision & Strategy to grow strong, you must have a very definite and vivid vision, And you must have a very realistic Plan of Action which will translate the vision into reality. You must see the Golden City and choose the Road Map to it. And then, you have to drive yourself to take a long march to the City of Gold.
- In order for the Passion & Values to grow strong, You must have a very consuming desire, and You must have very compelling beliefs and convictions. You should very steadfastly stand for something, some cause, some dream for which you won't hesitate even to give your life and limb.
- In order for the Selflessness & Service to grow strong, You must have a tremendous sense of Altruism and Passionately driven to serve the people and the planet. You must be short on thinking of striving for your gain only and long on thinking of struggling for the benefits of the people and the afflicted planet.
- In order for the Character & Competence to grow strong, You must have a very verile character and great talents in Technological, Conceptual and Human Skills. You must be passionately bent on learning and self-development.

TO STAND TALL

A person who is growing in strengths should **stand tall by being strong inside, permitting no defeat and fighting all they can**. To be able to stand tall, a person growing in strength must **think the most, feel the noblest**

and act the best. They must have the guts and the heart to possess the FIRE of a tremendous fortitude, an iron mind, a rare resilience and a rock-like equanimity. A person who is standing tall must be resolute, fear no sacrifice and surmount all difficulties to win victory.

TO ADD VALUE

You should be able to :

- Make the present situations effective;
- Find and realize the potential for further progress, and
- Focus on building the future.

You should also be strongly committed to:

- Getting direct results,
- Building a great culture of beliefs & values,
- And investing in technology and cutting-edge capabilities
- Setting up a magnificent tradition of thinking creatively for new ideas and concepts, and establishing a culture of innovation for leadership in new products, processes and service.

To add value, you should develop the following strengths:

- (1) Strategy
- (2) Cutting Edge
- (3) Distinctive Capabilities
- (4) Morale, and
- (5) Resources

CONCLUSION

To grow strong, to stand tall, and to add value to your life, you should treat it as a MANTRA and ceaselessly think about growing strong, standing tall and adding value to whatever you do, wherever you are. And you have got to WALK THE TALK.

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

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE
(6-9-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K662,200 per tical: Selling K663,000

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K661,900 per tical: Selling K662,700

FE RATE

USD Buying K970 - Selling K974

SGD Buying K771 - Selling K780

Euro Buying K1250 - Selling K1275

Local organization presents insecticide-treated mosquito nets, cash assistance to hospital patients in Dala Township

YANGON, 6 Sept — Dala Township education and health foundation presented insecticide-treated mosquito nets and cash assistance to patients at Pyawbwegyi and Rakhinechaung station hospitals on Saturday.

On their tour of two hospitals in Dala Township located in South District of

Yangon, the chairman and members explained the foundation's works and ways to medical staffers and patients made cash and insecticide-treated mosquito nets donations.

Pyawbwegyi station hospital situated sixmiles from Dala, is a 16-bed facility that has been providing health care services to local people since 1992. Rakhinechaung station hospital formerly called Daw Ma Ma Lay hospital before it was upgraded to a 16-bed hospital by the government is seven miles from Dala. Daw Ma Ma Lay funded for construction of the hospital in 1939.

Dala Township education and health foundation is a local organization which is also attending to the needs of students at basic education schools in the township.

Khin Zaw (Mingalar)

NATIONAL

Myanmar, Vietnam vow to promote cooperation in economy and infrastructure



Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) and Vietnam's National Assembly Chairman Nguen Sinh Hung hold talks on enhancement of friendly relations between the two countries.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept — Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Pyithu Hluttaw (Lower House) left Yangon on Friday for Vietnam on an official visit at the invitation of Vietnam's National Assembly Chairman Nguyen Sinh

Hung, sources said.

After the welcome ceremony on Saturday, Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and Chairman Nguyen Sinh Hung met in Hanoi to seek ways to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation in education, human resources, electricity and transport.

They held talks on enhancement of friendly relations and cooperation between the two governments, parliamentary bodies and peoples.

They also agreed to accelerate cooperation in infrastructure development, trade, agriculture,

livestock, energy, oil and gas, and banking services.

MNA

Yangon East University honours outstanding faculty members, students

YANGON, 6 Sept — A ceremony to honour outstanding faculty members and students of Yangon East University took place at the university on Thursday.

Head of History Department Dr Htay Myint who is also the chairman of Yangon East University sports and physical education committee extended greetings at the ceremony.

During the ceremony, officials presented awards to three outstanding teachers, 118 students who made excellent performances in studies, sports and social activities and nine outstanding students who are offspring of staff.

MNA

Widespread erosion happen to Hsinthay creek bank in Pobbathiri Township

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept — Widespread erosion happened to the bank of Hsinthay creek following torrential rains in Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw Council recently.

The erosion of the creek bank forced evacuation of nine houses and widespread erosion has occurred in Zeegon and Kalar village-tracts.

On his inspection tour of Kalar village affected by erosion, member of Nay Pyi Taw Council U Phone Zaw Han outlined a long term plan for erosion control and called for effective measures against erosion.—MNA

Seminar on reform in Myanmar highlights importance of public participation

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 6 Sept — In order to increase public awareness, a seminar on reform in Myanmar, organized by U Kyaw Lin Oo, Executive Director of the Myanmar People Forum Working Group, took place on Saturday in Yangon.

The seminar focused on raising the public understanding of the government's implementation of its first, second and third democratization waves.

U Kyaw Lin Oo noted that the country has seen civil society organizations

more developed thanks to the reform of the private sector, thereby helping the economic sector become stable by means of unified exchange rates.

As part of political reforms, the government is now carrying out the Union peace-making process, seeking foreign direct investments for three special economic zones, improving the capacity of civil services and continuing rural development tasks to reduce poverty, he added.

The speaker also clarified the country's reform models of executive, legislative and judiciary arenas.

He gave a message to all attendees to join hands with the government to carry out the country's development tasks.—NLM

U Kyaw Lin Oo explains raising public understanding of the government's implementation of its first, second and third democratization waves.
KHAING THANDA LWIN

Union FM felicitates Brazilian counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 7 Sept — U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Luiz Alberto Figueiredo, Minister of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Independence Day of the Federative Republic of Brazil, which falls on 7th September 2014.—MNA

Union minister inspects construction works

NAY PYI TAW, 6 Sept — Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin on Saturday inspected the construction works of roads and bridge in the capital council area here.

U Kyaw Lwin looked into the works of rock layer and asphalt pavement at Montegwin-

Kyitaung-Khawma-Nay Pyi Taw road, as well as construction of Paunglaung bridge.

Union minister suggested the staff members of construction project to prioritize the standards and to finalize the projects in time.

MNA

Progress in construction of Paunglaung bridge.—MNA



Weak miners dent Britain's FTSE but BP recovers some poise

LONDON, 6 Sept — Britain's top shares fell back on Friday from recent 14-1/2 year highs as under-pressure metals prices took their toll on mining stocks, though shares in oil major BP managed a recovery.

Shares with exposure to Russia got a lift when Ukraine and pro-Russian rebels agreed a ceasefire, with BP, which owns 20 percent of Russia's largest oil producer Rosneft, the top blue-chip riser.

But a 1 percent drop from miners dragged on the UK benchmark as gold and iron ore prices came under pressure.

Precious metal miners Fresnillo and Randgold Resources were the worst off, down 4.6 percent and 4.1 percent respectively.

The FTSE 100 closed down 22.87 points, or 0.3 percent, at 6,855.10 points, falling back from a 14-1/2 year high of 6,904.86 points reached on Thursday when the European Central Bank surprised markets by cutting interest rates.

The index is up 5 percent since early August, partly in anticipation of the ECB's largesse. But it is yet to sustain a move above 6,900 points — a key hurdle on the path towards record highs.

"The inability to hold above 6,900 is the worrying sign in the short term but I wouldn't call the end of this upward move just yet," Chris Beauchamp, a strategist at IG, said.

A weak US jobs report reassured investors the



A man smokes a cigarette outside The London Stock Exchange on 11 Nov, 2013. — REUTERS

Federal Reserve would not speed up plans to hike interest rates, with non-farm payrolls having grown by

142,000 last month, far below the 225,000 increase forecast by analysts in a Reuters poll.

While this saw the UK benchmark slightly pare back its losses, it remained in negative territory.

Oil major BP recovered some of its poise after suffering its biggest one-day percentage drop in four years on Thursday, when a US judge decided it was "grossly negligent" and "reckless" in the Gulf of Mexico oil spill four years ago.

The ruling could leave BP on the hook for an additional fine of up to \$18 billion (11.04 billion British pound).

Citi, which estimated that BP would be liable for less than half that amount at \$8.2 billion, upgraded its rating on the stock to "buy" from "neutral", while increasing its price target to 510 pence from 480 pence.

The shares, up 2.6 percent on Friday, trade at 466.8 pence.—Reuters

Depression more common for cancer patients, but rarely treated

NEW YORK, 6 Sept — Three new studies by researchers at the Universities of Oxford and Edinburgh in the UK reveal that three-quarters of depressed cancer patients are not receiving treatment for depression. The researchers also found that serious depression is more common for cancer patients than for the general population, and varies by type of cancer.

They also tested a new treatment programme, with mental health care integrated into cancer treatment, which was much more effective at reducing depression and improving quality of life than current treatments, they found. Cancer doctors focus on the cancer, but depression deserves attention and treatment too, said Dr Michael Sharpe of Psychological Medicine Research at the University of Oxford Department of Psychiatry, who co-wrote all three papers.

He and his team analyzed data from more than 21,000 patients attending outpatient cancer clinics in Scotland who had been routinely screened for depression between 2008 and 2011.

Depression was most common in people with lung cancer, affecting 13 percent of patients, followed by gynecological, breast and colorectal cancer and finally genitourinary cancer, for which six percent of patients were diagnosed as depressed.

In the US between 2007 and 2010, eight percent of people age twelve and older had experienced depression symptoms in any two-week period, according to the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. A depression diagnosis was more likely for

patients who were younger, and among those with lung or colorectal cancer, women. Nearly three quarters of depressed cancer patients were not receiving treatment for depression, according to results in *The Lancet Psychiatry*.

Twenty-four percent were taking antidepressants and five percent were seeing a mental health professional, with a few doing both.

The researchers tested a new treatment programme called 'Depression Care for People with Cancer' (DCPC) on 500 adults with clinical depression and a cancer with a good prognosis. The program requires a team of specially trained cancer nurses and psychiatrists. Working in collaboration with the patient's cancer team and general practitioner, they screen for depression and try different treatments, including

antidepressants and therapy.

After six months, the severity of depression was reduced by at least half in 62 percent of patients who had mental health care integrated into cancer treatment, compared with 17 percent of patients who received their usual care, according to results in *The Lancet*.

"For the ones that were randomized to usual care, we made sure the patient understood that they had major depression, wrote to (the) primary care doctor to tell them that they had major depression, but the outcome was terrible," Sharpe told Reuters Health by phone.

The researchers estimate DCPC would cost about \$1,000 per patient.

"We made sure they did actually get and use antidepressants and psychological treatment," Sharpe said.

Reuters

Ryanair close to placing new \$10 billion Boeing order

PARIS/DUBLIN, 6 Sept — Irish low-cost airline Ryanair (RYA.I) is in advanced talks to buy at least 100 Boeing 737 MAX jetliners with extra seats in a potential \$10 billion (6.13 billion British pound) deal that could be finalised in days or weeks, two people familiar with the matter said.

The move comes two months after Boeing said it was studying plans to offer more seating in its upcoming 737 MAX by introducing a version with 200 seats, 11 more than the current maximum.

A deal for about 100 of those aircraft could be reached as early as the middle of September, one of the people said, asking not to be identified because the talks are confidential.

"Ryanair does not

comment upon, or engage in, rumor or speculation," a spokesman for the airline said. A European spokesman for Boeing Co (BA.N) declined to comment.

A new order from Europe's biggest no-frills carrier would mark a new phase in efforts by Boeing and European rival Airbus (AIR.PA) to appeal to ultra-low cost carriers.

Both manufacturers are adding seats to drive down the operating costs per seat, the key driver of aircraft economics.

"The 200-seat version is almost tailor made for Ryanair," said Stephen Furlong, an analyst with Davy Stockbrokers in Dublin. "In addition to the fuel efficiency, the extra seats should give them an extra 5 percent unit cost savings."—Reuters

Amazon signs disaster relief delivery agreement with Japan prefecture

TOKUSHIMA, (Japan), 6 Sept — Amazon Japan KK signed an agreement on Friday with Tokushima Prefecture for consumers to buy and donate relief supplies on the retailer's website in the event of a major earthquake or other natural disaster hitting the area.

Items in need at shelters will be registered in a "wish list" put up by Amazon so shoppers can donate them for delivery within days.

Amazon.com's Japan unit offered a similar service after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. Many relief organizations took advantage of it, valuing its convenience for getting them what they really needed.

It took around one month for preparations at that time, however, including ensuring that goods would not be delivered to places chosen by people who were not disaster victims.

Under the latest agreement, the Tokushima prefectural government will provide a list of designated shelters to Amazon beforehand.

The Tokushima prefectural government says it is the first such agreement Amazon Japan has signed in the country to make ready for a disaster.

Kyodo News



A model airplane rests on a table during an announcement of the commitment for Ryanair to purchase aircraft from Boeing, in New York on 19 March, 2013. — REUTERS

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

California blue whales, once nearly extinct, back at historical levels

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — California blue whales, the largest animals on Earth once driven to near extinction by whaling, have made a remarkable comeback to near historic, 19th-century levels, according to a University of Washington study released on Friday.

The recovery makes California blue whales—which study authors say now number about 2,200, or 97 percent of historical levels—the only population of blue whales known to have recovered from whaling.

“The recovery of California blue whales from whaling demonstrates the

ability of blue whale populations to rebuild under careful management and conservation measures,” said Cole Monnahan, a University of Washington doctoral student and lead author of the study.

Despite the comeback, the whales—which as adults can reach nearly 100 feet (30 metres) in length and weigh 190 tons (172 tonnes), twice as much as the largest known dinosaur—are still being struck by ships off the California coast at numbers above allowable US limits, according to the study’s authors.

Conservation groups say at least 11 blue whales are struck each year along



Blue Whales are seen in this undated handout photo courtesy of NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service.

REUTERS

the US West Coast, nearly four times the “potential biological removal” level of 3.1 permitted under the

US Marine Mammal Protection Act.

“Even accepting our results that the current level

of ship strikes is not going to cause overall population declines, there is still going to be ongoing concern that we don’t want these whales killed by ships,” University of Washington assistant professor of aquatic and fishery sciences Tim Branch said.

According to the University of Washington paper and a separate paper published earlier this year, some 3,400 blue whales were caught between 1905 and 1971, a number determined in part by examining once-secret Russian whaling archives.

The study’s authors say that the population of California blue whales is

now growing more slowly, partly due to ship strikes and also because numbers are reaching the habitat limit.

“Our findings aren’t meant to deprive California blue whales of protections that they need going forward,” Monnahan said.

“California blue whales are recovering because we took actions to stop catches and start monitoring. If we hadn’t, the population might have been pushed to near extinction—an unfortunate fate suffered by other blue whale populations,” he said. “It’s a conservation success story.”

Reuters

Time Warner Cable employees to share \$416 million under retention plan



Pedestrians walk past the Time Warner Cable headquarters in New York on 13 Feb, 2014.

REUTERS

NEW YORK, 6 Sept — Employees of Time Warner Cable will be \$416 million richer even if the cable operator’s merger with Comcast does not close, a move designed to keep staff from bolting while federal regulators contemplate the deal.

A proxy statement, prepared for the shareholders meetings of both companies in October to vote on the merger, also lays out the nearly \$81.8 million golden parachute that Time Warner Cable’s chairman and chief executive, Robert D Marcus, would receive.

His payment includes

cash, restricted stock, options and \$300,000 to pay for financial planning services. In all, the company will hand out golden parachutes of more than \$136 million to five of its top executives if the deal closes.

Comcast Corp last February said it would buy Time Warner Cable Inc in a \$45.2 billion stock swap that combines the two largest US cable operators.

The day before the deal was announced, the compensation committee of Time Warner Cable’s board approved retention grants for more than 1,800 employees that would pay twice the regularly sched-

uled annual equity awards granted for each person in 2014.

The awards, which the proxy said totaled approximately \$316.4 million in restricted stock, were awarded to compensate for bonuses in 2015 and 2016 the employees would not receive, according to the proxy.

The compensation committee also approved up to \$100 million in supplemental bonuses to the more than 15,000 employees eligible to receive cash incentive bonuses. Those bonuses would equal 50 percent of each employee’s target bonus for 2014.

“The supplemental bonus opportunity was intended to enhance employee retention during the pendency of the merger, while preserving incentives designed to keep employees focused on executing on TWC’s operating plan,” according to the proxy.

The Comcast special shareholders meeting to vote on the merger will be held on 8 October. The Time Warner Cable special shareholders meeting will be held on 9 October.

Reuters

Alibaba IPO legal fees dwarf Facebook’s

NEW YORK, 6 Sept — Alibaba Group Holding Ltd disclosed on Friday that it would pay \$15.8 million in legal fees to law firm Simpson Thacher and other attorneys who advised the Chinese e-commerce giant on its upcoming IPO, six times what Facebook paid its counsel two years ago.

Alibaba, which is seeking to raise as much as \$21 billion in an IPO expected later this month, made the disclosure in a prospectus on Friday filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Chinese company, whose sales are larger than Amazon.com and eBay combined, has a complex structure and has frequently revised its prospectus. That has all increased legal fees, analysts said. The legal fees for Alibaba’s IPO rank the fourth highest in the past 10 years, according to IPO Vital Signs.

The 2013 IPO of Empire State Realty trust ranked the highest, with a whopping \$32.8 million in estimated legal fees, while the IPO of Kinder Morgan in 2011 cost the pipeline company \$17 million. The 2005 IPO of investment bank Lazard cost \$16 million.

Facebook Inc’s May

2012 IPO garnered \$2.6 million in legal fees. In addition to Simpson, Alibaba’s New York-based law firm, its Chinese counsel, Fangda Partners, and Cayman Islands adviser Maples and Calder, will share the attorneys’ fees, according to the filing. It was not immediately clear how the firms would split the \$15.8 million in fees, but Simpson likely will get the lion’s share of the money.

Alibaba expects to price its initial public offering between \$60 and \$66 per American Depositary Share, valuing the company at about \$162.69 billion at the top end of the range and raising as much as \$21.1 billion.

Simpson, a leading

Wall Street law firm with strong corporate, mergers and acquisitions and capital markets practices, has advised on 76 IPOs over the past ten years, and its record fee before Alibaba was \$15 million, for the 2007 IPO of private equity firm Blackstone, according to IPO Vital Signs. Lawyers had expected Alibaba fees would be high even before Friday’s disclosure.

Thomas Rice, a capital markets partner with law firm Baker & McKenzie in New York, said recently that Alibaba’s prospectus is more than triple the length of an ordinary filing for a company that has a single line of business and limited geographies.— Reuters



An employee is seen behind a glass wall with the logo of Alibaba at the company’s headquarters on the outskirts of Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province, on 23 April, 2014.— REUTERS

House-sized asteroid to buzz Earth on Sunday

CAPE CANAVERAL (Fla), 6 Sept — A recently discovered asteroid about the size of a house will make a relatively close pass by Earth on Sunday, flying just past the communication satellites that circle the planet, scientists said.

NASA said the asteroid, known as 2014 RC, poses no threat, though at its closest approach it will be only about one-tenth the distance to the moon, or roughly 25,000 miles (40,000 km) from Earth. Communications and weather satellites

are generally located in orbits about 22,000 miles (36,000 km) above the planet. “While this celestial object does not appear to pose any threat to Earth or satellites, its close approach creates a unique opportunity for researchers to observe and

learn more about asteroids,” NASA said in a statement released on Tuesday.

With a diameter of about 60 feet (18 metres), Asteroid 2014 RC will be too dim to see with the naked eye, but amateur astronomers with small telescopes

might be able to catch a glimpse as it zips by, NASA said.

Asteroid 2014 RC is slightly smaller than the 65-foot (20-metre) diameter asteroid that exploded over Chelyabinsk, Russia, last year. The shock wave from

the explosion, estimated to have had 30 times more energy than the Hiroshima atomic bomb, blasted out windows and damaged buildings. More than 1,000 people were injured by flying glass and debris.

Reuters

One in 10 girls raped or sexually abused worldwide — UN

LONDON, 6 Sept — One in 10 girls around the world — or about 120 million in total — have been forced to have intercourse or take part in other sexual acts, with rates higher in sub-Saharan Africa than other regions, according to the United Nations.

Drawing on data from 190 countries, a report by the UN children's agency UNICEF said the most common perpetrators of sexual violence against girls under 18 are current or former husbands, boy-friends and partners.

The study, which sifted through the biggest ever compilation of data on violence against children, also found that one in five murder victims were children or adolescents under 20.

Homicide was the leading cause of death among males aged 10 to 19 in Panama, Venezuela, El Salvador, Trinidad and Tobago, Brazil, Guatemala and Colombia.

"Violence against children occurs every day, everywhere: the slaps of an upset parent to control an 'unruly' child, the sexual victimisation of a teenager by a peer or a neighbour, the bullying of one child by another in the schoolyard, the emotional degradation of a child bride by her spouse," the report said.

"Too many children worldwide are affected by such violence, yet it is rarely acknowledged, in part because it is so commonplace. The repercussions are not inconsequential, with ripple effects throughout society as well as future generations," it added.

A higher proportion of

girls, compared to the global average, reported being forced to have sex in 13 of the 18 sub-Saharan African countries surveyed: Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Zambia, Gabon, Tanzania, Liberia, Rwanda and Kenya.

UNICEF said boys experience sexual violence too, but to a far lesser extent than girls.

In Africa and the Middle East more than half the adolescent girls aged 15 to 19 believe a husband is justified in hitting his wife under certain circumstances. This rises to 80 percent or more in Afghanistan, Guinea, Jordan, Mali and East Timor.

The report also covered physical punishment, finding that almost 1 billion children aged between two and 14 are subjected to violent discipline by their parents or guardians on a regular basis.

It also showed that more than one in three students aged 13 to 15 experience routine bullying, while almost a third of students aged 11 to 15 in Europe and North America admitted bullying others.

Violence against children was occurring in places where children should be safe — in their communities, schools and homes, UNICEF said.

"Increasingly, it happens over the internet, and it's perpetrated by family members and teachers, neighbours and strangers and other children," the BBC quoted UNICEF's executive director Anthony Lake as saying. — Reuters

Afghanistan completes election audit in step towards new president



Afghan presidential candidate Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai speaks with the media in Kabul on 12 Aug, 2014. — REUTERS

KABUL, 6 Sept — A UN-supervised audit of votes in Afghanistan's disputed presidential election has finished, an Afghan electoral official said on Friday. The audit of the 14 June run-off election was part of a US-brokered deal to defuse escalating tension in a ballot intended to mark the country's first democratic transfer of power.

Chaos in Afghanistan as Western forces pull out most of their troops would be a political blow for those countries which have spent billions of dollars and lost about 3,500 soldiers in a bid to bring peace and stability since the Taliban were ousted in 2001.

"The auditing and re-count process of all votes were concluded late on Thursday," Independent Election Commission (IEC) spokesman Noor Mohammad Noor told reporters in Kabul. "It was a very important mission by the IEC and other major institutions which is finished now," Noor said. The IEC has already begun invalidating votes deemed fraudulent, but it was unclear when the final results of the audit — and the next president of Afghanistan

— would be announced. Preliminary results from the run-off put candidate Ashraf Ghani, a former finance minister and World Bank official, well ahead of his rival Abdullah Abdullah, a former foreign minister. But Abdullah rejected the result, claiming widespread fraud and calling the outcome a "coup" against the Afghan people.

Since then, US State Secretary John Kerry has flown to Afghanistan twice to mediate a deal in which both candidates agreed to a full audit of the vote, and, based on the result, to form a national unity government, a pledge the contenders reiterated in a joint statement on Thursday to a NATO summit.

The crisis over the outcome of the vote has raised the spectre of insta-

bility, turmoil and potential conflict in a country already battling a potent Taliban insurgency. The seven-week audit, a painstaking exercise involving more than 8 million votes, was slow-going at times, punctuated by heated arguments between the two candidates' observers present during the process.

In late August, Abdullah's team boycotted the audit, calling it "worthless" in the face of what they have alleged to be widespread fraud in the June vote.

The United Nations subsequently asked Ghani's team to withdraw its observers too, in the interest of fairness. The audit proceeded in its final week with Afghan and international observers present.

Reuters

China to coordinate with Malaysia to continue searching MH370



Chinese Premier Li Keqiang (R) meets with Malaysian Supreme Head of State Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah in Beijing, capital of China, on 5 Sept, 2014. — XINHUA

for assistance in searching the flight and vowed to keep in close communication with the Chinese side.

With regard to the China-Malaysia relations and the ties between China and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Li said China

and Malaysia are sincere friends and reciprocal partners. China was ready to consolidate their traditional friendship and expand bilateral cooperation.

He said China will steadily pursue the good-neighborly relationship with ASEAN and

strengthen their reciprocal cooperation.

China will join with Malaysia, the first ASEAN nations to establish diplomatic ties with China and chair of ASEAN in next year, to promote China-ASEAN relations and East Asian cooperation, and to maintain regional peace, stability and development, the premier added.

Hailing the close ties between Malaysia and China, Halim said strengthening bilateral cooperation is beneficial for both countries.

Halim is paying a state visit to China at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping from 3 to 8 September. Xi held talks with Halim on Thursday afternoon.

Xinhua

Three confirmed dead in Denmark helicopter crash

COPENHAGEN, 6 Sept — At least three people have been confirmed dead after a helicopter crashed into the Kattegat Bay in Northern Denmark on Friday.

The civilian helicopter crashed into the water between Denmark's Samsø island and Roesnaes by Kalundborg, Admiral Danish Fleet was quoted by Danish News Agency

Ritzau as saying.

So far, three people have been found dead in the area, but their identities and the number of people on board are not yet known, said spokesman Martin Bjerregaard from Mid and West Zealand Police.

According to Martin Bjerregaard, it was a sailor or who sounded the alarm at midday and told that a

helicopter had crashed into the sea.

Police said the cause of the crash is still unknown, and they are now searching the area for any additional passengers.

On Thursday, two people were killed when a small sport aircraft crashed on Denmark's third largest island Funen.

Xinhua



Students attend the opening ceremony for new school year in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, on 5 Sept, 2014. — XINHUA

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MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1021)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KUO HSIUNG VOY NO (1021) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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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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Japan, US remain apart in TPP-related auto trade talks

WASHINGTON, 6 Sept — Japan and the United States remained apart on Friday over the issue of whether Japan can allow US automakers more access to the domestic market under an envisioned Pacific free trade deal, a Japanese official said.

“We made some progress but reached no new agreement,” Takeo Mori, Japanese ambassador in charge of economic di-

plomacy, told reporters in Washington after three days of negotiations with Wendy Cutler, acting deputy US trade representative. The gap over auto trade is a contentious bilateral issue related to the Trans-Pacific Partnership deal along with differences over Japan's exceptional tariffs on some agricultural produce.

Mori said the issue of settlement of international disputes was among topics

in the latest round of talks with Cutler, but declined to go into further details.

Mori said he and Cutler are likely to discuss the schedule for future negotiations over the auto issue in Tokyo next week as she will be heading for the Japanese capital for talks on farm products with Hiroshi Oe, deputy chief TPP negotiator, on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The TPP involves

Japan, the United States and 10 other countries but solving problems between the two biggest economies in the TPP framework is seen as vital to advance the broad negotiations. The 12 countries, which also include Australia, Canada and Mexico, have been working on signing a deal at the earliest opportunity after they missed the primary deadline at the end of last year.—Kyodo News

Mexico unveils environmentally-friendly design for new airport

MEXICO CITY, 6 Sept — Mexico City's new international airport will help to protect the environment, a Mexican official said on Friday in a Press conference.

Mexican Presidency Spokesman Eduardo Sanchez said the new airport would be the first one outside Europe to include “neutral carbon footprint,” a system to generate renewable energy and remove the carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Sanchez said the new airport, with a 2,700-hectare forest, will benefit people living nearby.

“More green areas, clean water and better roads will have an impact on the quality of life. This will help transform the ecological damage into opportunities for sustainable development,” Sanchez said.

The new airport will also boost green business since 70 percent of the water used will come from their own water treatment plants.

Sanchez added the new airport will use clean energy such as sunlight and biogas and will be the first airport to obtain “LEED platinum” certification, the highest award granted to a green building. Environment Minister Juan Jose Guerra Abud explained the use of clean energy for lighting and ventilation by photocells, adding that energy saving will be of 47 percent (from 447 kilowatt-hours to 267 kilowatt-hours).—Xinhua

Shanghai appoints aides for judges, procurators

SHANGHAI, 6 Sept — Shanghai appointed 289 assistants to judges and procurators on Friday for the first time on the Chinese mainland as part of a pilot programme for judicial reform.

Assistants with legal qualifications were selected from public servants in the city's courts and procuratorates. They will work in eight pilot courts and procuratorates, including Shanghai No 2 Intermediate People's Court and Shanghai People's Procuratorate Second Branch.

After a five-year term, the assistants can be promoted to judges or procurators if they perform well.

Judges assistants will review lawsuit documents and prepare reference materials related to trials. Assistants for procurators are responsible for investigation and collection of evidence as well as preparing documents.

The pilot programme will be promoted in the whole city next year.

The appointment of assistants is of great importance for improving the expertise and efficiency of judicial staff, said Jiang Ping, a senior official of Shanghai.—Xinhua



Visitors watch Yujiang woodcarving during the Jiangxi Tourism Product Fair in Nanchang, capital of east China's Jiangxi Province on 5 Sept, 2014. The three-day fair, which kicked off on Friday, presented more than 3,000 items of Chinese tourism commodities, including 38 intangible cultural heritage items in Jiangxi.—XINHUA

Weather report

BAY INFERENCE:

According to the observation at

(14:30)hrs MST today, the low pressure area over North Bay of Bengal has moved to the Northwest Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is generally strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 7th September, 2014:

Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in Lower Sagaing Region, scattered in Upper Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway Regions, Shan State, fairly widespread

in Kachin, Chin and Kayah States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Bago and Taninthayi Regions, Kayin and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Franco draws crowds in Venice, his Faulkner film gets barbs

LONDON, 6 Sept — Actor and director James Franco's latest foray into American gothic in an adaptation of William Faulkner's "The Sound and the Fury" met with a mixed critical reception at the Venice Film Festival on Friday, but fans were delighted to see him.

Franco, whose movie was shown out of competition at the world's oldest film festival, attracted big crowds for a presentation of a "Glory to the Filmmaker" award and a screening of his film at the Palace of Cinema on the Venice Lido.

Festival director Alberto Barbera, asked if the event was short on stars this year after having made a big splash when George Clooney and Sandra Bullock attended the world premiere of "Gravity" last year, cited the crowds who came out to see Franco, and Al Pacino last weekend, as evidence to the contrary.

"Al Pacino was as popular as Clooney, and James Franco today," Barbera said.

The screen adaptation of the novel by the Nobel literature prize-winning US author is the second by Franco, who in 2013 directed, wrote the screenplay and starred in an adaptation of "As I Lay Dying".

Both novels, but particularly "As I Lay Dying", much of which takes place inside a dying woman's head, have been considered extremely challenging as film projects, though "The Sound and the Fury" was made into a 1959 film starring Joanne Woodward and Yul Brynner. Franco said his "The Sound and the Fury", in which he also casts himself as the idiot son Benjy, one of three brothers in the former slave-owning Compson family which is sinking into ruin, differed significantly from the earlier version.

"It's a fine movie, I guess, but I would say the big difference is that when they adapted 'Sound and the Fury' it looks like their aim was to adapt simply the narrative, the story, and they did not make any attempt to take on the style or the structure of the book," Franco told a news conference. "In my mind when I think of 'The Sound and the Fury' I don't think, 'Oh, yeah, it's a story about a Southern family's demise, like that is only half of it, and the other half is the way that it's written, how it's told, not just what is told."

"So as a filmmaker who's adapting that, I think I took it on as my responsibility to find film equivalents for the way that Faulkner was giving his effects in prose."—Reuters

'Gossip Girl' rejection was end of the world: Lily Collins

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — 'Mirror Mirror' star Lily Collins has spoken about trying out for the TV series 'Gossip Girl', saying she was initially devastated not to win a role.

The 25-year-old actress has auditioned for the American teen drama television series, reported *Marie Claire* magazine. "I tested for 'Gossip Girl'. I wanted to be in it so badly, I thought at the time it was the end of the world," Collins said.

Reflecting on the positives that came from it, she said, "Well I would have got pigeon-holed, have had to move to New York, leave high school and be signed away for six years.

"I wouldn't have done the films I've done, and everything would have been so different."—PTI



Lily Collins

Guy Pearce to star in 'Holding the Man' film adaptation



LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — Actors Guy Pearce, Anthony LaPaglia and Kerry Fox are to star in an Australian movie adaptation of 'Holding the Man'. The film, directed by Neil Armfield, is based on Timothy Conigrave's memoir, which was adapted for a stage play in 2006, reported Variety.

The story focuses on two young men who fall in love and embark on a 15-year romance. "The success of Tim Conigrave's book and Tommy Murphy's stage play proves that this is a love story that speaks across generations, sexualities and cultures," producer Kylie Dufresne said. Production for 'Holding the Man' begins in Melbourne next week. Pearce was recently reported to be in talks to play the villain in thriller 'War on Everyone'. Earlier this year, he explained that he almost turned down his role in 'Iron Man 3'.—PTI

Ellie Goulding and Iggy Azalea collaborate on new song

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — Singer Ellie Goulding has recorded a new track with Australian rapper Iggy Azalea. Azalea, 24, is currently shooting the artwork for a repackaged version of her debut album *The New Classic*, which was originally released back in April, reported Ace Showbiz.

"Shooting the album re-pack cover art this week. Can't wait for you guys to hear some new stuff. Six new tracks," Azalea tweeted. She later added: "Me and Ellie Goulding have a nice little number together on there too. FYI." The *New Classic* features Azalea's US chart-topper 'Fancy', as well as her current Top 10 hit 'Black Widow' with Rita Ora. The album peaked at number five in the UK and three on the US Billboard 200 upon its release earlier this year. Meanwhile, Azalea will feature on the single version of Jennifer Lopez's upcoming release 'Booty'.—PTI



Iggy Azalea

Paris Hilton settles court battle with footwear company

LOS ANGELES, 6 Sept — Socialite Paris Hilton has settled court battle with a Manhattan footwear company named Antebi Footwear.

The 33-year-old hotel heiress has dropped her USD 1 million lawsuit against Antebi, and the shoe company has dropped their USD 2 million counterclaim against her, reported Ace Showbiz. Paris previously accused Antebi, which launched her Paris Hilton Footwear line in 2007, of stiffing her on royalties.

The footwear compa-

ny then filed a counterclaim against the star of 'The Simple Life', saying she violated her contract by working with a rival company.

The case was originally expected to go to trial next year, but attorneys for both sides jointly filed papers in Manhattan Federal Court, stating the case should be "voluntarily dismissed in its entirety."

Paris' attorney, Michael Weinsten, said that the terms of the deal were kept secret, but "the action was amicably resolved."

PTI



Paris Hilton

GENERAL

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 အသက် (၈၅) နှစ်

ရန်ကုန်မြို့၊ သယ်နန်းကျွန်းမြို့နယ်၊ သုဝဏ္ဏ၊ ကမာကြည်ဥယျာဉ် အိမ်ရာ၊ အမှတ် (S-14) နေ (ဦးမောင်မောင်လှမ်း - ဒေါ်ဘီဘီ) တို့၏သား၊ (ဦးဂျီဆင်း - ဒေါ်အေးအိုင်) တို့၏ သားသမက်၊ ဒေါ်ဦးအိုလက်ခင်အောင် (ခ) ဒေါ်ခင်ဝင်း၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ခင်ပွန်း၊ ဒေါ်စန္ဒာခင်အောင်၊ ဒေါ်သီတာခင်အောင် (ကျောင်းအုပ်ကြီး၊ အထက (၅)၊ ရန်ကုန်)၊ ဦးအောင်ခင် - ဒေါ်သစ်သစ်ပိုင်၊ ဒေါ်မာလာခင်အောင် - ဦးနေလှ၊ ဒေါ်ဥမ္မာခင်အောင်၊ ဦးဝင်းမြင့်အောင် - ဒေါ်ခင်အေးဝင်း၊ ဦးခင်အောင်ဝင်း - ဒေါ်အေးအေးလွင်တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ကျေးဇူး ရှင်မွေးသမင်၊ ဒေါ်တင်မျိုးသက် - ဦးမြတ်မင်းလင်း၊ မခင်ချောစန္ဒီ၊ မောင်နေလင်းအောင်၊ မောင်အောင်မင်းသူ (DERRICK) ၊ မတင်ဇာဝင်းမြင့်အောင်၊ မအိန္ဒြာဝင်းမြင့်အောင်၊ မသဒ္ဓါဝင်းမြင့်အောင် တို့၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော အဘိုး၊ မဆောင်းမြတ်အိန္ဒြာ ၏ ချစ်လှစွာသော ဘိုးဘိုးကြီး - ဒုတိယပိုလ်မူကြီးခင်အောင် (ရေငြိမ်း) သည် ၃-၉-၂၀၁၄ (ဗုဒ္ဓဟူးနေ့) ညနေ (၅:၃၅) နာရီတွင် ကွယ်လွန်သွားပါကြောင်း ဆွေမျိုးမိတ်သက်တမျိုးအား အသိပေးအပ်ပါသည်။

(ကြွေးကျန်ရစ်သော ရုပ်ကလပ်တို့ ၇-၉-၂၀၁၄ (တနင်္ဂနွေနေ့) မွန်းလွဲ (၂)နာရီတွင် ရေဝေးသုသာန်၌ မီးသင်္ဂြိုဟ်မည်ဖြစ်ပါကြောင်း။)

(ကျန်ရစ်သူမိသားစု)



Mexican U19 team's Jaques Isunza Pablo (L) vies for the ball during the second round match against Malaysian U19 team at the Beijing Hyundai International Youth Football Tournament in Xi'an, capital of northwest China's Shaanxi Province, on 5 Sept, 2014. Mexico won 8-0.—XINHUA

Panda couple in Singapore celebrates second anniversary

SINGAPORE, 6 Sept — Giant pandas Kai Kai and Jia Jia celebrated their birthdays and second anniversary in Singapore on Friday, according to media reports.

Over 150 guests joined their birthday bash at River Safari and participated in a Panda Lantern Parade to light the way for the future of the endangered species.

Male panda Kai Kai turns seven on 14 September, while his female partner, Jia Jia turned six on 3 September. The pair of pandas arrived in Singapore on 6 September two years ago. The birthday duo was treated to birthday “cakes” specially designed by students of ITE College West in Singapore.

More than 500 conservation pledges were collected from birthday party guests and members of the public in August, which aims to protect pandas through various ways, from conserving fuel by taking public transport to refraining from using products that may endanger animals.

“In the past two years Kai Kai and Jia Jia have brought much joy to visitors at River Safari and as we celebrate their birthdays, we hope to leverage their popularity to initiate education programmes to highlight the threats that pandas face and encourage individuals to take actions to ensure a brighter future for this iconic animal,” Said Claire Chiang, chairman of Wildlife Reserves Singapore.

A nursery rhyme book for pre-school children that tells the adventures of the two pandas in Singapore was launched during the birthday bash.

Written by five teachers, the book is in the Chinese language to help children learn their mother tongue in a fun and engaging manner.

The birthday bash also kick-starts festivities during Panda Party week from 6-14 September, during which visitors can expect a line-up of activities at the Giant Pand Forest.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(7-9-2014, Sunday)

- 6:00 am**
 * Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
- 6:45 am**
 * The Biography of Kyaungban Tawya Sayadaw (Budalin)
- 7:00 am**
 * News/Weather Report
- 7:20 am**
 * Documentary
- 8:00 am**
 * News/
 International News
- 8:30 am**
 * Amazing World
- 9:45 am**
 * Beautiful ASEAN
- 10:15 am**
 * Science and Technology Programme
- 10:45 am**
 * (38) Phyar Mingalars
- 12:00 pm**
 * News /
 International News /
 Weather Report
- 12:40 pm**
 * Myanmar Movie
- 2:40 pm**
 * Singing In Different Version
- 3:15 pm**
 * Mono Classical Songs
- 4:20 pm**
 * University of Distance Education (TV Lectures)
 -First Year (Zoology)
- 4:45 pm**
 * Musical Programme
- 5:15 pm**
 * Sing & Enjoy
- 6:20 pm**
 * Teleplay
- 7:20 pm**
 * Weekly Entertainment News
- 8:00 pm**
 * News/International News/
 News/ Weather Report
- 9:00 pm**
 * News
- 9:30 pm**
 * Tamyethnar Takwetsar Teleplay (Part-1)

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(7-9-14 07:00 am~
 8-9-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * Rakhine Tourist Area
- * World News
- * Manaw Festival (Short Cuts)
- * Local News
- * MUUN (Episode - I)
- * World News
- * News Extra (ASEAN Special Labour Migration)
- * Local News
- * Strolling Along A Memory Link — U Pein Bridge
- * World News
- * Indian Footsteps
- * Local News
- * An Ardent Aficionado of Traditional Design
- * World News
- * Myanmar Chef (Japanese)
- * 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)
- * World News
- * Myanmar Puppet
- * Local News
- * Youth Film Maker (Sai Aung Tun)
- * World News
- * Civic Duty (Pyi Thu Ni Ti)

FIFA completes probe into 2018, 2022 World Cup hosting

BERNE, 6 Sept — FIFA ethics committee investigator Michael Garcia has completed his probe into the controversial bidding process for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups, awarded to Russia and Qatar respectively, and handed in a 350-page report.

The report, which has not been made public, will be submitted to the ethics committee's adjudicatory chamber, headed by German judge Hans-Joachim Eckert, to decide on whether any wrongdoing was committed, football's governing body said on Friday.

FIFA said they could not comment on when Eckert might reach his decision.

During the course of the year-long investigation, Garcia and his deputy Cornel Borbely interviewed “more than 75 witnesses and compiled a record that, in addition to audio recordings from interviews, includes more than 200,000 pages of relevant material,” FIFA said.

“The report sets forth detailed factual findings; reaches conclusions concerning further action with

respect to certain individuals; identifies issues to be referred to other FIFA committees; and makes recommendations for future bidding processes.”

The hosting rights for the two tournaments were awarded simultaneously by FIFA's executive committee in Zurich in 2010 after a turbulent campaign.

Spain / Portugal, Belgium / Netherlands and England had also been bidding for 2018 while United States, Australia, South Korea and Japan had bid for 2022.

The executive committee which took the decision was reduced to 22 members instead of the usual 24 after two of them were suspended by the ethics committee one month before the vote.

Nigerian Amos Adamu was banned for breaches of five articles of FIFA's ethics code including one on bribery and Reynald Temarii of Tahiti for breaching articles on general conduct and loyalty.

The case followed allegations by The Sunday Times that the pair offered to sell their votes to under-

cover reporters posing as lobbyists for an American consortium.

FIFA said that all bidding nations were interviewed during the investigation. Borbely took responsibility obtaining information from the US and Russia as Garcia is a national of the former and was barred from visiting the latter.

Shortly before this year's World Cup in Brazil, the *Sunday Times* reported that some of the “millions of documents” it had seen linked payments by former FIFA executive committee member Mohamed Bin Hammam to officials to win backing for Qatar's World Cup bid.

Russia's bidding team and FIFA president Sepp Blatter (R) pose for the picture after the announcement that Russia is going to be host nation for the FIFA World Cup 2018, in Zurich on 2 Dec, 2010.

REUTERS



Serena and friend Wozniacki reach US Open final

NEW YORK, 6 Sept — Serena Williams and friend Caroline Wozniacki arranged a get-together in the US Open women's final, winning their Friday semi-finals in contrasting fashion on a stifling hot, humid day at Flushing Meadows.

Top-seeded world number one Williams overpowered Russian left-hander Ekaterina Makarova 6-1, 6-3, unleashing her daunting firepower against the 17th-seeded Russian.

Wozniacki advanced when China's Peng Shuai broke down in scary distress due to heat illness and retired in the second set, while trailing 7-6(1), 4-3.

The results delivered on a pre-tournament wish made by the buddies, who each entered the event longing for a victory to ease personal frustrations.

"She's a good friend of

mine," said former world number one Wozniacki, whose gaping hole in her resume remains the lack of a grand slam title.

"We were saying when the tournament started, 'We're in separate sides of the drawing, so hopefully we can meet in the finals. It would be great if that were to happen.'"

Williams said she had the same thought when the draw was made.

"She obviously wants to win and go for her first grand slam, and I want to win and try to make a little history," said Williams, who wants to end a disappointing grand slam season on a happy note by claiming her 18th slam singles to tie Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova for fourth on the all-time list.

The opening semi-final produced some scary moments as China's Peng



Serena Williams of the US celebrates winning match point against Ekaterina Makarova of Russia during their semi-final match at the 2014 US Open tennis tournament in New York on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

fell victim to the severe conditions during an energy-draining, groundstroke battle with Wozniacki.

The match was still very much in doubt with Wozniacki serving at 4-3 and facing break point when the unseeded Peng suddenly grabbed her thighs and stumbled to the back wall of the centre court with what appeared to be severe cramping.

In obvious distress, the 28-year-old doubles specialist was eventually helped off the court to be evaluated by doctors.

A valiant Peng, playing her first career grand slam singles semi-final, refused to quit and returned in 11 minutes after a medical examination.

Six points later, Peng curled up in agony on the baseline, and officials called the match and Peng was lifted into a wheelchair

and taken from the court to a standing ovation after the abbreviated two hour four minute battle.

"The doctor, she said to me, 'You are not able really go out to fight, compete, because look is not really well,'" Peng said about the medical evaluation when she met reporters after two hours of treatment.

"I said, 'No, no, no, I don't want to give up. I want to try one more time,'" added Peng. "And then I come back."

In the mixed doubles final, top seeds Sania Mirza of India and Brazilian Bruno Soares won the title 6-1, 2-6, 11-9, sealing the match tiebreak on their sixth championship point against American Abigail Spears and Santiago Gonzalez of Mexico.

Williams, the two-times defending champion, came on the centre court

next and seemed determined to spend as little time as possible in the heat and succeeded, trouncing Makarova in 60 minutes.

The American blasted 24 winners, including five aces. Makarova hit six.

"I'm just really excited to be in the final. In the beginning of the week I definitely wasn't sure I would make it this long. So I'm just elated," said Williams, who failed to reach the quarters in any of the year's previous three slams.

Makarova, playing in her first slam singles semi-final, praised the victor. "Serena, she's a great, unbelievable player. Today she was so aggressive."

Friendship will be set aside in Sunday's final between the players who earlier this year spent a beach holiday together in Miami with some serious chips on

the line.

"I'm in the finals, which is obviously great," said Wozniacki, who lost the 2009 final to Kim Clijsters. "It's been five years for me since my last one here, so I'm extremely happy to be back."

"I would love to win it and have a grand slam under my belt. It would definitely have the media stop talking about my lack of a grand slam, so that would be nice."

"The friendship, while we are on court, is put aside. We are both competitors," added the Dane. After the match, one of us is going to congratulate the other and we're going to be friends again."

Williams was in agreement. "Regardless, I'm going to be happy with the outcome," she said.

Reuters



Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark celebrates after winning her semi-final match against Peng Shuai of China after Shuai had to retire due to an injury at the 2014 US Open tennis tournament in New York on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS



Peng Shuai (CHN) is helped off the court in a wheelchair after an apparent injury and is forced to retire from her match against Caroline Wozniacki (DEN) on day eleven of the 2014 US Open tennis tournament at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Centre in New York on 5 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

Perez plays down Ronaldo spat amid revenue surge



Portugal's soccer team captain Cristiano Ronaldo hugs with Real Madrid's President Florentino Perez (R) after receiving the Ordem do Infante Dom Henrique in Lisbon on 20 Jan, 2014.—REUTERS

MADRID, 6 Sept — Real Madrid president Florentino Perez sought to play down an apparent spat with Cristiano Ronaldo on Friday as he announced the La Liga club's income had surged above 600 million euros (477.04 million British pound) in 2013-14.

Perez, who has splashed hundreds of millions of euros of the European champions' cash on top players in recent years, said the loyalty of Ronaldo, the current World Player of the Year, had been "unquestionable".

The Portugal captain made headlines on Monday when he said the club's transfer dealings in the latest window would probably have been different if he had been in charge.

After winning a re-

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

The departure of Alonso to Bayern Munich, in particular, has prompted suggestions the Madrid club will not have enough quality and experience in midfield without him, while Argentine Di Maria is seen as close to Ronaldo.

"I have no doubt that he (Ronaldo) did not want to question the club's policies," Perez told a news conference announcing 2013-14 income of a record 603.9 million euros, a 10.9 percent jump compared with the previous season.

"He has just presented me with a replica of his 'Ballon d'Or' award, an exemplary player," the construction magnate added. "There are no disagreements, zero."

Real stuttered in their second La Liga outing at the weekend when they let slip a 2-0 lead and crashed to a 4-2 reverse at Real Sociedad. Ronaldo, 29, missed the game through injury and he followed up his comments on Monday by giving an interview to a British newspaper in which he appeared to suggest he wanted to return to former club Manchester United at some point in his career.

Perez, who pushed through a lucrative contract extension for Ronaldo in September last year that ties him to the club until 2018,

defended Real's decision to sell Alonso and Di Maria. "His (Di Maria's) reason ... was that he had financial demands that we could not meet," Perez told reporters. "Real Madrid made him the best possible offer ... but he had different expectations."

"No player in the team has that kind of salary, only Ronaldo, who is the best player in the world."

"If we had accepted ... it would have put the club's financial stability in danger," Perez said he had a "very good relationship" with Alonso, who will turn 33 in November, and the player had asked to leave.

"He believes the best way to organize his remaining years of professional life is what he has chosen, both for him and for the club."—Reuters