

Peace-making works crucial for every citizen

NAY PYI TAW, 21 Sept — *The following is the unofficial translation of the message sent by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Agga Maha Thayay Sithu, Agga Maha Thiri Thudhamma U Thein Sein on the occasion of 32nd International Day of Peace.*—Ed

My fellow citizens,

I am very pleased to send this message to my country on this occasion of the 32nd International Day of Peace on 21 September 2014. The ceremony is celebrated across the world on its 32nd anniversary in line with the UN document recognizing human rights as a basis for peace. The present events and situations in the world spotlight the importance of peace for global community.

As our country could not solve political crisis through political means, armed conflicts are still happening. As a result, people in our country could not fully enjoy the essence of peace until now. The crisis is also affecting individuals across the country, not only to those in conflicted areas. Therefore, peace-making works are crucial for every citizen.

Since our government has taken office, we have been emphasizing

on peace-making efforts. In doing so, we have to join hands with huttaws, political parties, Tatmadaw, ethnic groups and civil societies. Fortunately, our peace-making efforts have gained momentum due to the enthusiasm and genuine cooperation of all participants. Based on the fruitful results of our cooperation, we could continue to sign nationwide ceasefire agreement, to draw frameworks for political discussion and

to hold political dialogues soon. It is believed that these developments will favour the contribution of individuals in peace-making process.

The people in areas where armed conflicts have receded, are now starting to enjoy the fruits of peace so far achieved. This commitment calls for all of us to make greater-than-ever cooperation with genuine goodwill, arduous effort and strong passion for peace. It is believed that our

relentless commitment will pave the way for peace. In this respect, I would like to quote U Thant, a former Secretary General of the United Nations, as saying that hearts that “Wars begin in the minds of men, and in those minds, love and compassion would have built the defences of peace”.

In fact, peace means more than the total absence of armed conflict. It would therefore be better to define lasting peace as a harmonious coexistence in which a

society accepts a diversity of culture and ideology through mutual understanding. That is why peace is of paramount importance to individuals.

At a time when favourable conditions are present, it is necessary for all of us to sustain the momentum for peace, which is a product of our concerted and continuous effort, by the notion that peace, as well as other human rights, is an inherent right to people.

Free counseling services to rural people with mental problems

By Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON, 20 Sept—The Myanmar Psychological Association (MPA) organized its first lay counselling training workshop on Saturday in Yangon, aiming to provide free counselling services to rural people faced with psychological problems.

U Saw Wai, Chairman

of MPA, said that over 20 trainee teachers from universities enrolled in the training, adding that plans are underway to conduct more lay counselling trainings and educative talks across the country.

The association is now arranging to disseminate (See page 3)



Secretary U Hla Myint of Myanmar Psychological (MPA) explains purposes of holding counselling training workshop in Yangon.

PHOTO: KHAING THANDA LWIN

Tugboat and small vessels handed over to MPA



A vessel is handed over to Myanmar Port Authority with a view to accelerating its services at ports as maritime trade is booming. —MNA

YANGON, 20 Sept—The Myanmar Port Authority has been strengthened with a tugboat and two garbage boats to accelerate its services, sources said.

The booming maritime trade has attached importance to the use of ports,

with the country's trade capacity at ports hitting 70%, according to Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung.

The union minister said that the number of vessels using the Yangon Port has doubled in the last ten

years, prompting the MPA to provide more safety.

The tugboat, which is 29 metres long, was built by Yanazhou Topnic Shipbuilding Co Ltd in China under the supervision of France's Bureau Varitas (BV), an international clas-

sification society.

Build at MPA's dock, two small port vessels with 12.5 metres in length were also handed over to the Myanmar Port Authority.

China also handed over two garbage boats to MPA.—MNA

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FM programmes can now be tuned in 13 cities

NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept —Myanmar Radio's programmes have been transmitted through FM system to 11 cities — Sagaing, Lashio, Nay Pyi Taw (Pyinmana), Mawlamyine, Patheingyi, Poma, Bago, Loi-kaw, Myeik, Minbu and Sittway — out of 15 as

a first step. Now the programmes are being transmitted from Buthidaung/Maungdaw and Yanbye (Peinnetaung) retransmission stations starting from 16 September. Dwellers living in the 30-mile-radius of the stations can enjoy the programmes. FM system is

to be launched from the remaining two stations. Now works to install FM system are underway at Kennedy station. As a second step, FM system will be launched at 25 stations in 2014-2015 fiscal year, sources said.

MNA

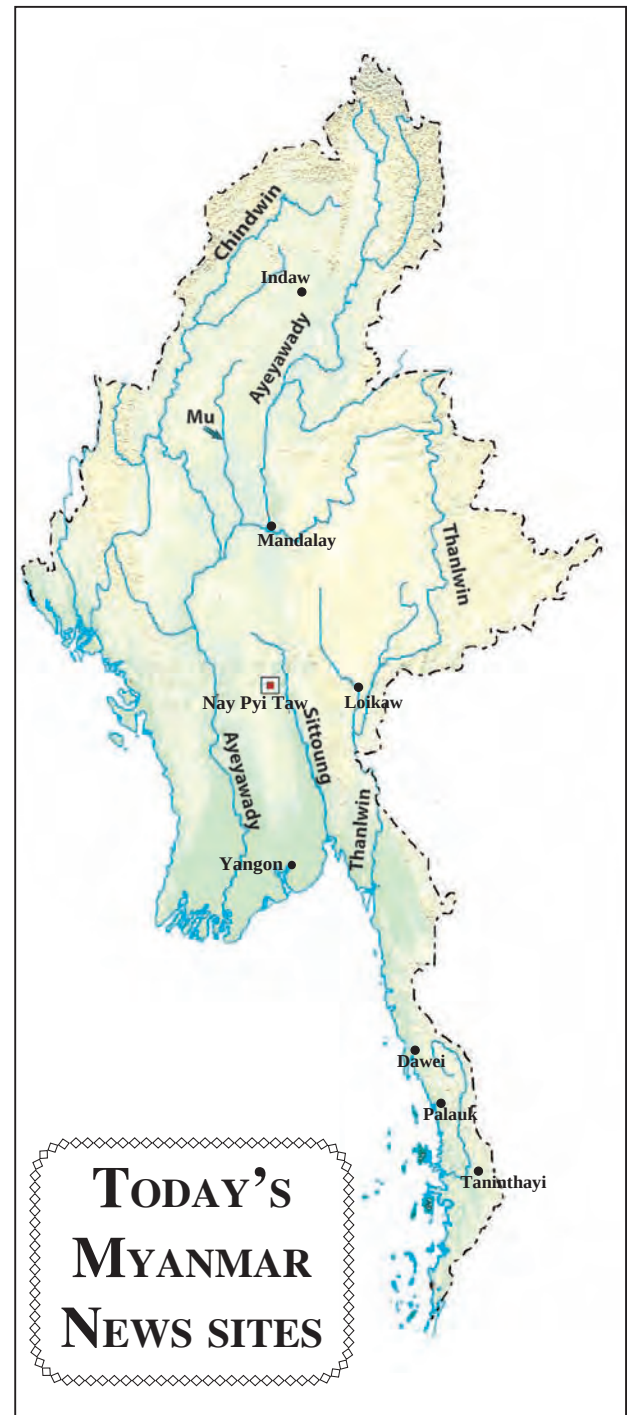
NAY PYI TAW, 20 Sept — Myanmar Buddhists decorate pagodas and stupas, Dhammayon, monasteries, housings, parts and shops with multi-coloured electronic lights and lanterns as the Fullmoon day of Thadingyut is drawing near. Their acts dedicate to offering lights to the Lord Buddha in line with the Buddhism.

Now, lantern shops selling various sizes and colour mushroom one after another in Pyinmana of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, and demand of lanterns is higher day by day.

The vendors sell their products at K600 per lantern in minimum and K15,000 in maximum.

Shwe Kokko

Various designs of lantern on high demand in Pyinmana



Kayah State officials discuss employment and human resources

LOIKAW, 20 Sept — The Employment and Human Resources Development Subcommittee held a meeting with departmental officials, members of social organizations and entrepreneurs of Kayah State at the hall of the state government in Loikaw on Friday.

Chairman of the subcommittee Deputy Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security

U Htin Aung and Kayah State Minister for Planning and Economic U Tawh Yei made speeches. Director of the Labour Department U Aung Htay Win explained endeavours of the subcommittee over employment and human resources.

The meeting ended with remarks by the deputy minister who replied to queries raised by attendees.—*Kayah State IPRD*



Capacity of war veterans enhanced in training



MANDALAY, 20 Sept —The advanced organizers course No 33/2014 conducted by Myanmar War Veterans Organization Central Organizing Committee, concluded at the war veterans training

school (Mandalay) in Yed-aguntaung area of Pathingyi Township of Mandalay on Friday.

After delivering an address, Commandant of the training school Lt-Col Ye Lwin (Rtd) presented cer-

tificates to the trainees and presented first, second and third prizes to the outstanding trainees. Altogether 50 trainees from regions and states attended the four-week course.

Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Relief items, foodstuffs donated to flood victims in Palauk

PALAUK, 20 Sept — A ceremony to donate supply items to flood victims was held in Pyichar Village of Palauk Township in Taninthayi Region on 18 September. The Tanin-

thayi Region Minister, the deputy commissioner of the district, departmental officials, NGOs and well-wishers donated 38 bags of rice and foodstuffs worth K794,500, Alinyaungchi

(Dawei) Group relief items, KDN Group K1 million and Myeik Sasana Area (Head Office) K500,000 and personal goods to 91 flood victim households.

Palauk IPRD



NATIONAL

Union ministers discuss plans on development of reading habits in rural areas



Union Minister for Cooperative U Kyaw Hsan elaborates on sustainable development of libraries.

MNA

YANGON, 20 Sept—As part of the effort to promote sustainable development of libraries, Union Minister for Cooperative U Kyaw Hsan and Union Minister for Information U Ye Htut met the chairman and executive members of Myanmar Libraries Foundation on Saturday in Yangon.

They discussed ways to enhance reading

habits in rural areas, development of village libraries and publications of children's literature.

MNA

Deputy minister for sports looks into training sessions for 28th SEA Games

NAY PYI TAW, 20 September—The Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win viewed the training sessions of Myanmar sports teams at Wunna Theikdi Stadium here on Saturday.

The selected athletes are being prepared for the 28th SEA Games which

will be held in Singapore from 5 to 16 June in 2015.

The deputy minister said that Myanmar will send the athletes to foreign



Deputy Minister for Sports U Zaw Win encourages athletes who are going to take part in 28th SEA Games.—MNA

Free counseling services to...

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knowledge on psychology through broadcast media like MRTV, he added.

MPA Secretary U Hla Myint said that the association was founded in 2013 with qualified academics and professional psychologists to provide industrial and organizational services for job hunters, parents and teachers.

The MPA tries to

change public attitude to psychotherapists as most Myanmar people tend to recognize psychology as insane, which is the main challenge for the association to tackle with, Patron of MPA Clinical Psychologist Dr Nyi Win Hman said.

In order to produce more psychologists across the country, the MPA has plans to provide scholar-

ships to outstanding students.

MPA's chairman said that psychotherapy plays a key role in reducing mental illness, which is a global health problem. He quoted a police record as stating that more than 6,000 people in Myanmar commit suicide every year.

A World Health Organization survey shows that more than 800,000 people annually commit suicide worldwide.—NLM

Comments on Reading Habit

By: Nandar Win
Photo: Ye Htut

The status of literature in a country reveals the civilization standard of its people. The increasing number of reader population is one of the reasons for the development of a country.

In this connection, Myanmar Libraries Foundation is making inserted efforts to accelerate the reading habits of people across the country and to ensure sustainable development of libraries by join-

ing hands with relevant ministries.

Union minister for Cooperative, Union Minister for Information and members of Myanmar Libraries Foundation brainstormed the plans on the development of reading habits in the country. The followings are the excerpts of discussions made by some members of MLF.



Khant Si Thu (Actor)

Member of Committee for Myanmar Libraries Foundation

I have performed in short educative films for TV programmes as I am not only an actor but also a member of MLF. Some of these short films could get a good impression of

public. Even if we could successfully make one or two messages out of ten, our mission is successful.

We have grown up with reading child comic books such as Shwe Thway, Auror, Tayza and Do Kyang Thar which could lead us to a right way. In modern time, the children are addicted to TV games, while the adults are attaching to social media such as Facebook. I am not a conservative. But I want to suggest that everybody should consider about the possible benefits from modern technology.

Lamin Mo Mo (Writer)

Members of Committee for Myanmar Libraries Foundation

I am of the view that the reading habit is declining in our country. I have to start this practice by reading pictorial books when I was in childhood.

During these days, few people read the books of aesthetic enjoyment which can help develop the positive mindset of the reader. I will take part in the educative programmes



on developing reading habits not only as a writer, but also as a member of MLF.

U Ye Htet Oo

Member of Central Committee for Myanmar Libraries Foundation

Our foundation is striving for the sustainable development of libraries through incentives for the young people to develop reading habits.

I have founded a library named 'Thara Par'. I was established in January 2009 in Lamataw Township, Yangon. Our foundation has taken part in relief programmes to give message that libraries are not only the place for reading, but also the community centre and



community space.

Myanmar Libraries Foundation was first established in 2010, and it has set up 5,982 libraries in both rural and urban areas.

Nestle expands its market in Myanmar

YANGON, 20 Sept- The Nestle Myanmar in partnership with the Myanmar Distribution Group introduced a programme called Nestle Trade Launch 2014 at the Sedona Hotel here on 19 September, sources said.

The joint programme is expected to create more jobs as Nestle is going to distribute wholesome foodstuff on a wider scale, according to Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

David Pettinari, Country Manager of the Nestle Myanmar, and Aung Maw Thein, Managing Director of the Myanmar Distribution Group, briefed on their future joint activities.

The ceremony came to a close, following a dinner.

MNA

Storm leaves 200,000 displaced in Philippines, heads for Taiwan

MANILA, 20 Sept — Storm Fung-Wong churned towards Taiwan on Saturday after killing at least five people in the Philippines, and forcing some 200,000 people into temporary shelter, including in the capital Manila, to escape massive flooding.

Most schools on the main island of Luzon remained closed for a second day as a huge mopping-up operation began. Some public offices have reopened.

“Some of our things are buried in mud, it will take awhile to clean up,” a resident in Marikina City told *Reuters* while clearing up layers of mud and debris inside their residence.

Fung-Wong, with winds of 95 kph (59 mph) and gusts of 120 kph, slammed in the northern tip of the Philippines on Friday, cutting power in many areas and soaking rice and corn farms and bringing the capital to a near standstill.

The storm, travelling north at 15 kph, is expected to hit the Taiwan on Monday, according to the state weather bureau.

Fung-Wong, locally

known as “Mario” centre is currently around 137 km northeast of Laoag City in the Ilocos Province in the north. It was expected to be at 647 kms north of Batanes on Monday, outside the Philippine area of responsibility.

Alexander Pama, executive-director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, said five people died, including a two-year-old girl who drowned in the capital. Two were electrocuted while wading in flood waters.

Pama said seven people were injured and one more was still missing in floods.

A boat capsized in the central Philippines but all 53 crew and passengers were rescued by the navy, Pama said.

Officials have declared a state of calamity in some areas in the capital and in Cebu City in the central Philippines due to floods, that have left some parts of the city 2 metres underwater.

Trading on the city’s stock exchange and local



Residents take shelter at an evacuation centre for flood victims a day after tropical storm Fung-Wong inundated the Philippine capital Manila on 20 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

currency market was suspended on Friday and will resume on Monday. At least 40 domestic flights were grounded and six international flights were diverted by civil aviation authorities.

More than 700,000

people were effected by the storm and about 200,000 people were forced out from their homes and staying in shelter areas, disaster officials said.

Pama said some residents were rescued perching

on their roofs or trapped inside their homes in Marikina and Quezon City. More than 300 areas in seven regions in the country were flooded.

Tropical storms regularly hit the Philippines,

with Fung-Wong the second to hit in two weeks.

Last year, typhoon Haiyan struck in the central Philippines, killing more 6,300 people. An average of 20 typhoons hit the country every year.—*Reuters*

Top rice exporter India importing over 100,000 T on temporary supply squeeze



A labourer speaks on a mobile phone while lying on sacks filled with rice at the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) market yard, on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on 29 July, 2014. —REUTERS

NEW DELHI, 20 Sept — India, the world’s top rice exporter, is preparing to import the grain for the first time in nearly a quarter of a century to feed its remote and hilly northeastern region where rail freight is being disrupted due to a track overhaul.

The country will import more than 100,000 tonnes of rice from neighbouring Myanmar over the next several months, likely spread

out across 10,000-30,000 tonne tenders, government officials said. The imported rice and grain from domestic stocks will be distributed to the northeast region through Bangladesh’s Ashuganj port, the officials said.

The imports and the distribution arrangement underscore the extensive challenges India faces as it tries to become a regional agricultural powerhouse. But the quantities are too small to

shake up the rice market.

India took the crown as the world’s top rice exporter in 2012, with nearly 10 million tonnes of annual overseas sales since then. It last imported rice in the early 1990s. The country is undertaking the first major overhaul of the region’s rail infrastructure since the British laid tracks there nearly 100 years ago. The broadening of the railway gauge will start in October and is like-

ly to be completed in April 2015. The states of Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, and parts of Assam state, which normally receive their grain supplies from the northern plains of India, look set to be impacted the most by the work, the officials said. Rice is the staple food of the region, with consumption estimated at 80,000 tonnes a month.

Bringing in the grain via Bangladesh, which is only a few hundred kilometres from the cut-off locations, is expected to be cost effective and less susceptible to delays than hauling it by truck across more than 1,000 km (621 miles) of mountain roads from traditional supply centres.

State-run Food Corporation of India (FCI), the main grains procurement agency, uses railway wagons to supply rice and other grains to the northeastern states. But in the absence of modern broad gauge railway tracks, supplies beyond Silchar in Assam frequently get delayed and disrupted.

Reuters

ASEAN members committed to strengthening healthcare cooperation

HANOI, 20 Sept — Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have committed themselves to strengthening healthcare cooperation with a vision of “A Healthy, Caring and Sustainable ASEAN Community.”

The commitment was stated in a joint statement adopted at the 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting which was held in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi from Monday to Friday.

In the joint statement, ASEAN members will strengthen cooperation in various fields, including promoting healthy lifestyle, responding to all hazards and emerging threats, strengthening health system and access to care, as well as ensuring food safety.

ASEAN members pledge to strengthen primary healthcare in order to achieve universal health coverage and increase access to primary healthcare for ASEAN people, prevent and control non-communicable diseases and newly-emerging infectious ones, and set up a sustainable and effective health financing

system. Meanwhile, ministers and heads of delegations responsible for health of ASEAN members plus three partners of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea have committed themselves to strengthening cooperation in areas of traditional medicine, health-related issues of aging, pandemic preparedness and response, communicable diseases and emerging infectious diseases.

In addition, the ASEAN-China Health Ministers Meeting also released a joint statement noting ASEAN-China cooperation in communicable disease prevention and control, especially the collaboration on malaria, dengue fever, HIV/AIDS, and plague prevention and control in border areas, as well as prevention of newly emerging infectious diseases such as Ebola, H7N9, H5N1, and MERS-CoV.

The 12th ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting and related meetings took place in Hanoi from Monday to Friday with the participation of some 450 delegates.

Xinhua

Iran, six major world powers start new round of nuclear talks in New York



Wang Min (C), head of the Chinese delegation, takes part in discussions with other officials from Iran, the P5+1 — (Britain, China, France, Russia, the United States plus Germany) and the European Union before starting their negotiation over Iran's nuclear programme, at the UN headquarters in New York, on 19 Sept, 2014.— XINHUA

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept — Iran and six other major countries started a new round of talks towards a comprehensive agreement on its nuclear programme at the United Nations headquarters in New York on

Friday. There was a hiatus after Iran and the six major world powers, namely the United States, China, Russia, Britain, France, plus Germany, met in July.

The talks are expected to last until 26 September.

“The six powers and Iran all showed willingness to reach the agreement as soon as possible,” said Wang Min, chief negotiator of the Chinese delegation, before the talks started.

Other attendees for the

negotiations also included EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad-Javad Zarif.

In July, Iran and the six countries agreed to extend negotiations over Iran's controversial nuclear programme for another four months till 24 November as they could not narrow down the significant gaps on core issues during the past six months. An interim deal, which took effect on 20 January, was designed to buy time for negotiations.

Under the deal, Iran would suspend some sensitive nuclear activities in exchange for a limited sanction relief.

Wang said the negotiation has entered “the final key stage” and urged all sides to cherish the present opportunity and push for “concrete progress” in this new round of talks.

Xinhua

UNSG's Message on The International Day of Peace

21 September 2014

Today is the International Day of Peace.

Each year, on this day, the United Nations calls for a global ceasefire.

We ask combatants to put down their arms so all can breathe the air of peace.

Armed conflict causes untold grief to families, communities and entire countries.

Too many are suffering today at the brutal hands of warmongers and terrorists.

Let us stand with them in solidarity.

Peace and security are essential foundations for social progress and sustainable development.

That is why, three decades ago, the United Nations affirmed the right of peoples to peace.

Throughout the coming year, we will commemorate the 70th anniversary of the United Nations.

Our organization is founded on the pledge to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.

We have made much progress.

But much remains to be done.

We must douse the fires of extremism and tackle the root causes of conflict.

Peace is a long road that we must travel together — step by step, beginning today.

Let us all observe a minute of silence, at noon.

Let us all reflect on peace — and what it means for our human family.

Let us hold it in our hearts and minds and tenderly nurture it so it may grow and blossom.

UNIC/Yangon

French jets strike in Iraq, expanding US-led campaign against Islamic State

BAGHDAD /PARIS, 20 Sept — French jets struck a suspected Islamic State target in Iraq for the first time on Friday, expanding a US-led military campaign against militants who have seized a third of the country and also control large parts of neighbouring Syria.

President Francois Hollande said Rafale jets hit “a logistics depot of the terrorists” near the city of Mosul, which has been held by Islamic State for more than three months. It promised more operations in coming days.

The French military action, which follows US air strikes in northern Iraq and near the capital Baghdad, appeared to win qualified endorsement from Iraq's



Two French Rafale fighter jets fly in formation during a mission from Al-Dhafra airbase on 18 Sept, 2014 in this handout image provided by ECPAD.— REUTERS

top Shi'ite leader Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani. In a Friday sermon, delivered by one of his aides, the elderly cleric acknowledged Iraq needed foreign help but said Iraq must not become subservient to outside powers.

“Even if Iraq is in need of help from its brothers and friends in fighting black terrorism, maintaining the sovereignty and independence of its decisions is of the highest importance,” Sistani's spokesman Sheikh Abdul Mehdi Karbala'i said. Sistani speaks for millions of Iraq's majority Shi'ites and has a worldwide following.

Islamic State fighters, who have controlled much of Syria's eastern oil and

agricultural provinces for more than a year, swept through mainly Sunni Muslim regions of north Iraq in mid-June, seizing cities including Mosul and Tikrit and halting only a few dozen miles (km) north of the capital Baghdad.

Iraq's army and Shi'ite militia forces have battled the Islamic State and other Sunni militants, but failed to make significant territorial gains. Car bombs, some of them claimed by Islamic State, have been a near daily occurrence in the capital. On Friday, two car bombs killed nine people in Baghdad and a bomb in the majority Kurdish city of Kirkuk in the north killed eight people, security sources said.—Reuters

Kurdish leader urges world to protect Syrian town from Islamic State

DIKMETAS, (Turkey) 20 Sept — Iraqi Kurdish leader Masoud Barzani called on Friday for international intervention to protect a Kurdish town in neighbouring Syria from Islamic State fighters who have forced many Syrian Kurds to flee across the border into Turkey.

Thousands of Kurds crossed the frontier on Friday, fearing an imminent attack on the border town of Ayn al-Arab, known as Kobani in Kurdish, as Islamic State (IS) fighters advanced after seizing dozens

of nearby villages over the past two days.

“I call on the international community to use every means as soon as possible to protect Kobani,” Barzani, the president of Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region, said in a statement. “IS terrorists ... must be hit and destroyed wherever they are. The United States is drawing up plans for military action in Syria against the radical Sunni Muslim group which has seized swathes of territory in Syria and Iraq, proclaiming a caliphate in the heart of the

Middle East.

IS gains have set back efforts by Kurds to exploit the three-year-old civil war in Syria and carve out regions of their own in the northeast of Iraq.

The violence is also a headache for neighbouring Turkey, which is already sheltering more than 1.3 million Syrian refugees and fears hundreds of thousands more, waiting in the mountains on the Syrian side of the 900-km (560-mile) border, could seek to cross as fighting escalates.—Reuters



Turkish security forces stand guard as Syrians wait behind the border fences near the southeastern town of Suruc in Sanliurfa Province on 18 Sept, 2014.— REUTERS

Italy's Renzi, unions clash over cuts, labour reforms

ROME, 20 Sept — Italian public sector workers on Friday announced plans for a one-day demonstration on 8 November against spending cuts and a public administration overhaul as verbal sparring increased between the unions and Prime Minister Matteo Renzi.

The country's three main union confederations, the CGIL, CISL and UIL said they would be protesting against "five years of forced cuts and pay freezes and more than 10 of hiring freezes". "The system is close to collapse while

hold a nationwide demonstration in Rome on 18 October to protest against Renzi's plans to overhaul labour laws and ease firing restrictions. Tension has built up in recent weeks between Renzi and the unions, who accuse the centre-left leader of pursuing right-wing policies and wanting to make working class people pay the cost of spending cuts and unpopular labour reforms.

On Friday, Renzi hit back, saying in a video posted on Youtube that the unions cared little about the jobless and carried much



Italy's Prime Minister Matteo Renzi gestures during a news conference at Chigi palace in Rome on 1 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

spending keeps going up despite welfare cuts and the heavy price paid by public service workers," the unions said in a joint statement.

"On 8 November, we will all be on the streets in Rome, all together to defy this government of illusions and division," they said.

Separately, Italy's biggest metalworkers union, the Fiom, announced it would

of the responsibility for a youth unemployment rate of around 43 percent.

"Where were you during all these years when Italy's greatest injustice was developing: the injustice between those who have jobs and those who don't, between those who have permanent contracts and those who have temporary ones?" Renzi said.—Reuters

United States says role for Iran in tackling Islamic State

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept — US Secretary of State John Kerry said on Friday that Iran had a role to play in a global coalition to tackle Islamic State militants who have seized swaths of Iraq and Syria and proclaimed a caliphate in the heart of the Middle East.

"The coalition required to eliminate ISIL (Islamic State) is not only, or even primarily, military in nature," Kerry told a United Nations Security Council meeting on Iraq.

"It must be comprehensive and include close collaboration across multiple lines of effort. It's about taking out an entire network, decimating and discrediting a militant cult masquerading as a religious movement," he said. "There is a role for nearly every country in the world to play, including Iran." Kerry's remarks appeared to represent a shift away from previous US statements indicating a reluctance to cooperate with Iran to confront the threat of Islamic State. The United States cut off diplomatic ties with Teheran during a hostage crisis after the 1979 Islamic revolution.

The United States, president of the UN Security Council for September, called the meeting on Iraq as it builds an international military, political and financial coalition to defeat the radical Sunni Muslim group. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah

Ali Khamenei, this week said he had rejected an offer by Washington for talks on fighting Islamic State. Kerry said he refused to be drawn into a "back and forth" with Iran over the issue. Shi'ite Muslim-dominated Iran is a key ally of the governments in Iraq and Syria. "The Islamic Republic of Iran is the only country in the region that is both capable of and has shown unqualified determination to help the Iraqi government and coordinate with it to assist all those threatened by ISIL," Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi told the council.

"Any real and genuine initiative to remedy regional predicaments needs to originate from within the region and be based on regional cooperation. Combating extremism is not an exception," he said, repeating Teheran's official view.

Kerry and Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif are expected to hold bilateral talks on the sidelines of the annual gathering of world leaders at the UN General Assembly next week where Islamic State and Teheran's nuclear programme will likely be among key topics of discussion.

US President Barack Obama has said 40 nations have pledged help to a coalition against Islamic State. French jets struck a suspected Islamic State target



US Secretary of State John Kerry leaves after a news conference in Ankara on 12 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

in Iraq for the first time on Friday, joining a US bombing campaign that started a month ago when Iraq asked for help. "In 2003, acting against Iraq was something that divided this council; in 2014, acting for Iraq and against the (Islamic State) ... terrorists is a duty for all of us," French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius told the UN Security Council, referring to French opposition to the 2003 US-led invasion of Iraq. The UN Security Council on Friday adopted a statement urging "the international community, in accordance with international law, to further strengthen and expand support for the government of Iraq as it fights ISIL (Islamic State) and associated armed groups." The UN special envoy to Iraq, Nickolay Mladenov, said the United Nations estimates some 8,500 have been killed during clashes in Iraq since January and more

than 16,000 injured.

"ISIL is a scourge that has brought untold sorrow to the people of Iraq and Syria," Mladenov told the Security Council. "They have shown contempt for equality, fundamental human rights and the dignity and worth of the human person."

The United States is also planning to carry out air strikes against Islamic State in Syria, while the US Congress on Thursday gave final approval to Obama's plan for training and arming moderate Syrian rebels to take on the militants.

Other Western powers have been more reluctant to launch military strikes in Syria, which could be seen to bolster President Bashar al-Assad. Western states have repeatedly called for Assad's departure over his crackdown on popular protests in 2011 that sparked a civil war, now in its fourth year. —Reuters

US won't stand in way of Venezuela's UN Security Council bid

UNITED NATIONS / WASHINGTON, 20 Sept — The United States will not stand in the way of Venezuela securing a temporary seat on the UN Security Council in 2015-16 after Latin American and Caribbean states unanimously endorsed its bid, UN diplomats and US sources say.

The US stance is in sharp contrast to its position in 2006, when Washington successfully campaigned against Venezuela's drive to join the 15-nation council, the only United Nations body that can authorize sanctions or military force. At that time, Venezuela failed to secure the requisite two-thirds majority of votes in the General Assembly for its bid after dozens of rounds of secret-ballot voting.

The US campaign against Venezuela came after late President Hugo Chavez compared former US President George W Bush to the devil, saying on the podium of the 2006 General Assembly in New York that he could still "smell sulphur" a day after Bush addressed member states.

Campaigns intended to block countries' aspirations to join important UN bodies are not uncommon. Washington was also among the countries that lobbied last year to block Iran's and Syria's ambitions to join the Human Rights Council in Geneva. Both withdrew from the race.

But things are different this year. Venezuela is unopposed in its regional group and is set to join



Venezuela's President Nicolas Maduro holds a copy of the country's constitution in front of a painting of South American revolutionary hero Simon Bolivar, as he talks during a news conference at Miraflores Palace in Caracas in this on 2 Sept, 2014 handout picture. —REUTERS

the council for the next two years providing it can secure the required two-thirds majority of votes in the 193-nation General Assembly when the election is held in October.

A senior US congress-

sional aide said Washington was not going to make an effort to keep Venezuela off the council. "People are resigned to it," the aide said. UN diplomats and other US sources also said there was no US campaign.

Washington, however, is clearly unhappy with the idea of Venezuela joining the Security Council, which has the task of overseeing international peace and security.

"Regional groups have a responsibility to put forward candidate countries that support the principles of the UN Charter, contribute to the Security Council's role in maintaining international peace and security, and uphold and advance human rights," said Kurtis Cooper, deputy spokesman for the US mission to the United Nations.

"Our concerns with regard to Venezuela's record on human rights and democratic governance are well known," Cooper added. He declined to comment on any diplomatic discussions that might

be going on behind the scenes.

Accusing Venezuelan officials of abuses in a crackdown on recent protests against Chavez's successor, President Nicolas Maduro, Washington has barred some Venezuelan government ministers and presidential advisers from entering the United States.

Venezuela will likely use the council seat as a platform to aggressively back allies such as Syria and Russia in their diplomatic wrangling with the United States, part of its broader effort to continue the anti-Washington foreign policy of late socialist leader Chavez.

It has even named the Chavez's daughter, Maria Gabriela Chavez, as its alternate ambassador to the United Nations. —Reuters

WORLD

Ebola lockdown brings Sierra Leone capital to a halt



An empty street is seen at the start of a three-day national lockdown in Freetown on 19 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

FREETOWN, 20 Sept — Streets in the capital of Sierra Leone were deserted on Friday as the West African state began a contested, three-day lockdown in a bid to halt the worst Ebola outbreak on record.

President Ernest Bai Koroma urged people to heed the emergency measures as health workers, some clad in protective biohazard suits, went house to house, checking on residents and marking

each doorway they visited with chalk. Radio stations played Ebola awareness jingles on repeat and encouraged residents to stay indoors.

“As they are fighting this Ebola, we pray that it will be eradicated. That’s what we are praying for,” said resident Mariam Bangura as she waited at her home in Freetown’s West End neighbourhood. Other residents looked out over the normally bustling sea-

side city from windows and balconies.

Nearly 30,000 health workers, volunteers and teachers aim to visit every household in the country of six million people by Sunday to educate them about the disease and isolate the sick. In Freetown, teams got off to a slow start, waiting several hours to receive kits containing soap, stickers and flyers.

A few police cars and ambulances, sirens blar-

ing, were the only traffic on the otherwise empty streets. One emergency vehicle was seen stopping at a house to take on a patient.

Ebola has infected at least 5,357 people in West Africa this year, mainly in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia, killing 2,630 of those, according to the World Health Organization. The disease has also been reported in Nigeria and Senegal.

The outbreak of the hemorrhagic fever is the worst since it was identified in 1976 in the forests of central Africa.

Western nations, led by the United States, have pledged in recent days to ramp up their aid effort and the United Nations said on Thursday it would deploy a special mission, calling the outbreak a “threat to international peace and security”.

“As the disease spreads, a truth becomes clear. None of us is insulated from the threat of Ebola. All of us must be part of the response,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the UN General Assembly on Friday.—Reuters

Campaign donations highlight winners, losers in Brazil election



Presidential candidate Marina Silva of the Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB) gestures as she attends a campaign rally in Sao Bernardo do Campo near Sao Paulo on 19 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

BRASILIA/ SAO PAULO, 20 Sept — Brazil’s financial markets have rallied on the prospect of environmentalist Marina Silva unseating President Dilma Rousseff in next month’s election, but political donations show plenty of companies may be wary of a new administration.

Silva’s market-friendly proposals promise relief for oil giant Petrobras, ethanol mills and private banks. But they could also cause headaches for a range of firms facing tougher competition, higher borrowing costs and maybe even more taxes, especially in the energy and auto industries.

Political fundraising reflects the split among potential winners and losers, with the vast majority of donations going to the incumbent — a reflection of powerful business in-

terests comfortable with the status quo that Rousseff represents. The money pouring into Brazil’s stock market has gone in the opposite direction, driving up shares of companies that would benefit from a Silva presidency and lifting the Bovespa index as much as 11 percent when she first surged in polls.

“Right now in the investor community we’re focused on just getting Dilma Rousseff out of office, but once Silva is in power it’s a different ball game,” said Aryam Vazquez, a senior economist with the Oxford Economics investment consulting firm.

Rousseff has drawn the most campaign donations from construction and agribusiness firms such as builder OAS and meat-packer JBS.

Reuters

Turkey secures release of 49 hostages seized in northern Iraq

SANLIURFA, (Turkey) 20 Sept — Turkish intelligence agents brought 49 hostages seized by Islamic State militants in northern Iraq back to Turkey on Saturday after more than three months in captivity, in what President Tayyip Erdogan described as a covert rescue operation.

The hostages, including Turkey’s consul-general, diplomats’ children and special forces soldiers, were brought to the southern Turkish city of Sanliurfa in the early hours of the morning. Police formed a cordon outside the airport as they arrived in buses with curtains drawn, a Reu-

ters witness said.

Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said he was returning from an official visit to Azerbaijan to meet the group and would take them by plane to the capital Ankara. “I thank the prime minister and his colleagues for the pre-planned, carefully calculated and secretly-conducted operation throughout the night,” Erdogan said in a statement.

“MIT (the Turkish intelligence agency) has followed the situation very sensitively and patiently since the beginning and, as a result, conducted a successful rescue operation.”— Reuters

Panama foreign minister invites Raul Castro to Americas Summit

HAVANA, 20 Sept — Panamanian Foreign Minister Isabel de Saint Malo personally invited Cuban President Raul Castro to the Summit of the Americas her nation is hosting in April, according to a Cuban government statement published on Friday.

De Saint Malo met with Castro on Thursday during a one-day visit to Cuba, where she delivered a verbal invitation that puts the United States on the spot diplomatically.

Washington, which initiated the summits in 1994, blocked Cuba’s invitation to the previous six events, saying the Communist-ruled country’s one-party political system was not democratic.

Panama’s invitation amounts to a diplomatic coup for Cuba and follows demands by governments of many Latin American and Caribbean countries that it be invited.

“The United States faces a tough choice: either alter its policy toward

Cuba or face the virtual collapse of its diplomacy toward Latin America,” said Richard Feinberg, a senior fellow of the Washington-based Brookings Institution who helped organize the first summit when working for the Clinton administration.

De Saint Malo was in Washington earlier this month, when she informed Secretary of State John Kerry that Cuba would be invited to the summit.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki took issue with the invitation during a 2 September press briefing, noting that all participants at a summit in 2001 had agreed that respect for the democratic system was an essential condition of attendance at such events.

“So we should not undermine commitments previously made, but should instead encourage — and this is certainly our effort — the democratic changes necessary for Cuba to meet the basic qualifications,”



Cuba’s president Raul Castro arrives for an event marking the 1953 assault on the Moncada military barracks, in Artemisa Province, near Havana on 26 July, 2014. — REUTERS

Psaki added.

The Cuban government statement called Thursday’s meeting “cordial” and said it focussed on regional and international issues.

De Saint Malo “expressed the interest of her government to advance bilateral relations and count on the presence of Cuba at the 7th Summit of the Americas ... an invitation that was received positive-

ly by the Cuban president,” the statement said.

Cuba has normal relations with every country in the Western Hemisphere except the United States, which has maintained comprehensive sanctions on the Caribbean island for more than half a century.

At the same time, Cuba is the only country in the Western Hemisphere that does not have a multi-party system.—Reuters

PERSPECTIVES

Sunday, 21 September, 2014

Burden is too heavy for children

By Aung Khin

Children are the sprouts of future. They do not have enough strength to accept or encounter any social or environmental situation which adult persons can resist. In their earlier ages, a lot of mental, physical or social burden should not be put on them. Such situations have serious impacts on their way of life.

Nowadays, even many primary school children are seen with large bags which are as big as backpacks. Most of these children have to take tuition in addition to nearly six-hour of classroom time a day at school.

Although free education system is opened to these children, their parents have to pay for other charges such as exercise books and photo copying at the schools of many towns and cities. Moreover, overcrowded classrooms of 60 to 80 children have to be managed by a single teacher, making teaching ineffective.

As a result, parents unavoidably have to send their children to tuitions which charge the minimum amount of K3, 000 each child per month. However, children are not possible to learn there as the tuition class of 40 to 50 children is also handled by a single teacher. While some educated parents have to re-check the lessons of their children at home, uneducated parents do not know whether their children understand the lessons well. This is a chronic education problem in Myanmar. Successive education officials cannot solve these problems until now. A good education system with practical approaches is as important as health care services of a country.

Only a few numbers of state-owned school or private schools would have sufficient teacher-stu-

dent ratios with effective teaching. The future of country will be decided by the majority of people. Therefore, a good and effective teaching should cover many children.

Education system should not be a physical or social burden for the new generation of our future. Burden must be reduced from their backs. It can be vividly seen that our new generation have many challenges in global age. They should not fall victim to heavy burden resulted from mismanagement.

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Preparing for a step change ahead - Challenges of globalization

Satyaki Banerjee

While there are always more than one defining moments in the history of each nation, certain decades play a role of transforming the face of the nation forever, in a positive way. Based on lessons from history, a nation also needs to start preparing towards how best to embrace the change, leverage the opportunity and create a new history of progression and development. For Myanmar, the time might just be right now.

With a strong heritage of export driven economy and agriculture, supported by rich history and culture, Myanmar has historically struggled to create and build upon the right growth platforms. However, the future might just enable the creation of such platforms. With the country opening up to trade and investment opportunities from outside, more foreign relationships being established and multi-national companies establishing operations, a fantastic future might just be in the making. However, preparing for this might be even more critical.

Investing in foreign funded sophisticated businesses might just be futile without adequate supporting infrastructure, human capital and a general willingness to be part of a positive change. This needs to be further supported by so-

cial enablers, transparency in funding mechanisms (including tax policies and management) and government backed economic reforms. However, for a country like Myanmar, all these influx of ideas, funds and interventions are new. The key challenge ahead is to ensure synchronizations of internal forces in line with external drivers. With globalization, many developing countries have noticed an even increased gap or inequality between the rich and poor. As there is certainly a step change for the skilled workers, the lower skill counterparts are often left behind. Globalization might be the last one to blame. Countries need to take far greater responsibilities to use forces of globalization in order to bridge historic gaps in overall levels of development and yet leverage local capabilities, resources and infrastructure in order to create a more sustainable ecosystem vs. creating further tensions, leading to further disintegration.

For Myanmar: while opportunities abound as foreign investors gather from around the world, there are way too many challenges which need to be addressed, even before the arrival of the new partners of growth.

(The author of this article is Director of Strategic Planning and Business Development, for a global Consumer Goods Business, headquartered in the UK.)

"Annual General Meeting" of a public company

U Win Sein

A public company after it's incorporation, the First General Meeting shall be held within eighteen months from the date of it's incorporation and thereafter once in every calendar year and not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding General Meeting. It's required by law to hold an A, G, M every year, to elect the Boards of Directors and to inform their members of the company's previous and future activities. It is an opportunity for every shareholder to receive copies of the company's accounts, the distribution of an interim dividend and financial information for the past year and asking any questions regarding the direction the company will take in the future.

It's of vital importance for every shareholder, by paying a sum of money will receive a copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the company, after reading it he shall be able to understand the operation of the company in a nutshell or every public company shall take it as it's own responsibility to disseminate the information about the company by turning out monthly newsletters to all shareholders.

The shareholders who are present at the meeting shall witness the First General Meeting in eighteen months from the date of it's incorporation. [to hold it's Annual General Meeting in the subsequent year but not more than fifteen months from the last preceding General Meeting] The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Review the accounts, the Directors' report, the Internal Auditors' report.
- After the approval of the Balance Sheet. The General Meeting will cast a vote on the discharge of Directors for the past financial year.
- The General Meeting will also approve certain proceedings of the Board of Directors and decide on the distribution of the financial results for the past financial year.
- To decide the appointment and dismissal or to renew the mandates of Directors, Internal or External Auditors or to decide on the distribution of an interim dividend.

There are also Extraordinary General Meeting, during which the shareholders must take a decision that involved an amendment of the Articles of Association such as:

- An increase or reduction of capital.
- Amendment to the company's objectives.
- Changes to the registered office.

— Early termination or extension of the life of the company.

These amendments to the Articles of Association must be in writing and executed by the company's resolutions conducted by the shareholders who are entitled to attend the meeting or others by proxies.

In order for decision make in Extraordinary General meeting to be valid, they must be taken

— Only if at least half of the shares issued by the company are represented, otherwise a second meeting shall be convened.

— And an approval by 2/3 of the votes of the shareholders present or represented.

In order for decision made in Ordinary General Meeting to be valid, they must be taken

— In the presence of certain member of shareholders (Attendance quorum, five members in case of public company).

— And based on specific rules on majority (voting quorum).

The shareholder of a public company is eagerly expected to hear the outcome of good news about whether the company's profits is big or small. But nowadays, many companies, not only expecting a fair share of profit from their investment, however have clearly stated objectives which they pursued include social reforms, benefit of the employees or sustainable environmental achievements.

(The author is the Former Assistant Registrar of Companies Registration Office of The Ministry of Trade.)

GOLD PRICE, FE RATE (20-9-2014)

Yangon Gold Price

Buying K652,300 per tical: Selling K653,300

Mandalay Gold Price

Buying K652,000 per tical: Selling K653,000

FE RATE

USD	Buying	K988-	Selling K994
SGD	Buying	K776-	Selling K785
Euro	Buying	K1260-	Selling K1280

ARTICLE

Terrorism is enemy of the nation

Amid growing international criticism of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), al-Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahiri announced plans to launch attacks on Myanmar, India and Bangladesh. I am a Muslim. To be exact, a Myanmar Muslim.

We accept neither ISIL nor al-Qaeda. No religion encourages terrorism. ISIL and al-Qaeda commit inhumane acts on the pretext of a religion. They rouse young Muslims from undeveloped countries with religious sentiments to stir up hatred and conflict and war in the end. In fact, these terrorist groups are blemishing Islam.

As Myanmar Muslims, we will not accept any alien intrusion into our country and will be in the vanguard of fighting them back. This is our nationalism, which goes beyond racism and religion. Since our school days, we have had great respect for the Myanmar National Flag and sung the National Anthem heart and soul. Iman, or faith, implies that we must be loyal to our country. We were born and bred in Myanmar. No matter where we are, we need to cultivate patriotism in our hearts.

In addition, terrorism will not be able to gain a foothold in Myanmar. We, Myanmar Muslims, have been living in this country together with other Myanmar nationals since years of yore. Myanmar is home to a diversity of people from different religious and racial backgrounds. Myanmar is not an easy target like some countries in South Asia and the Middle East.

It is clear that al-Qaeda wants to make an attempt to spread its terror network in Myanmar by taking advantage of recent communal crises. Nevertheless, Myanmar has never witnessed al-Qaeda terrorists being active on its own soil.

No religion encourages terrorism. ISIL and al-Qaeda commit inhumane acts on the pretext of a religion.

Without local support, they cannot function in the country. We, Myanmar Muslims, have warned our community not to fall prey to their instigation. We have explained to them that extremists are trying to shake the Myanmar society to the roots. Undoubtedly, we need be well aware of that impending threat.

At a recent get-together after the Rakhine incident, I met with some old university friends of different religions, including Christians, Hindus and Buddhists. Although time has passed, our friendship never fades away. There still is no change in our relations.

Myanmar is a country rich in natural resources, which is why Mongols, Persians and Indians had migrated into the country. Among Indian tribes were those whose faith is in Islam. Throughout Bagan, Taunggyi, Nyaungyan, Inwa, Konbaung periods, Muslims had served Myanmar kings.

Thirteen years after ascending to the throne, King Mindon ordered a new town plan for Mandalay, with 17 small towns allowed for Muslims to reside and 20 mosques to worship. Moreover, the king had a mosque built at the southeastern corner of the palace. The mosque was named "Gold Stake Mosque" because the king himself drove a gold stake when the construction started.

The plan was aborted when Myanmar was colonized by the British who built a polo field in the place of the Shwe Panat Mosque. It was adjacent to the place where the independence monument stands. King Mindon built a lodging with a peacock seal in Mecca so that his subjects could not have difficulty staying there when they went to Hajj, one of the five pillars of Islam. There were four artillery battalions, Young Indian Rifle Regiment and the cavalry regiment led by Wali Khan under the reign of King Thibaw, the successor and son of King Mindon. When the British forces advanced to colonize the entire country during the reign of King Thibaw after waging three Anglo-Burma wars in 1824, in 1852-53 and in 1885, King Thibaw sent his troops to defend the country. Among the commanders was a citizen Muslim called U Chon, who commanded the Taunggyi column. After 29 November, 1885 when King Thibaw was taken to India, it was announced on 1 January, 1886 that Myanmar was a territory of Queen Victoria. A citizen Muslim named Bo Yakut was

By Maung Thitsar

one of the leaders of a decade of rebellion against the British rule led by Bo Min Yaung, the grandfather for the national leader General Aung San that followed the British occupation of Myanmar. As the British allowed countless Indians to enter Myanmar after the occupation of the entire country, confusion arose among citizen Muslims.

However, the colonialist were not able to control the country for a decade as revolutionaries were fighting against them and they had to reinforce their troops with three divisions of troops from India to quell the rebellion. The British brought from chief justice to low wage workers from India into Myanmar and let them govern the country. As the Indian took over all the jobs in Myanmar, Myanmar national lost their paternal land to the Chittia. When the British governor approved the colonial education system in Myanmar, the first university students' strike broke out for the first time. One of the eleven student leaders of the strike was a citizen Muslim, Ko Ba Shin (Thandwe). Thanks to the university student strike, national schools emerged in the entire country and a citizen Muslim called Sayagyi U Razak was the headmaster of the national school in Mandalay. When the first Indian-Myanmar riot broke out between Indian port workers led by Talaygu and Myanmar port workers in 1930, the Indian stood side with their fellow citizen Talaygu while our citizen Muslim with Myanmar port workers. However, rumours spread that some citizen Muslims were among the Indian led by Talaygu caused misunderstanding among Myanmar citizens.

When the peasant rebellion led by Saya San broke out in 1930, one of the A-grade comrade was a citizen Muslim called U Du Du and farmers from a Muslim village only four or five miles away from the headquarters of Saya San took part in the rebellion. As soon as the peasant rebellion ended, Do Bama Asiayone was founded by Thakhins with the slogan "Myanmar is our land, Myanmar language is our mother tongue" to oppose the colonialists in the entire country. Members of the organization were threatened with six-month jail terms but citizen Muslims joined the organization. As the momentum of the anti-colonialist struggle accelerated, the British held the round table conference from 27 November 1930 to 12 January 1931

in England to separate Myanmar from India. One of the delegates to the conference was a citizen Muslim called U Aung Thin.

In 1938 when the historic 1330 ME revolution broke out, citizen Muslim workers took part in the march of oil workers to Yangon. During the period from 1943 to 1945, Myanmar was occupied by the Japanese. Citizen Muslims joined the Burma Independence Army and the Burma Defence Army to fight against the fascist Japan. Some of them even attended the officer training course during the Japanese occupation. Citizen Muslims also joined the Asian Youth Organization during the Japanese occupation. After the surrender of Japan in 1945, British allies took over Myanmar again and they announced that Myanmar would be ruled under dominium rule adopted in 1939 for three more years before granting 91-department administration in accordance with white paper project. Leaders of Anti-Fascist People freedom League led by General Aung San rejected the white paper project. They organized the people to expand the alliance and demanded the complete independence. General Aung San urged workers, peasants, ethnic national races as well as citizen Muslims to join the coalition of the AFPFL.

At the Shwe Dagon Middle Plink Conference from 18 to 21 January 1946 of the AFPFL, the new coalition founded and among the leading members of the new coalition were citizen Muslims including Sayagyi U Razak, former ambassador U Pe Khin, U Nyi Nyi (Mandalay), Haji U Aung Sein (Yangon), Mr Raman, and Yangon U Ba Tin (a) Mr Rashid. At the conference, Thakhin Mya submitted the complete independence motion and it was seconded by Thakhin Soe, citizen Muslim U Aung Sein and Myingyan representative U Kyi Lwin. U Ba Kyi (Mandalay) presented the motion to send a delegation to England and it was seconded by citizen Muslim U Nyi Nyi and Myingyan representative U Kyi Lwin. The motion representing the affairs of national races was submitted by Deedote U Ba Cho and it was seconded by Ko Ba Swe (Pyapon), Mon Bo Cho and Ko Ba Thein (Pyay). The motion to struggle for independence without separating state and mainland was submitted by citizen Muslim U Pe Khin. The motion for international affairs was presented by Ko Thein Pe and seconded by Editor U Ko Ko Gyi of Socialist Front and citizen

Muslim Ko Kywe Wa. Motion No. 6 submitted by Deedote U Ba Cho welcomed the Myanmar-Muslims who broke away from India to become citizens and promised equal citizenship rights.

Citizen Muslim were also elected as representatives of different parliament houses. Citizen Muslims who took part in AFPFL and Thantshin parliaments were Sayagyi U Razak, U Pe Khin, U Than Myint, U Khin Maung Latt (Myaungmya), U Than Nyunt (Haji Than Nyunt-Maymyo), Wunna Kyaw Htin Sayamagyi Daw Saw Shwe, U Jama (Patheingyi-Thaton), U Myint-Thein (Thaton), Saya Chel (Tatkon), U Ba Kywe (Mandalay), Daw Aye Nyunt (Rakhine), U Thein Maung (Kyaungkhyu), Sultan Hamid (Rakhine), Sultan Mamud, Daw Khin Khin (the wife of Sayagyi U Razak) and U Kyaw Khin (Yamethin). During the 91-department administration, U Bo Khaing (Rakhine), Haji U Po (Mandalay), and U Aung Thin (Yangon) served as advisors of the governor. Many others served as chairman of municipal councils in various towns, and some people may not be included in the list.

The reason why I am describing all the details is that I want to highlight the fact that our citizen muslims were united with others along the history of Myanmar. I am urging citizen muslims not to confuse with illegal migrants who crossed Bangladesh-Myanmar border. We have always taken part in our national causes together with the entire country. If we all are united, no terrorist will enter our country. We rejected the organizing methods in the name of religion. "Actually, Allah will change no race if they do not change their conditions themselves." (Koran 13:11)

To sum up, we citizen Muslims will oppose the terrorism and terrorist together with the entire country. ISIL, al-Qaeda and other organizations don't represent Islam. We are required to resist the temptation of these organizations. I would like to urge all our citizens, regardless of religion and race, to combat terrorism and terrorists as the enemy of the state, enemy of the people and our common enemy. May all Myanmar citizens be safe from terrorism and enjoy peace.

(Trs: KTY+MWT)

Alibaba shares close at 93.89 USD, surging 38 pct on first trading day

NEW YORK, 20 Sept — China's e-commerce giant Alibaba Group Holding Limited on Friday ended its first day of trading at 93.89 US dollars a piece, surging 38 percent following a record initial public offering on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

Alibaba shares opened more than two hours after the opening bell at 92.70 dollars per share, 36 percent higher than its initial public offering (IPO) price of 68 dollar set on Thursday.

The company's shares popped to a session high of 99.70 dollars apiece shortly after it opened for trading, and were mostly traded between the range of 90 dollars and 100 dollars.

After trading for the first day, the company's

market capital reached 230 billion dollars, compared with 150 billion dollars market capital of its American rival Amazon.

The company offered 320 million shares and raised 21.8 billion dollars, becoming the largest IPO in US history.

Director of NYSE Floor Operations at O'Neil Securities Inc Kenneth Polcari told *Xinhua* that closing at 93.89 dollars, about 1.10 cents higher than where it opened, showed how well the process worked. "I think the first performance is actually was much better than most expectations," Polcari said.

Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group Jack Ma said in an interview with CNBC that he was "excited and honoured about the

IPO."

"We have a dream. We hope in the next 15 years that the world changes because of us," said Ma, promising they would work to take care of investors and make shareholders happy.

"Today what we got is not money what we got is the trust from the people, millions of small businesses," he said.

Alibaba, founded by Ma in 1999, has grown into one of the largest e-commerce behemoths in the world and now controls 80 percent of all online retail sales in China. It started its global roadshow on 8 September in New York and received enough bookings for the offering within five days thanks to massive interest from worldwide investors.—*Xinhua*



Alibaba Group Holding Ltd founder Jack Ma (C) rings a ceremonial bell to start trading during his company's initial public offering (IPO) under the ticker 'BABA' at the New York Stock Exchange in New York on 19 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

Start early for a lifetime of good vision and healthy eyes

NEW YORK, 20 Sept — If your mother told you to eat your carrots so you'd be able to see in the dark, she was right. It turns out that feeding kids carrots is just one of a number of things parents can do to promote a lifetime of healthy eyes and good vision.

Other things include regular eye exams, and sunglasses or hats to shade kids' eyes, experts say.

While so-called refractive error (that is, the need for vision correction) and eye disease is sometimes hereditary, and some eye disease is congenital, some issues are preventable, said Dr Ron Weber, an Atlanta-based ophthalmologist.

For example, myopia,

or nearsightedness, "not only has a genetic component but is also influenced by how kids use their eyes during childhood," he told Reuters Health by phone.

He said that extended close work, such as reading, has long been suspected to cause nearsightedness. Recent support for the association has come from a study (online here: bit.ly/1tYhqKD) in which people with a higher level of education were more likely to have myopia, purportedly because they spend more time reading or working on computers. Another study (online here: bit.ly/1wx-siUl) showed that children who spend more time outdoors are less likely to be-

come myopic.

But these findings don't mean kids should be discouraged from reading or working on the computer. Instead, Weber suggests, make sure a child's environment is well-lit while they are doing close work. Parents should also help kids get into the habit of holding their reading material at the optimal distance — about 18 to 22 inches, he said. Finally, taking a break every five minutes or so, to let the eyes relax and focus on an object in the distance, will also help.

One of the most important things a parent can do to help head off eye disease and vision problems is to make sure their child

gets regular eye exams, beginning early in life.

"The majority of vision problems in children are preventable and treatable," said Dr. Ida Chung, president of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development. "Eye conditions, whether hereditary or not, can best be managed by having the child receive their first eye examination as early as possible."

Chung recommends that children have their first eye exam before turning one. The American Optometric Association has a recommended schedule of exams for older kids, available online here: bit.ly/1u-Bu4BC.

Children should also

be tested for visual skills before starting school — not just sight, but how eyes track, depth perception, 3D vision, and sustained focusing. "If a child is found to have deficient visual skills, treatment with optometric vision therapy can result in dramatic improvements in a child's visual comfort," Chung said.

Finally, many parents don't think of putting sunglasses on their kids, but experts say it should be as second nature as other sun protection. "If your kid is in a situation where you're putting sunscreen on their skin, that should prompt you to also put a hat on to shade their eyes, and maybe sunglasses," said

Weber. Added Chung, "Children's crystalline lens are particularly susceptible to UV radiation and due to their young age (they) are at a higher risk of accumulative effects that lead to premature cataracts when they are older."

She said that because children spend a lot of time outdoors, it's important to make sure that the direct exposure to sunlight doesn't damage their retinas. She advises parents to look for sunglasses that block out 99 to 100 percent of UV-A and UV-B radiation, screen out 75 to 90 percent of visible light, and have lenses that are gray for proper color recognition.—*Reuters*

As G20 chases growth goal, members differ on how to get there

CAIRNS, (Australia) 20 Sept — As the Group of 20 leading economies meet to change no less than the "destiny" of the global economy, members remain divided on how to get there with Germany pushing back at US calls for more government stimulus.

Opening the meeting of finance ministers and central bankers, Australian Treasurer Joe Hockey outlined an ambitious agenda of boosting world growth, fireproofing the global banking system and closing tax loopholes for giant multi-nationals.

"We have the opportunity to change the



US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew (R) stands with his Australian counterpart Joe Hockey during a media conference at the start of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors meeting in the northern Australian city of Cairns on 12 Sept, 2014.— REUTERS

destiny of the global economy," said Hockey, who back in February launched a campaign to add 2 percentage points to world growth by 2018 as part of Australia's presidency of the G20.

That goal has seemed ever more distant as members from China to Japan, Germany and Russia have all stumbled in recent months.

Just this week, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) slashed its growth forecasts for most major economies.

A call from US Treasury Secretary Jack

Lew for the euro zone and Japan to do more to boost demand and revive activity, signalling out Germany as having scope to do much more thanks to its burgeoning trade surplus, drew a cool response.

"We will not agree on short-sighted stimuli," a German G20 delegate said, arguing that in most countries debt was still too high to allow for increased spending.

Berlin has been under intense pressure to allow the euro zone to ease back on fiscal austerity and to stimulate its economy through more government spending or tax cuts.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

SpaceX aims to step up launch rate with next mission for NASA

CAPE CANAVERAL, 20 Sept — A cargo version of the spaceship being developed by privately owned Space Exploration Technologies is slated to launch early on Saturday from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida, the company's second launch in 13 days.

Quick turnarounds between flights are expected to become routine as SpaceX, as the California-based company is known, adds ferrying astronauts to the *International Space Station* to its fast-growing launch business.

"We are ramping up for that launch rate, and actually even more than that," said Hans Koenigsmann, SpaceX vice presi-

dent of mission assurance. "In the future, I anticipate that this will be the norm."

SpaceX on Tuesday won a \$2.6 billion contract to design and fly *Dragon* passenger ships, with a test flight targeted for 2016. NASA also awarded Boeing a \$4.2 billion contract to develop a second space taxi.

The price difference is primarily the cost of the launcher. SpaceX's Falcon 9 rockets sell for about \$61 million; Boeing plans to buy Atlas 5 rockets, which cost about \$150 million.

United Launch Alliance, a partnership of Boeing and Lockheed Martin, manufactures and sells Atlas 5, which predominantly are used for



An exterior of the SpaceX headquarters in Hawthorne, California on 29 May, 2014.—REUTERS

US military missions.

SpaceX, owned and operated by technology entrepreneur Elon Musk, is gunning for that business as well. A lawsuit is pending in federal court

contesting the US Air Force's latest non-competed award to United Launch Alliance.

SpaceX already flies cargo to the space station for NASA under a \$1.6

billion contract and has a backlog of more than 35 commercial satellite and NASA station resupply missions.

Its fourth cargo run to the station is scheduled for launch at 2:15 am EDT on Saturday. In addition to food, clothes and science gear for the station's crew, the *Dragon* freighter carries an experimental 3-D printer, a science instrument to monitor winds over Earth's oceans and 20 mice to be used in experiments.

Barring delays for weather or technical issues, Saturday's quick turnaround launch will set a company record.

"That's faster than we have ever done it. It's near the record (for) the Cape,"

Koenigsmann told reporters at a pre-launch briefing on Friday.

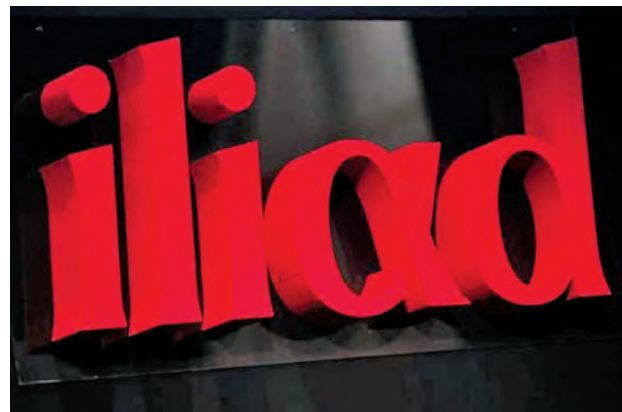
SpaceX flies mostly from a leased launch complex at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. It also has a contract with NASA for one of the space shuttle launch pads at Kennedy Space Centre, adjacent to the Air Force base.

Beyond Florida, SpaceX has a leased and refurbished pad at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. It also plans to build a new launch site near Brownsville, Texas, for commercial satellite missions.

So far, the company's Falcon 9 rockets have flown 12 times, all successfully.

Reuters

France's Iliad sets mid-Oct deadline for T-Mobile US bid



The logo of French low-cost telecoms provider Iliad is pictured during the company 2013 annual results presentation in Paris on 10 March, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON / FRANKFURT, 20 Sept — French low-cost telecom operator Iliad has set a mid-October deadline to decide whether to improve its bid for T-Mobile US or walk away as it faces resistance from seller Deutsche Telekom, several people familiar with the situation said.

Deutsche Telekom, which owns 66 percent of the fourth-largest US carrier, has doubts that Iliad will be able to improve the US business since the French startup has no track record in the country, a source close to the German company's management said.

Under the deal structure proposed by Iliad, Deutsche Telekom would have to keep a stake in the combined company.

Iliad is currently in talks with several US banks to help it finance a possible improved bid for T-Mobile US alongside existing lend-

ers HSBC and BNP Paribas, the people familiar with the situation said, after a \$33 per share offer for 56.6 percent of T-Mobile US was rejected by Deutsche Telekom.

Chief Financial Officer Thomas Reynaud said Iliad's key leverage ratio would not surpass 4.5 times net debt to earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). He also said that Iliad would limit any capital increase to fund the T-Mobile bid to 2 billion euros (\$2.57 billion).

Iliad is also seeking to team up with private equity funds including KKR to raise about \$5-6.5 billion, the sources, who could not be named because the talks are private, said.

T-Mobile US, Iliad and KKR declined to comment. Deutsche Telekom could not be reached immediately for comment.

Iliad's management team has now finished road shows to meet US investors and is waiting to hear back from potential investors, the sources said.

Depending on how positive the feedback is from private equity investors, the French firm could be able to table an improved bid in the second week of October, two of the sources said.

Iliad could offer between \$35 and \$40 per share for a stake in T-Mobile of between 60 percent and 90 percent, depending on the appetite of private equity funds and lenders for the deal, two other sources said.

But Iliad, whose shares have fallen around 25 percent since it embarked on a bid for T-Mobile in late July, cannot afford a lengthy pursuit of T-Mobile if Deutsche Telekom is not willing to engage.

In a note this week after it hosted a dinner with T-Mobile US's investor relations team, brokerage firm Jefferies said criteria for potential partners included a spectrum line in the United States and a US customers base, on top of favourable financial terms.

Such a constraint would rule out Iliad as an acquirer, although this could also be part of Deutsche Telekom's tactics to get a better deal from Iliad, said some of the sources who are close to Iliad.

Reuters

Other automakers to challenge Tesla in over-the-air software upgrades

DETROIT, 20 Sept — Electric carmaker Tesla Motors Inc on Friday announced it is rolling out a software upgrade over-the-air to its current Model S owners, a unique ability that other automakers are expected to offer within a few years.

Tesla, based in Silicon Valley, has completed more than a dozen over-the-air software upgrades since the Model S was first sold in mid-2012, said Egil Juliusen, director of research for automotive electronic technology for IHS Automotive.

Juliusen said other automakers have completed some over-the-air software upgrades but only on an experimental basis.

Normally, when an automaker wants to upgrade software in on-board computers in cars that are already on the road, owners must bring vehicles to deal-

erships.

Tesla is able to upgrade software remotely, similar to software updates on smartphones.

About 30,000 vehicles have been updated over the air this year, almost all by Tesla. By 2020, a full one-fifth, or about 22 million new vehicles globally, will have the ability to accept software upgrades over-the-air, said Juliusen.

Juliusen said by 2015, over-the-air software upgrades to cars already in consumer hands will expand to 230,000 and reach 1 million in 2016.

"The cost savings alone will make it very attractive for the auto manufacturers to use over-the-air software upgrades," said Juliusen.

Automakers are expected, he said, to team up with software developers for over-the-air communication

with the vehicles they have sold.

Three privately held software firms are in the lead in this venture, he said. They are Red Bend Software, based in Waltham, Massachusetts; Symphony Teleca Corp based in Silicon Valley; and Arynga, based in San Diego.

He said that it can cost \$400 to \$500 every time an owner brings a car into a dealership for a software upgrade. Doing so remotely will cut those costs dramatically, and dealers will not have to purchase as much equipment, Juliusen said.

For the current upgrade, Tesla Model S owners will be notified of the availability of it and will be asked to select a time for it to be downloaded, which takes several hours, Tesla spokeswoman Alexis Georgeson said.

Reuters

Lisbon to ban old cars from city centre to improve air quality

LISBON, 20 Sept — In a bid to improve the quality of the city's air the Lisbon municipal council is set to ban vehicles that are over 14 years old from the city centre starting from 2015, according to local press reports on Friday.

The ban will impose a 24-euro fine on anyone who violates the ban.

At the public presentation of the new scheme

— "Lisbon — A city to breathe" — Tiago Farias, the municipal director for Mobility, said the system will split Lisbon into "Zone 1" and "Zone 2".

Cars registered after 1996 will be allowed into Zone 2 and Zone 1, which includes the historical downtown area, will be off limits to cars registered before 2000.

Between 7am and

9pm some downtown streets will be completely closed off to motor traffic, he also said.

The move, which is the third phase of a programme to reduce emissions in the capital city, is expected to reduce particle emissions by 30 percent and nitrogen dioxide emissions by 22 percent, Farias said.

Xinhua

US Secret Service investigates after man jumps White House fence, reaches doors

WASHINGTON, 20 Sept — A man jumped over the White House fence and made it to the front doors of the executive mansion before being apprehended on Friday, sparking an evacuation within the complex shortly after President Barack Obama departed for the weekend.

Omar J. Gonzales, a 42-year-old white male from Texas, made it onto the grounds at 7:20 EDT (2320 GMT), a US Secret Service spokesman said. Gonzales ignored commands to stop and was ultimately caught, unarmed, just inside the North Portico doors of the White House, one of the building's main entrances.

The intruder's ability



The White House is pictured from the South Lawn in Washington, on 18 Sept, 2014. — REUTERS

to get so far on the grounds before being apprehended is very unusual for a complex that is heavily guarded

by Secret Service officers and snipers. He was arrested and taken to a nearby hospital for evaluation.

“The Secret Service will review the response to ensure that the proper protocol was followed,”

spokesman Ed Donovan said.

Donovan said the fact that Gonzales had made it to the doors was “not acceptable to us and it’s going to be closely reviewed.”

Obama and his daughters had left the White House earlier, departing on the Marine One helicopter for Camp David, the presidential retreat in nearby Maryland.

First lady Michelle Obama was also not at home, having traveled to the retreat earlier, a spokeswoman said.

Armed Secret Service officers raced through the West Wing area of the

White House during the intrusion and ordered journalists and staff members to evacuate.

Media and staff members were allowed back in some time later but a partial lockdown of the northwest side of the building remained in place for a few hours.

Video showed the intruder running across the White House lawn toward the president’s residence.

The incident is the latest in a series of recent cases in which members of the public have made it over or through the White House gates, leading to lockdowns.— *Reuters*

Polling stations open in New Zealand general election

WELLINGTON, 20 Sept — New Zealand’s registered voters began the final and most important day of the general election on Saturday when polling stations opened at 9 am around the country.

Almost 3.1 million people, or more than 91 percent of eligible adults, are registered to vote and 557,174 people have already cast advance votes, according to the Electoral Commission.

Polling stations will close at 7 pm, when counting of the ballots begins.

New Zealand has a mixed member-proportional representation system for electing each Parliament, which sits for a maximum three-year term.

Each voter gets two votes: one for an electorate representative and one for their preferred party. Parliament has 120 seats: 71 electorate seats, including seven Maori electorates; and the rest are list seats allocated to each party according to the proportion of the party vote they won.

So, if a party gets 30 percent of the party vote,

for example, it will get roughly 36 MPs in Parliament. If that party wins 20 electorate seats it will have 16 list Members of Parliament (MPs) in addition to its 20 electorate MPs.

Fifteen parties and a total of 554 candidates are contesting this election.

Radio New Zealand’s Poll of Polls average on Friday showed the governing National Party of Prime Minister John Key on 46.4 percent support enough to get back into office on with the support of its current minor party partners.

The main opposition Labour Party, led by David Cunliffe, was sitting on 25.7 percent and its prospective Green Party allies on 12.5 percent.

Stormy and wet weather, conditions traditionally linked to lower voter turnout, was forecast over much of the North Island on Saturday.

Just 74.2 percent of registered electors cast their ballots in the last election in November 2008, the lowest turnout since the 1978 election.

Xinhua

China urges int’l support for Iraq’s fight against terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, 20 Sept — China called here on Friday on the international community to provide support for Iraq in its efforts to combat terrorism.

Liu Jieyi, China’s permanent representative to the UN, made the appeal at a meeting of the Security Council on Iraq.

“The current situation in Iraq is posing a serious threat to international peace and security,” Liu told the meeting presided over by US Secretary of State John Kerry, whose country holds the rotating presidency of the Council for September.

China, Liu said, has all along cared about the security and well-being of the Iraqi people. In particular, “we are deeply saddened at the great sufferings that terrorism has afflicted to the Iraqi people.”

He stressed “there is no good or bad terrorism,” adding that “all acts of terrorism must be firmly opposed no matter where, when and by whom they are carried out.”

Therefore, “the international community should be untied in helping Iraq against terrorism,” he said.

The Chinese envoy noted that in conducting counter-terrorism cooperation, the international community should carry out relevant actions on the basis of respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the countries concerned and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic norms governing international relations.

“It is important to give full play to the leading role of the United Nations and its Security Council,” Liu said.

He also noted that double standards should not be applied to counter-terrorism, nor should terrorism be associated with a certain ethnic group or religion.

Meanwhile, the international community should follow closely the new features and changes of terrorist activities in the world, he said.

“The international community should come up with new ideas and measures to cut off the three channels used by terrorists to promote their activities, namely the online dissemination of terrorism, cross-border movement of terrorists and secret financing for terrorism,” he said.

Liu said that China is glad to see the formation of a new government in Iraq not long ago, which marks a milestone in the country’s political reconciliation process.

“China hopes that all factions in Iraq will continue to give top priority to the interests of the nation and people and the stability of the country, advance political dialogue and reconciliation, and strengthen military and security capacity building, so as to lay a solid domestic groundwork for the political process,” Liu said.— *Xinhua*



Photo taken on 19 Sept, 2014 shows the Nanning International Convention and Exhibition Centre where the 11th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) took place in Nanning, capital of south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. The four-day expo concluded on Friday.—XINHUA

ADVERTISEMENT & GENERAL

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1452)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV FRISIA LAHN VOY NO (1452) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 21.9.2014 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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INVITATION TO OPEN TENDER

Sealed tenders are invited by the Department of Health, Central Medical Stores Depot for the supply of Medical Equipment.

Tender documents are available during office hours at the office, Commencing from (22.9.2014).

Sealed bids are to be submitted to the office, not later than (21.10.2014) 14:00 hour, after which no bid will be accepted. No telegraph/telex proposal will be accepted.

For detail information please contact the Deputy Director (Medical Stores) Phone No. 371969, 372362, 371284

Central Medical Stores Depot
Department of Health

Foreign investors banned from opening primary schools in Mozambique

MAPUTO, 20 Sept—The Mozambican Ministry of Education has decreed that, as of January next year, foreign investors will be banned from opening primary schools, local newspaper reported on Friday.

Under the new regulations, only Mozambican entities will be allowed to open and run primary schools, while foreigners will still be allowed to open institutions of secondary, technical or higher education, the country's independent daily newspaper *O Pais* reported.

The spokesperson for the Education Ministry, Eurico Banze, said that "the opening of primary schools must essentially be the responsibility of Mozambicans", since this was a very sensitive phase in the socialization of children.

Banze added that foreigners can continue to participate in the opening of schools at other levels of education, but only in association with Mozambican citizens, based on the current foreign investment regulations.

The new regulations also decentralize the authorization for the opening of private schools.

As from the 2015 school year, the provincial authorities will be allowed to authorize the opening of private primary schools. The appointment of directors for public primary schools also passes to the local level.

Private educators will be allowed to open boarding homes for pupils studying in both public and private institutions.

There are currently 335 community owned schools in the country, and 299 in other forms of private ownership. Between them, they cater for 271,000 pupils.—*Xinhua*

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Weather report

BAY INFERENCE: According to the observations at (12:30) hrs MST today, the low pressure area over West Central Bay of Bengal now lies over Northwest Bay and West Central Bay of Bengal still persists. Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 21st September, 2014: Rain or thundershowers will be scattered in Taninthayi Region, fairly widespread in Mandalay, Magway, Bago, Yangon and Ayeyawady Regions, Kayah, Kayin and Mon States and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Sagaing Region, Kachin and Rakhine States. Degree of certainty is (100%).



A nepalese youth painted in blue participates in the people's climate march in Kathmandu, Nepal on 20 Sept, 2014. The rally was organized to raise voice for the environment protection.—*XINHUA*

China aims to lower share of coal energy to below 62 pct by 2020

BEIJING, 20 Sept—To increase cleaner power generation and cut greenhouse gas emissions, China will order power firms nationwide to upgrade coal conservation technology and eliminate outdated capacity.

With stricter environmental protection standards, China will lower the coal-fired generation to under 62 percent of the national total by 2020, according to the plan, and of that thermal coal use should be raised to above 60 percent. Average coal consumption at new power plants should be less than 300 grams of standard coal per kilowatt hour (kwh). Average coal consumption at existing furnac-

es should be brought below 310 grams of standard coal per kwh before 2020.

At least 10 gigawatts of obsolete thermal power capacity will be phased out by 2020. At least 150 GW of coal-fired power generation capacity will be cleaned up by 2015, and another 350 GW by 2020.

An action plan for the 2014-2020 period was jointly released by the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), the Ministry of Environmental Protection and the National Energy Administration on Friday.

The action plan comes after the central government approved climate change

goals to be met by 2020. Carbon emissions per unit of GDP will be cut by 40 percent to 45 percent by 2020 from the 2005 level.

It will also bring the proportion of non-fossil fuels to about 15 percent of primary energy consumption by 2020.

China is the world's largest consumer of coal, accounting for around half of global consumption. Nearly 70 percent of its energy comes from coal, a ratio much higher than in developed countries, which use cleaner resources like oil and gas. China has the world's third-largest coal reserves but lacks gas and oil.—*Xinhua*

AU hails China's support in battling Ebola in West Africa

ADDIS ABABA, 20 Sept—The African Union (AU) has hailed China's support to the efforts geared to fight against Ebola, which has claimed over 2,600 lives in African countries since earlier this year.

The handing over ceremony of the certificate of donation, which China had already pledged to support efforts to address the Ebola crisis, took place on Friday at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Xie Xiaoyan, Chinese Ambassador to Ethiopia, handed over the certificate of China's donation to Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs.

China has been supporting the efforts in fighting against Ebola by providing financial and material support as well as sending medical teams to the most affected West African countries.

Speaking at the handing over ceremony, the AU Commissioner commended the Chinese government for its support and positive response to the fight against Ebola.

"We are very grateful for the support that we have from China. The continued effort from the People's

Republic of China is something we do appreciate," said Kaloko.

He stated that Africa's partnership with China is fruitful.

"This is the time when we need our friends and we are very happy we are getting this positive reaction from our friend, from the government of the People's Republic of China, a partnership which has been very lucrative and full of positive activities," said the commissioner.

The commissioner reiterated AU's commitment to prevent the further spread of the epidemic.

He called for collaborative action amongst African States and partners to curb the Ebola epidemic as a matter of urgency.

The Chinese ambassador noted that China has been supporting the efforts in fighting against Ebola since the time his country learned the eruption of the epidemic in April.

Xie said China has committed millions of dollars in cash and in kind to support the noble cause against Ebola crisis in West Africa, particularly in Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone.

Xinhua

Cuba inks 61 bilateral accords on foreign investment protection

HAVANA, 20 Sept—Cuba has signed 61 bilateral treaties on foreign investment protection in a bid to attract more capital inflow, local media reported on Friday.

"The treaties aim to protect both parties of business contracts and provide means for resolution of disputes through international arbitration," *Communist Youth* daily Juventud Rebelde quoted a legal expert Raul Lozano Merino as saying.

Lozano also stressed the importance of social responsibilities for foreign companies, which should ensure job creation, technology transfer and sustainable development.

There was also a proposal to establish an arbitration court for Latin America, which would put the region on an equal footing with the rest of the world, said Lozano, president of the Inter-American Academy of International and Comparative Law.

The proposal has already got approval from several regional Chambers of Commerce, he said.

Xinhua

'Fault In Our Stars' crosses USD 300 million worldwide

LOS ANGELES, 20 Sept — Shailene Woodley starrer weepy romantic drama 'The Fault In Our Stars', which is all set to get a Bollywood remake, has earned USD 300 million globally.

The film, made on a budget of USD 12 million, the film became one of the most profitable movies of 2014 thanks to its amazing run at the box office. It has already surpassed Woodley 'Divergent', which earned USD 286.3 million. The film starred Woodley and Ansel Elgort as two young lovers who meet in a cancer support group. It was directed by Josh Boone.

The movie has earned a major chunk, USD 175 million, from its overseas run where it is still running in theatres while its domestic earning stands at USD 124.8 million for a total USD 299.9 million through Wednesday, pushing its earning past USD 300 million sometime on Thursday, according to the *Hollywood Reporter*.

The film released in early June in North America.

PTI



'Fault In Our Stars' was made on a budget of USD 12 million. PTI

Angelina Jolie to direct Richard Leakey biopic 'Africa'



LOS ANGELES, 20 Sept—Actress and filmmaker Angelina Jolie has been hired to direct "Africa," a feature film about paleoanthropologist and conservationist Richard Leakey and his campaign against ivory poachers that threaten Africa's elephants.

The film, Jolie's fourth directorial effort, is from Skydance Productions, the company behind recent "Terminator" and "Mission: Impossible" films. The screenplay is from Eric Roth, who won an Oscar for "Forrest Gump." "I've felt a deep connection to Africa and its culture for much of my life," said Jolie in a statement.

Leakey, she said, emerged from the violent conflict with elephant poachers "with a deeper understanding of man's footprint and a profound sense of responsibility for the world around him."

Skydance Chief Executive David Ellison, son of Oracle Corp founder Larry Ellison, said: "It is very close to my heart, and I know that it will exceed my expectations in Angelina's hands."

Jolie will be joined by cinematographer Roger Deakins, who also worked on her next release "Unbroken," a Universal Pictures biopic of Louis Zamperini, the Olympic runner turned war hero that opens in December.

Universal said in July that it acquired worldwide rights to Jolie's "By the Sea," a drama in production, written and directed by the actress who is also co-starring with husband Brad Pitt.—Reuters

David Bowie exhibition lands in Chicago for only US visit

CHICAGO, 20 Sept—David Bowie has been best-known throughout his five-decade career as a prolific musician and songwriter, with hits like "Changes" and "Space Oddity" in constant radio circulation.

But he is also an actor and artist who helped design his own album covers, stage sets and costumes.

Now, 400 objects, from the multi-coloured jumpsuit he wore as "Ziggy Stardust" to a cocaine spoon, are going on display in Chicago at the exhibit "David Bowie Is," running from 23 September to 4 January, 2015 at the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Tens of thousands of tickets already have been sold for the MCA show, the only US venue for an exhibit that has drawn huge crowds in London, Toronto, Sao Paulo and Berlin.

"This exhibition repatriates David Bowie, the musical innovator, into the territory of cutting-edge visual and performing art that is his natural home," said Michael Darling, MCA chief curator.

The multi-media exhibit was originally organized for London's Victoria and Albert Museum by curators Victoria Broackes and Geoffrey Marsh. Visitors wear headphones that play clips of Bowie interviews and music, which change depending on which object is being looked at. Speaking to reporters in Chicago on Friday, Marsh said the show reveals Bowie's "degree of obsession" with the creation of culture.—Reuters

A Minute With - Jane Fonda on learning from the young comic set



Jane Fonda

LOS ANGELES, 20 Sept—Actress Jane Fonda says one of the blessings of growing older is that "you learn what you can and can't do" and she freely admits she doesn't have what it takes to do comedy improv.

Fonda has 55 years in the business and two best actress Oscars on her shelf for 1978's "Coming Home" and 1972's "Klute."

But in her new comedy film "This is Where I Leave You," she was in awe of co-stars Tina Fey, Jason Bateman, Adam Driver and Ben Schwartz when it came to going off script.

Fonda spoke to *Reuters* about playing the vivacious mother of a dysfunctional family, the chemistry with her cast and her new favourite actor.

Q: What drew you to the role of Hilary?

A: Well, I am 76 and it is unusual to find a character that is multidimensional, funny, sassy and still has some libido going for her. People don't write those kind of roles for older women very often.

I liked the fact that it was a very well written film that had many different parts to it. It was funny, but it was also poignant. That doesn't happen often enough and I am so proud of Warner Bros that they stood behind a film like this. A big studio these days, they go for the tent poles and special effects, so I really want the movie to do well so that it will encourage more studios to do more

films like this.

It spoke to family dysfunction which is universal and it showed that in spite of those issues we can heal and forgive.

Q: You say dysfunction, but I wouldn't mind being a part of this family.

A: Well it shows where you are coming from! Fortunately, Jonathan Tropper (author of the novel that inspired the film) found a way of writing about this kind of dysfunction that makes it kind of lovable. But it must be kind of hard if it was in real life.

They are all very wonderful, wonderful actors saying great words and some times it is their own words. I mean Tina and Jason were improvising. Really great, funny stuff that came out of their mouths.

Q: What was the chemistry like on set?

A: We got along really

well. We shot it at a house on Long Island and we just got to the house to work in the morning and stayed and got to know each other. We looked forward to coming to work.

Q: Did you feel like the elder stateswoman of this cast?

A: No, I felt like a student because I can't do what they do. I can improvise. I improvised most of "Coming Home." But I don't know how to improvise comedy. I've done like Neil Simon comedies, but you say the words that were written and you don't improvise.

They have a whole other gift. When the film was over, Ben Schwartz got me into Upright Citizens Brigade and I tried. You either were born with that gene, and you can hone it and make it better. But if you weren't born with it, you can't do it. I don't have that

kind of brain.

So, I just watched in awe and paid close attention and paid a lot of attention to Adam Driver. I mean this guy you could watch him forever and be fascinated. He is so interesting. His choices, his energy, his instincts as an actor are peerless.

I thought 'What's big deal?' Yeah, I saw him once, Adam Driver, in 'Girls.' And then from the very first table read, I thought 'Oh my God, I've never seen this before.' He is just unique and he is my new favourite actor.

Q: Are you looking for more comedy roles?

A: I am making a series right now with Lily Tomlin for Netflix that, like this film, has drama as well.

I love doing comedy. I would also love to do a drama again. You go for the word. You follow the good word. If it's written well, you go there.—Reuters

GENERAL

Hamilton edges Alonso in Singapore practice

SINGAPORE, 20 Sept — Lewis Hamilton laid down an early marker that he will be the man to beat in the Singapore Grand Prix this weekend when he set the fastest time in the second free practice session at the floodlit Marina Bay Street Circuit on Friday.

The Briton, who trails Mercedes team mate Nico Rosberg by 22 points with six rounds remaining, clocked one minute 47.490 seconds to edge out the resurgent Ferrari of Fernando Alonso by 0.133 seconds around the 23-turn, 5.065km track.

Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo crossed the line in a time of 1:47.790 to claim the third fastest time of the day, with the second Ferrari of Kimi Raikkonen edging out quadruple world champion Sebastian Vettel to round out the top five.

Vettel, who has dominated this race for the last three years, had his track time compromised after an engine failure at the end of first free practice restricted the German to just eight minutes of action at the end of the second



Mercedes Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain drives past the Singapore Flyer observation wheel during the first practice session of Singapore F1 Grand Prix on the Marina Bay street circuit in Singapore on 19 Sept, 2014. —REUTERS

session. Championship leader Rosberg was unable to set a quick time in the second session after Pastor Maldonado crashed his Lotus into the Turn 10 wall, forcing a brief halt to proceedings just as the German was about to embark on his flying lap.

He eventually finished

down in 13th but will look back at his third place in the first 90-minute session of the day as a more reliable marker to his speed and form ahead of the weekend. "I didn't like my car at that point but it's always important to get in that lap to know what the car is doing so I can adapt my

car with the engineers tonight and improve for tomorrow," Rosberg told reporters.

"I didn't get the second part of the lap because of the red flag which is a pity, it would have been important to do that but anyway it's not a big deal. I got some long run laps in so it's ok." —Reuters

MYANMAR TV

(21-9-2014, Sunday)

6:00 am

* Paritta by Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

6:35 am

* Nice & Sweet Song

7:00 am

* News/ Weather Report

7:20 am

* MRTV's Youth Programme

8:00 am

* News / International News

8:45 am

* Beautiful ASEAN

9:30 am

* Documentary (ASEAN)

10:20 am

* Science and Technology Programme

11:40 am

* High Lights (17th Asian Games)

12:00 noon

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

1:00 pm

* Round Up of the Week's International News

1:15 pm

* Myanmar Movie

3:00 pm

* News

3:45 pm

* MFF Ooredoo Cup (2014) (Live) Ayeyawaddy United & Nay Pyi Taw FC)

5:45 pm

* Musical Programme

6:20 pm

* High Lights (17th Asian Games)

8:00 pm

* News/ International News/ Weather Report

8:35 pm

* Documentary (Women in Myanmar Society)

9:00 pm

* News

* Tamyethnar Takwestar

* Teleplay

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(21-9-14 07:00 am~ 22-9-14 07:00 am) MST

- * Local News
- * A Visit to Htam Hsan Cave A Miraculous Place
- * World News
- * Traffic Police
- * Local News
- * Myanmar's Traditions and Culture "A stir about of Rainbows"
- * World News
- * A Person with Faith
- * Local News
- * To The Land of Countless Temples - Bagan Trip (Episode-2)
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: Bamboo Guns
- * Local News
- * Moe Ne' Keeps Its Tradition Alive
- * World News
- * Wedding Planner "U Cho Gyi"
- * Local News
- * The Repository of Buddhist Scriptures and Archives
- * World News
- * Ngapali Beach: Fishing Villages
- * Local News
- * Let's Pay Obeisance to Paungde Sacred Tooth Relic
- * World News
- * Kyaikhteeyoe: My Father The Porter
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Lizard in food sends 300 school children in India to hospital

NEW DELHI, 20 Sept — About 300 pupils at an Indian school were rushed to a hospital after consuming government-provided lunches, evoking memories of 23 children who died last year after eating food from the same welfare scheme.

A dead lizard was found in one of the seven food containers provided under India's midday meal scheme at a government school in southern city of Bangalore, a teacher told Reuters.

That led to a panic situa-

tion as food had already been served to several pupils.

"We stopped the children from eating and rushed them to a hospital," said Syeda Tabassum, a school teacher who was part of the group that served food to the children on Friday.

"All students are safe now," she added, saying most had been discharged from the hospital.

It was not immediately clear whether the contamination originated at the school or where the food was pre-

pared. Police officials were not immediately available for a comment. The Bangalore school has been receiving meals under the scheme for the past 10 years, but had never faced a similar issue, Tabassum said. However, parents are now worried.

"My child started vomiting after eating the food. We will not let her eat government food now ... we just have one girl," a parent told the NDTV news channel.

The midday meal scheme, which gives more

than 100 million school pupils a free lunch, is the largest such programme in the world. It has been widely lauded as one of the most successful welfare measures in India.

But last year, 23 children died after being poisoned by a school meal provided under the scheme, sparking violent protests in the eastern state of Bihar. Police said cooking oil used for the meals had been stored in a used pesticide container.

Reuters

London's Wembley stadium to host climax of Euro 2020

LONDON, 20 Sept — UEFA president Michel Platini's vision of a European Championship spread across the continent came to fruition on Friday as London's Wembley Stadium was chosen to host the climax of Euro 2020 with 12 other cities joining the party. The 90,000-seater Wembley, rebuilt from 2003 to 2007 and venue of the 2011 and 2013 Champions League finals, will stage both semi-finals and the final of the 60th anniversary tournament dubbed a "Euro for Europe".

It will be the first time in the competition's history when a tournament will be

hosted by more than two countries.

Wembley got the nod over Munich's Allianz Arena, the other stadium initially bidding for semi-finals and final hosting rights. Munich had to make do with being one of 12 cities awarded one of the standard packages, comprising three group matches and a knockout round tie.

The home of Bayern Munich will host a quarter-final, along with the Baku Olympic Stadium in Azerbaijan, Rome's Olympic Stadium and the Zenit Arena in St Petersburg, Russia.

Last 16 ties will take

place in Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Bucharest, Dublin, Bilbao, Budapest, Brussels and Glasgow.

Cardiff's Millennium Stadium along with bids from Stockholm, Skopje, Jerusalem, Sofia and Minsk were all rejected. The vote for Wembley comes as a welcome tonic for the Football Association after its failed bids to host the 2006 and 2018 World Cup finals but FA chairman Greg Dyke denied any deal had been done with their German counterparts, the DFB.

"There is no deal," Dyke told reporters at the ceremony in Geneva. "Other than

we will not bid (to stage) Euro 2024 because it would be a waste of time because we wouldn't get it." Dyke, however, hinted that England would support a German bid to host the 2024 tournament.

DFB president Wolfgang Niersbach, whose federation are believed to have pulled out from trying to host final and semi-final games with an eye on a 2024 bid, said: "I am very satisfied and happy that we could convince UEFA with our bid and have in 2020, after 32 years, European championship games again in Germany."

Reuters



UEFA President Michel Platini shows the name of Baku, one of the 13 cities which will host matches at the Euro 2020 tournament to be played across the continent, next to former Miss Switzerland Melanie Winiger during a ceremony in Geneva on 19 Sept, 2014.—REUTERS

China off to golden start at Asian Games



Lee Hasung of South Korea performs during the men's Changquan final of Wushu competition at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea on 20 Sept, 2014. Lee Hasung won the gold medal with 9.71 points. XINHUA

INCHEON, 20 Sept—China's seemingly inevitable march to the top of Asian Games medal standings got off to a quick start on Saturday as they claimed two early golds on the first day of competition.

Less than 24 hours after a vibrant opening cere-

mony marked the launch of the 17th Asiad in South Korea, Zhang Mengyuan won the 10 metre air pistol individual event and helped China win the team event.

Some 10,000 athletes from 45 countries are competing at the Asian Games, the world's second-biggest



Guo Wenjun, Zhou Qingyuan and Zhang Mengyuan (from L to R) of China pose on podium after the women's 10m Air Pistol team finals of shooting event at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea on 20 Sept, 2014. China won the gold medal with 1,146 points. This is the first gold medal of the Incheon Asiad.—XINHUA

multi-sport event after the summer Olympics. A total of 439 gold medals in 36 sports are up for grabs over 15 days of competition.

Later on Saturday, the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) will announce the host of the next Asian Games, and also confirm which year it is to be held.

OCA President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Fahad Al-Sabah has told Reuters that an agreement is in place for Indonesia to stage the event, and that it is likely to take place in 2018, not 2019 as planned, to avoid

clashing with a presidential election in the country.

Hanoi was awarded the right to stage the Games in November 2012 ahead of the Indonesian city of Surabaya but the Vietnamese capital stood down as hosts in April fearing the event would not be financially viable.

The OCA will formally ratify its decision to install Jakarta as host at its general assembly later in the day.

There was also success for South Korea's athletes on Saturday as Lee Ha-

sung picked up the hosts' first gold in the men's wushu changquan.

His coach, Park Chanda, said Lee had accomplished something he never could.

"He has achieved my dream for me," said Park. "Although I won gold six times in the Wushu World Championships, I only got a silver medal at the Asian Games."

Park said Lee's mental focus set him apart from the rest.

"Lee's greatest strength is his mind. He has

the lowest mistake rate on the Korean national team."

Lee's combination of whirling kicks, athletic leaps and intricate hand movements earned him a score of 9.71 points to take gold in the martial arts discipline, ahead of Macau's Jia Rui (9.69) and Japan's Daisuke Ichikizaki (9.67).

Earlier at the Ongnyeon International Shooting Range, Zhang was a picture of calm, even if she was shaking on the inside, as she took gold from South Korean Jung Jee-hae and India's Shweta Chaudry.

"I'm happy because we shot very well. I was sure they would give me power," Zhang said of her team mates Hou Qingyuan and Guo Wenjun. "I felt a lot of pressure during the match."

However, Guo Wenjun was beside me, and it made feel relieved."

A total of 18 gold medals are awarded on the first day with titles also to be decided in judo, fencing, weightlifting, equestrian, track cycling and synchronised swimming.

The swimming programme, featuring the highly-anticipated clashes between Olympic champions Sun Yang and Park Tae-hwan, starts on Sunday.

Reuters

Myanmar Golf Tour 2014 in Bagan from 16 to 19 October



YANGON, 20 Sept — The fifth leg of Myanmar Golf Tour 2014 will be held in Bagan, NyaungU District in Mandalay Region from 16 to 19 October. Golfers who wish to take part in professional, man's amateur, H'cap (0-12), women's H'cap (0-24) levels shall contact mobile phones numbers 09 203 7671, 09 420017 835 and 09 73130474 and Bagan Golf Resort not later than 12.00 noon

of 10th October 2014. As those who fail to submit admission fees will not be considered for the tour, the fee of K 20000 is to be paid not later than 14th October. Golfers are allowed to practise from 13th to half day of 15th October. ShweManThu bus line of Bandoola Transportation will arrange public transport and those who want to take the buses will enlist at Han Event Management in Yangon. The tour was organized by Myanmar Golf Federation and Myanmar PGA with the main sponsorship of Asian Green Development Bank together with Myanadar Purified Drinking Water, Myodaw Purified Drinking Water, Myawady Purified Drinking Water, Dagon Motor Fresh and Bandoola Transportation. The official golf ball was sponsored by Volvik, Bagan Golf Resort and HAN Event Management. NLM

Chelsea not a one-man band, says City boss Pellegrini

LONDON, 20 Sept—Chelsea's in-form striker Diego Costa will be a threat but the Premier League leaders are more than a one-man band, champions Manchester City's manager Manuel Pellegrini said on Friday.

City host table-toppers Chelsea at the Etihad Stadium on Sunday after a slow start to their defence of the Premier League title while Jose Mourinho's team have made a rip-roaring start, winning all four matches.

Much of Chelsea's early season success has been down to Costa, who has scored seven goals in four league appearances, but Pellegrini says the west Londoners are not reliant on only the Spanish striker.

"I don't think Chelsea are just about Diego Costa," the Chilean told a news conference. "They have very good players and we will have to play a

very good game if we want to win."

"They have started very well and they are playing very well. They have increased their squad with better players so for me, it is no surprise they are there."

City will be without striker Stevan Jovetic and Brazilian midfielder Fernando for the visit of Chelsea, but strikers Edin Dzeko and Sergio Aguero should be fit while former Chelsea midfielder Frank Lampard, the club's all-time top scorer, is expected to start on the bench.

Having collected seven points from their first four games this season, City trail Chelsea by five points and Pellegrini does not want to see them slip further behind.

"It is very important to win on Sunday, but there is a long way until the end of the season," he said. "This is just the fifth game and



Manchester City manager Manuel Pellegrini reacts during their English Premier League soccer match against Stoke City at the Etihad stadium in Manchester, northern England on 30 Aug, 2014. —REUTERS

we have to play 38, so we will see what happens in the future."

Pellegrini defended midfielder Yaya Toure after the powerful Ivorian

was criticised for his defensive performance during Wednesday's Champions League defeat at Bayern Munich.

Reuters