

Commander-in-Chief meets Israel's Defence Minister

PAGE 3

MRTV News channel, Radio Myanmar to broadcast talks of three political parties two times

PAGE 3

PERSPECTIVES

Lessons from the past

PAGE 8

SHARING THE BURDEN

Govt to spend K26 bn on industrial zone housing

Aye Min Soe

THE Union Government announced on Monday that it will spend K26 billion (US\$20.3 million) on building low cost housing for workers in industrial zones.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security is launching the project in a bid to help share the costs burden that private factories must bear following the enactment of the national minimum wage on 1 September.

The ministry will invite tenders this month for the project in Hlinethaya and Shwepyitha industrial zones. The housing structures will consist of several five-storey buildings on a total of 45 acres, and housing will be affordable, Deputy Minister U Htin Aung told factory bosses following a meeting in Hline-thaya Industrial Zone.

Around 500 workers have lost their jobs after a minimum wage was set at K3,600 (US\$2.80) for an eight-hour work day on 28 August.

Other factories have reportedly stopped providing free transport and overtime pay in order to maximise their profits.

(See page 3)



Garment workers add the finishing touches at a factory in Hlinethaya Industrial Zone in Yangon. — PHOTO: AYE MIN SOE

ASEAN senior immigration officials discuss cooperation in Cambodia



Senior immigration officials from ASEAN member countries at the 11th ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, September 7, 2015—XINHUA

PHNOM PENH—Senior immigration officials from the ten ASEAN member countries gathered here on Monday to discuss ways to further enhance regional cooperation, a Cambodian senior official said.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the 11th ASEAN Immigration Intelligence Forum, Major General Sok Veasna, director of the General Department of Immigration's non-immigration and technology department, said the meeting aimed to strengthen regional cooperation through sharing immigration intelligence and information among ASEAN member states.

"Sharing intelligence is becoming a very useful tool to make sure that we could prevent unwanted travelers crossing our borders from one to another.

Furthermore, by enhancing the closed co-

operation, we could learn many good lessons and experience from each other," he said.

The official said sharing intelligence among ASEAN member states should be as quick as possible in order to join hand in fighting any kind of threats to each nation in the region.

The participants will also discuss issues of immigration hotline creation, intelligence data sharing protocol, and irregular movement of people.

"These items will obviously contribute a lot to a better immigration management for the ASEAN region," he said.

The meeting is part of preparations for the 19th Meeting of the ASEAN Directors-General of Immigration Department and Heads of Consular Affairs Divisions of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs which opens Tuesday.—Xinhua

Air-con coaches arrive at MITT in Yangon

YANGON — Twenty-three air-conditioned RBE coaches from Japan arrived at Thilawa Port in Yangon Region on September 5.

The coaches were donated by the Japanese government and will be used to replace coaches on Yangon's circle line and other railway networks across the country, according to sources from the Ministry of Rail Transportation.

The ministry's manager U Kyaw Soe Lin of Division (7) says that the six RBE coaches that arrived earlier on August 20 will be used to service the Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw railroad, which operates four times per day.

Myanmar Railways is implementing the Urban Transport Plan in conjunction with the Ja-

pan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to modernise services on the antiquated Yangon Circle Line. There are also plans to upgrade the Yangon-Toungoo, Toungoo-Yemethin and Yamethin-Mandalay routes. RBE coaches can reach speeds of up to 100 kilometres per hour, whereas the Circle Line train currently travels at 17km per hour. The official said that some coaches will not be air-conditioned, as this would out-price the train's low income passengers, who currently pay K50 to K100 per ticket – whereas a ticket for an air-conditioned coach is priced at K300.

He added that the revenue generated from ticket sales almost balances out the cost of operations.—*Soe Win-MLA*



An air-conditioned coach being unloaded from the vessel at Myanmar International Terminal Thilawa. SOE WIN (MLA)

Myanmar's first bee-keeping centre opens in Pindaya



Bee-keepers inspect beehives on production of honey in Pindaya, Danu Self-Administered Zone in Shan State.—*THANT ZIN WIN*

PINDAYA — The country's first bee keeping centre opened in Pindaya in the Danu Self-Administered Zone in southern Shan State on September 4.

The centre aims to generate new sources of incomes for locals, create a market for the sale of honey and other by-products and to become a tourist attraction in its own right.

The centre was launched in cooperation with the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, TAG International

Development, the Pao-O national social organisation Parami Development Network and the Pa-O Language and Culture Association.

Speaking at the opening, the CEO of TAG International Mr Yossi Ives said that the two-year Plan Bee Myanmar was made possible by UNOPS' Livelihoods and Food Security Trust (LIFT) Fund, which provided US\$763,000 in October 2013.

He said that entrepreneurs in Sweden, France and Nepal

have already expressed interest in purchasing by-products from the centre.

According to a TAG official, the local community produced 3,000 kilogrammes of honey from farms across the region, which fetched 15 million kyat at a market price of K5,000 per kilogramme.

TAG is currently running five bee industry development offices in Shan State and plans to open more in other states and regions.—*Thant Zin Win*

Deputy Minister visits new public service office in Thaton

THATON—Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and other ministry officials inspected the recently opened public service office in Thaton Township on 4 September.

He said during his visit that public service offices were set up to promote good, clean governance. Furthermore, he said, the offices are meant to provide the public with convenient 'one-stop shop' services by having several departments represented in a single office.

He urged office staff to build confidence between civil servants and the public by providing excellent service. Various staff members explained their roles to the deputy minister.

Ten government departments are housed in the Thaton public service office.—*Thet Oo*

Medical centre to open on Yangon-Mandalay Highway

MEIKTILA — A medical facility for the provision of first aid will open at the end of November at the 285-mile rest stop in Theegon, Meiktila, on the Yangon-Mandalay Highway.

Construction is being funded by Singapore's Red Cross Bri-

gade at a cost of K35.3 million (US\$27,600).

A temporary first aid facility was set up at the rest stop in June 2013. To date it has treated 220 people with injuries from 115 car accidents, 39 of which included casualties.—*Chan Thar-Meiktila*



A medical centre is under construction to provide first-aid to necessary patients on Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.—*CHAN THAR (MEIKTILA)*

Commander-in-Chief meets Israel's Defense Minister

NAY PYI TAW— Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Israel's Defense Minister Mr Hoshe Ya'alom took the salute of the Honour Guard at the welcoming ceremony at the Ministry of Defence in Israel on 7 September.

Myanmar established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1955 and Prime Minister U Nu paid a goodwill visit later that same year. Commander-in-Chief General Ne Win visited Israel in 1959.

Israeli Defense Service General Director General Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Mr. Dan Harel hosted a luncheon for the Commander-in-Chief and delegation members.

The Senior General met Israel's Defense Minister Moshe Ya'alom in Tel Aviv on September 7.

The C-i-C said that Myanmar hopes for opportunities to enhance bilateral relations, while the Israeli Defense Minister expressed his firm belief in bilateral military cooperation, cooperation in overcoming challenges and exchanges on matters relating to security and defence.

The senior general called on Myanmar Ambassador to Israel U Myo Aye at the Myanmar embassy and presented gifts to embassy staff.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing later visited the Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem and laid a wreath at Yad Vashem memorial on Mount Herzl.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing attended a dinner hosted by the Ambassador U Myo Aye at a hotel near the Dead Sea.—*Myawady*



Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Israel's Defense Minister Mr Hoshe Ya'alom exchange gifts.
MYAWADY

Union Minister provides aid to Kokang community

NAY PYI TAW—Kokang Self-Administered Zone Rehabilitation and Management Supporting Committee Chairman U Hla Tun attended a ceremony in which aid was presented to local residents in Kunlong zone on 6 September.

U Hla Tun, who is also Union Minister at the President Office, said that peace

and stability plays a key role in rehabilitation tasks in Kokang region. As the government is focusing on the internal peace-making process, local residents should cooperate with the government in achieving its goals, he added.

The union minister then took part in discussions with members of the military admin-

istrative region advisory committee before paying a visit to Yan Lone Kyaing border gate and a low-cost housing project in Manchu. The union minister discussed regional development projects with local residents and officials.

The union minister also visited the district hospital and gave the patients gifts.—*MNA*

Deputy Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw to attend 36th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly

YANGON—Deputy Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa on Monday left for Malaysia to attend the 36th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.

The deputy speaker was seen

off at Yangon International Airport by Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, deputy speaker U Tin Aung and Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee U Hla Myint Oo.—*MNA*

SHARING THE BURDEN

(from page 1)

The meeting focused on providing housing and transport services to workers. However, the ministry and factory bosses did not reach an agreement on the provision of ferry services to workers. The deputy minister said he would urge factory owners to provide such services during future negotiations.

Deputy Minister U Htin Aung expressed hope that those who lost their jobs will find new ones in the sector. He explained that several garment factories are now seeking additional workers after receiving new work orders following the enactment of the minimum wage,

and added that the minimum wage should spur employment rates.

Several major international brands expressed support for Myanmar's proposed minimum wage as soon as it was announced in July, saying that guaranteed rates of pay would boost investment and improve living standards among factory workers.

U Aung Lin, chairman of the Myanmar Trade Unions Federation said that with around 250,000 workers employed in Myanmar's garment and textile industry, the 500 lay-offs will not have a significant impact on the sector, which is tipped to become one of Myanmar's largest.—*GNLM*

MRTV News channel, Radio Myanmar to broadcast talks of three political parties two times

NAY PYI TAW—MRTV news channel and Myanmar Radio will broadcast the talks of Mro Ethnic Development Party (Ma-Ta-Pha-Pa), National Unity Party and Lahu National Development Party on 8-9-2015 and again on 8-10-2015.—*GNLM*

Parliament to hold Int'l Democracy Day on 15 Sept

NAY PYI TAW—Myanmar parliament announced Sunday that it will hold the International Day of Democracy 2015 commemoration at the parliament on 15 September.

The parliament asked mem-

bers of parliament wishing to participate in the event to contact the following parliamentary offices not later than 4 pm, 11 September as it did not send invitations to MPs.

The MPs may call Py-

idaungsu Hluttaw Office: Ph: 067-591189, Fax: 067-591294; Pyithu Hluttaw Office, Ph: 067-591257, Fax: 591058; and Amyotha Hluttaw Office, Ph: 067-591261, Fax: 067-591382.—*MNA*

Wetland conservation efforts are lacking: Union Minister

NAY PYI TAW— Myanmar is failing to conserve its wetlands as effectively as other countries in the region, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun said during a workshop on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Monday in Nay Pyi Taw.

The workshop provided training to ministry staff ahead of the formation of a national-level body to coordinate the implementation of the Ramsar Convention, which is an international treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands.

The workshop was jointly organised by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Department of Forestry.

The Ramsar Convention came into force in Myanmar in March 2005, however manage-

ment systems, funding and data about its wetland resources is lacking, the union minister said.

Wetlands are important for the survival of human beings because they provide fish and other natural resources while providing marine creatures with habitats and protecting coastal areas from storms and floods, the union minister pointed out.

There are 99 recorded wetland sites in Myanmar, according to a 2003 study conducted by the Wild Birds Society of Japan and the Department of Forestry.

The union minister urged participants to work harder to conserve wetlands in order to promote economic development and prevent natural disasters.

The workshop also discussed nominating the Gulf of Mottama in Mon State as a wetland of international importance.—*MNA*

Detained suspect admits to involvement in Bangkok bombing

BANGKOK — A foreign suspect in the Aug. 17 Bangkok bombing, who was apprehended on Sept. 1, has admitted to having handed a bomb to a yellow-shirted man suspected to be the bomber, local media reported Monday.

The detained suspect, whose nationality has yet to be confirmed, told investigators that he had been ordered by the mastermind, identified as “Izaan,” to buy bomb-making materials from the Internet, the Nation newspaper quoted a source as saying.

Having finished making the bomb, the suspect, who was arrested in Thailand’s Sa Kaeo province near the border of Cambodia, reported to Izaan and was then ordered to give the bomb to a yellow-shirted man,

who is suspected to have planted the bomb at Erawan Shrine in downtown Bangkok.

The Erawan Shrine blast left 20 people dead and more than 120 others injured.

According to the suspect, Izaan, who left Thailand on Aug. 16, had also commanded the yellow-shirted bomber, a blue-shirted man suspected to have dropped a bomb at the Sathorn pier on Aug. 18, the first suspect to have been arrested by Thai authorities in Bangkok’s Nong Chok district, and an unidentified foreigner who lived at an apartment room in Bangkok’s Min Buri area, where bomb-making materials were seized.

The military handed the Sa Kaeo suspect over to police on Monday.—Xinhua



A detained suspect (C, front) in the Erawan Shrine bombing attends an enquiry at the Metropolitan Police Bureau in Bangkok, Thailand, Sept. 7, 2015. —XINHUA

Asia-Pacific intelligence chiefs meet in Brunei on security cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN — Heads and representatives of military intelligence organizations from 24 countries across the world met here Monday for a conference on pursuing stability through defense intelligence cooperation.

The 8th Asia-Pacific Intelligence Chiefs Conference (APICC) will focus on the main

topics of maritime security, anti-transnational crime and law enforcers’ training for combating terrorism, according to a press release issued by Brunei’s Ministry of Defense.

The conference aims to promote open dialogue for military intelligence chiefs in the Asia-Pacific region to further build their networks and en-

hance cooperation towards a more consolidated response to common security challenges, it said.

The three-day APICC is jointly organized by Brunei’s Ministry of Defense and the United States Pacific Command (USPACOM) and marks the first time Brunei co-hosts the meeting with the United States.

The participating countries also include Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Canada, China, France, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Laos, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, the United Kingdom and Vietnam.

Various bilateral meetings

between the participating countries will take place on the sidelines of the meeting. Initiated in Kuala Lumpur by USPACOM in 2007, APICC serves as an annual regional avenue that gives military intelligence chiefs an opportunity to come together, interact closely and discuss cooperative matters within the intelligence field.—Xinhua

Singapore’s rulers hope a nudge to the left will keep voters loyal

SINGAPORE—At breakfast time one day last week, Singapore government minister K. Shanmugam dropped in to a bustling food court to greet voters, listen to their grumbles and urge them to back the People’s Action Party (PAP) in this Friday’s general election.

There was a burst of applause from a table of tea-drinking men, old ladies looked up smilingly from bowls of noodle soup, and one of the sharpest complaints he heard was from a resident about pigeons roosting outside her house. A bedrock of support from communities like this guarantees that the PAP, which has ruled this city state since it won independence 50 years ago, will be returned to power this week.

But Shanmugam, who is law and foreign minister, says the PAP can no longer take popular loyalty for granted: the party’s share of the vote dropped to 60.1 percent in the last election, in 2011, its lowest ever, and a swing of just a few thousand votes in some electoral districts this time could erode its overwhelming majority in the 89-seat parliament.

To prevent that, the party has tweaked its policy playbook in ways that will shift the direction of a country whose meteoric rise from tropical backwater to haven

of wealth was based on a no-nonsense model of growth at all costs.

Under the iron-handed founding father of Singapore, the late Lee Kuan Yew, the idea of Western-style welfarism was scorned and people were mostly expected to stand on their own feet. But years of galloping growth led to yawning wealth gaps and to resentment over an open door for foreign workers, overcrowded trains and expensive housing, forcing the PAP to respond with a nudge to the political left. “In the 80s, 90s to 2000s there was a lot of emphasis on the private sector,” Shanmugam said in an interview with Reuters. “From ‘07 the rhetoric has shifted to a centre-left position.”

Eugene Tan, a political analyst and associate professor at Singapore Management University, says this new strategy will have to stay as the PAP manages a more competitive political landscape and a population now less patient with paternalism and one-party rule.

“The PAP will now have to deal with much stronger pressures for populist policies, such as higher taxes for a larger swathe of income-earners and nationalistic manpower policy as well as more social spending, which are very often the antithesis of the ruling party’s core policies for the past

50 years,” Tan said.

Shanmugam rejects the idea that the PAP’s 2011 wobble triggered a reset of social policies and says Singapore was one of the world’s most welfarist countries way before then.

But this year, the government has raised taxes on top earners to pay for a hefty increase in health-care spending and a better safety net for the aged and low-paid workers, and just before calling the election Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong announced plans to make state housing more affordable. It has taken other steps since the last election that many see as rearguard action, such as cooling the property market - from which many have felt increasingly locked out - and stemming the tide of foreign workers.

A nation of 5.5 million people with no natural resources, Singapore became a global hub for financial services and oil trading and a major electronics manufacturer thanks partly to a liberal immigration policy that provided plentiful cheap labour.

Now, the government faces a backlash over immigrants who are blamed for taking jobs, fueling inflation and depressing wages, but is in a bind because it needs them to underpin growth as the population greys and the workforce shrinks.—Reuters

Indonesia migrant boat death toll rises to 61

KUALA LUMPUR — Sixty-one bodies have been recovered from an overloaded wooden boat which sank off Malaysia carrying dozens of Indonesian illegal immigrants, maritime officials said on Monday.

The dead were mostly men, with one toddler on board, the maritime agency’s search and rescue director, Robert Teh, told Reuters. Only 20 people are believed to have survived Thursday’s disaster.

“If no more bodies are found today, we may call off the search and rescue operations tomorrow,” Teh said. The boat is believed to have overturned due to overloading and bad weather as immigrants were making the journey home for the Eid al-Adha holiday, officials told reporters on Thursday.

One of the victims, Asminah, was making her first trip home in three years. Her eldest son, Yan Iqbar, told Reuters that only he had been told of her visit.

“She wanted to give the family a surprise,” he said.

Most of Malaysia’s estimated six million legal and illegal migrant workers are from Indonesia, working on construction sites, plantations, in factories and in domestic service.—Reuters

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Koreas begin talks to hold reunions of separated families

SEOUL — North and South Korea on Monday began talks to arrange reunions of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War following their recent deal that averted a military confrontation.

Three Red Cross officials from each side are meeting at the truce village of Panmunjeom to work out details such as the timing and the venue of the reunions. If held, the reunions, which consist of families from both sides meeting for a few hours, will be the first since February 2014.

Many Korean people remain separated from their relatives by the division of the Korean Peninsula since the Korean War that ended

in an armistice, not a peace treaty.

At the end of marathon talks on Aug. 25, the two Koreas reached a six-point agreement, including an agreement to hold the family reunions on the occasion of Korea's full moon festival, or Chuseok, which falls on Sept. 27.

Local media reports said the reunions are likely to be held at a facility at Mt. Kumgang on the North's east coast, in October, given the time needed for preparation. There are more than 66,000 South Korean family members separated by the Korean War, with most surviving family members at an advanced age.—*Kyodo News*



Three Red Cross officials from South Korea speak to reporters in Seoul on Sept. 7, 2015, before departing for a meeting with their North Korean counterparts concerning the possible reunion of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.—*Kyodo News*

10-year-old's brain damaged after bug spray

BEIJING — Ten year-old Peyton McCaughey was a cheerful child. But after his family's Florida home was sprayed for bugs, he was hospitalized for brain damage, according to media reports on Monday. This unimaginable tragedy began when Peyton's parents decided to get rid of trou-

blesome termites which had devastated their home.

The family called a pest control company Terminix's subcontractor, Sunland Pest Control, to have the pests smoked out, the family attorney Bill Williams said.

The family was told it was safe to return to the home two days later after

the termite fumigation.

Then the family began feeling ill. Every one in the family was vomiting, the boy's uncle Ed Gribben said.

The parents, Lori and Carl McCaughey, and their 7-year-old daughter recovered, but Peyton kept getting worse. After spending more

than two weeks in three different children's hospitals, he can barely speak.

Terminix said in a statement, "We were saddened to learn of this and our hearts are with the family. We are carefully reviewing the matter."

The case now is under investigation.—*Xinhua*

EU sets new quotas for states to take asylum-seekers

BRUSSELS — The EU executive has drawn up a new set of national quotas under which Germany will take in more than 40,000 and France 30,000 of a total of 160,000 asylum-seekers it says should be relocated from Italy, Greece and Hungary, an EU source said on Monday.

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker is due to unveil new proposals on Wednesday. EU officials have said he will propose adding 120,000 people to be relocated on top of a group of 40,000 the Commission previously proposed relocating.

Member states rejected such binding national quotas in June but since their voluntary offers have fallen short of 40,000 while the numbers of people arriving in Europe has surged, the Commission, backed by Germany and France, is pushing for them.

While Germany has said it is willing to take in many refugees and President Francois Hollande confirmed France's readiness on Monday to take in its share under the European Commission's guidelines, the quotas could see

renewed resistance from governments which say they cannot cope with such numbers. Poland, for example, has said it might handle about 2,000 people under proposed EU pilot schemes for easing pressure on southern frontier states. But under the Commission's new proposal, Warsaw would be asked to receive close to 12,000.

Hungary, whose Prime Minister Viktor Orban has been a vocal opponent of national quotas, will in fact now see other EU states take in 54,000 of those people who have surged into his country. Under an earlier proposal for the relocation of 40,000 people, these would have come only from Italy and Greece. Leading the quotas among the 120,000, of which 50,400 would come from Greece and 15,600 from Italy, Germany would, if EU leaders agree the scheme, be asked to take in 31,443 and France 24,031. Britain has an exemption from EU asylum policy, as do Ireland and Denmark. Dublin volunteered to take in 600 people under the earlier scheme to relocate 40,000 asylum seekers.—*Reuters*

Singapore police lines out 18 assembly centers for polling day

SINGAPORE — The Singapore police on Monday have lined out 18 designated assembly centers for the public and electoral candidates to wait for the result of the general election this Friday.

Candidate or his election agent can apply for permits for such centers at the Police Elections Permit Office on Wednesday and

Thursday for free, police said. Under the law, it is illegal to gather in groups of more than 4 people without a permit in Singapore.

Police have grouped the electoral divisions into three zones. Contesting parties and independent candidates can only apply for one assembly center site in each zone that they are contesting

in. Where there is more than one applicant for a particular assembly center site, police will conduct a ballot. Contesting parties and independent candidates can also apply for a permit to use an indoor site as an assembly center, on condition that the indoor site is within the zone that they are contesting in. The polling day for the general election is

Sept. 11, when Singapore's ruling People's Action Party is expected to be challenged on all 89 parliamentary seats for the first time since Singapore's independence from Malaysia in 1965. Social issues such as immigration, cost of living as well as transportation have been on top of agenda of the general election.—*Xinhua*

Pakistan deploys first homemade drone, kills three militants

ISLAMABAD — A missile-firing Pakistani drone has killed at least three suspected militants in the first ever reported use of the indigenously developed aircraft in combat, the military said on Monday.

The deployment of the drone will add a new layer of complexity to a debate on the use of drones in Pakistan where the government has officially denounced numerous strikes by US drones on militants over the past decade.

The "Burraq" drone attacked a suspected militant hideout in the Shawal Valley, which has long been a militant stronghold on the border with Afghanistan,

said Major General Asim Bajwa, the military's chief spokesman.

"Hit a terrorist compound in Shawal Valley killing (three) high profile terrorists," Bajwa said in a posting on his Twitter feed. He did not say when the drone strike happened or give any more details.

Militants in the area identified one of the three people killed in the Sunday night strike as Nizam Wazir, a faction leader allied with the Pakistani Taliban. Wazir was being buried on Monday, they said.

Government forces launched an offensive against Pakistani Taliban militants in semi-autono-

mous ethnic Pashtun regions along the Afghan border last year. The military expanded the offensive into the Shawal Valley last month, with the use of both ground troops and aircraft. The government has for years denounced US drone strikes in Pakistan as a violation of sovereignty, although there has been suspicion the government has quietly given the green light to at least some of the attacks, especially those on Pakistani Taliban leaders.

US drones have killed more than 2,400 people in Pakistan since 2004, according to the independent London-based Bureau of Investigative Journalism,

which monitors strikes through news reports.

The US strikes have enraged many members of the public in Pakistan, fuelling anti-US sentiment and anger towards Pakistani governments seen as too accommodating of US demands in its war on militancy. Pakistan first successfully tested the Burraq drone in March with the military hailing it as "a force multiplier in the anti-terror campaign". The military deployed two Pakistani-produced unarmed surveillance drones in 2013. Analysts say Pakistan's drones look very much like drones from Pakistan's close ally, China.—*Reuters*

Message from Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of International Literacy Day (8 September 2015)

Every year, on September 8th, we raise the flag for literacy as a human right, as a force for dignity, and as a foundation for cohesive societies and sustainable development.

This message is especially vital this year, when States will adopt a new agenda for education and development to guide the next 15 years. Promoting literacy must stand at the heart of this new agenda. By empowering individual women and men, literacy helps to advance sustainable development across the board – from better healthcare and food security to eradicating poverty and promoting decent work.

There has been progress across the world since 2000, but steep challenges remain. Today, 757 million adults still lack basic literacy skills – two thirds are women. The number of out-of-school children and adolescents is on the rise, standing at 124 million worldwide – while some 250 million children of primary school age are failing to master basic literacy skills even in schooling.

We cannot allow this to continue. Literacy is essential to reach the proposed sustainable development goal to promote "inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all"

This is UNESCO's message on International Literacy Day. To allow all women and men to participate fully in their societies, we need greater investment and more effective policies to embed action for literacy within wider development policies, supported by innovative mechanisms that generate positive synergies across all policy areas that are vital to building more just and cohesive societies. This is essential to all efforts to build a better future for all, on the basis of human rights and dignity.

Irina Bokova

Greece asks EU for humanitarian aid to cope with migration crisis

ATHENS — Greece asked the European Union on Monday for humanitarian aid to help it cope with what it called “a volatile situation” following the large flow of migrants and refugees from the Middle East and Africa onto its shores.

It requested the EU activate its civil protection mechanism, the bloc’s crisis-response body, to provide staff, medical and pharmaceutical supplies, clothes and equipment, the Interior Ministry said.

Greece is struggling to cope with the thousands of people fleeing poverty and war in countries such as Syria for Europe. Tensions have flared on eastern islands including Kos and Lesbos where most refugees land due to their proximity to Turkey.

On Monday morning, a Greek ferry unloaded 2,500 migrants at the port of Piraeus, bringing the total number of people moved to the mainland since last Monday to more than 15,000. Thousands more are waiting to be identified and ferried to Athens to continue their trip to other European countries.

“The First Response Service requested that the EU civil protec-



Migrants make their way after arriving by train at the main railway station in Munich, Germany September 7, 2015.—REUTERS

tion mechanism is activated in order to substantially strengthen the efforts undertaken by the First Reception Service to manage a volatile situation,” the ministry said.

“The satisfaction of the said

request is expected to be of critical assistance to the work of the First Response System, which, under current conditions, is extremely difficult.” The EU’s civil protection mechanism coordinates the

bloc’s humanitarian aid efforts, channeling aid and sending special teams with equipment to disaster areas. It has previously helped Greece fight forest fires.

European Commission First

Vice President Frans Timmermans and Migration Commissioner Dimitris Avramopoulos have already promised Athens 33 million euros to help it tackle the crisis.—Reuters

Hungary’s Orban says migrants seeking “German life”, are not refugees

BUDAPEST — The large numbers of people now seeking sanctuary in Europe should be seen as immigrants, not as refugees, because they are seeking a “German life” and refuse to stay in the first safe country they reach, Hungary’s prime minister said on Monday.

Viktor Orban, a right-wing populist whose robust handling of the migrant crisis has drawn both condemnation and praise, also said the European Union should consider providing financial support to countries such as Turkey which are near to the conflict zones so that migrants stay there and do not move on.

Syrians, Iraqis and others entering Greece, Macedonia, Serbia or Hungary are safe in those countries and, in line with EU rules, should have their asylum applications processed there, Orban told a gathering of Hungarian diplomats

in Budapest.

“If they want to continue on from Hungary, it’s not because they are in danger, it’s because they want something else,” he said, adding that the migrants’ target was Germany and “a German life”, not physical safety.

The vast majority of migrants reaching Hungary aim to travel on to Germany and other wealthier western European countries. A Bavarian official said Germany expected about 2,500 refugees to arrive by early afternoon on Monday after some 20,000 came in over the weekend.

Left unchecked, this inflow will place an impossible financial burden on the EU, Orban said, endangering what he called Europe’s “Christian welfare states”. He has previously said the arrival of large numbers of mostly Muslim migrants posed a threat to Europe’s Christian culture and values.



Hungary’s Prime Minister Viktor Orban

“It’s absurd when the Germans say they will spend billions on providing for the new arrivals instead of giving the money to the countries around the crisis zone, where the (migrants) should be

stopped in the first place,” he said.

“It would be better for everyone. They wouldn’t come here. It would cost less. And our approach couldn’t be called into question morally either.”—Reuters

Merkel presses for European refugee response after weekend flood

BERLIN — Chancellor Angela Merkel thanked helpers who dealt with a “breathtaking” influx of exhausted migrants over the weekend but stressed on Monday that a European response to the refugee crisis was urgently needed. “We have a weekend behind us that was moving, at times breathtaking,” Merkel said, adding that efforts by average Germans to support thousands of arriving refugees had “painted a picture of Germany which can make us proud of our country”.

She and Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel noted at a news conference however, that it could not fall on a few countries in Europe to shoulder most of the burden, and both pressed for a European solution.—Reuters

UK’s Cameron faces parliamentary revolt over EU referendum rules

LONDON — Prime Minister David Cameron faces a rebellion from many of his Eurosceptic lawmakers on Monday when parliament votes on the rules for a planned referendum on Britain’s European Union membership.

Cameron has already been forced to make concessions over the referendum, last week agreeing to make the wording of the

question more neutral and to accept some limits to government activity in the run up to the vote, which is due by the end of 2017.

But many Eurosceptic Conservatives argue this did not go far enough and that a so-called “purdah” period, which bars the government from publishing anything which could influence the outcome, must be applied in full.

The opposition Labour Party and Scottish nationalists have also tabled amendments to the EU Referendum Bill, which lawmakers in the lower house will have their final chance to vote on late on Monday, also arguing purdah must be applied.

As Cameron has a working majority of just 16 in parliament, the government faces an em-

barrasing defeat if enough of its own lawmakers join forces with the opposition parties, forcing it to re-think its plans to accommodate the Eurosceptics’ demands.

Some Conservatives have also raised concerns over the timing of the vote, spending limits for political parties, the impartiality of broadcasters and whether EU institutions will be allowed to

be directly involved in campaigning.

In a boost to Eurosceptics, an opinion poll published on Saturday showed a majority of Britons now favour leaving the European Union amid concerns over immigration, the first time the series had found a lead for the “out” campaign since November 2014.—Reuters

Qatar sends 1,000 ground troops to Yemen battle: Al Jazeera

SANAA — Qatar has sent around 1,000 ground troops to Yemen, Doha-based Al Jazeera television said on Monday, their first reported involvement in a Saudi-backed offensive against the dominant Houthi group.

Military sources said Qatari forces were on their way to Yemen and preparing to join a new push on Houthi positions in the capital Sanaa — though they told Reuters the soldiers had not yet entered the Arabian Peninsula country.

Qatari pilots have joined months of Saudi-led air strikes on the Houthis, an Iran-allied group that seized Sanaa last year, advanced across the country and forced President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi into exile in March.

The reported involvement of Qatari ground troops came amid an escalation of the conflict days after a missile strike that killed dozens of Gulf Arab soldiers.

Al Jazeera's English website said 1,000 Qatari soldiers, backed by 200 armoured vehicles and 30 Apache helicopters had been deployed. The Qatari foreign ministry made no immediate comment on the report.

A Qatar-based defence source said the number of Qatari troops was less than 1,000.

"They are as of now not deployed in Yemen but in Saudi Arabia to protect the border," the source added.

But a local Yemeni official in the oil-producing Marib province east of Sanaa said the Qatari contingent had "crossed al-Wadia border post" between Saudi Arabia and Yemen and were heading to Marib — where Hadi loyalists have been preparing for an offensive against Sanaa.

The Saudi-owned al-Hayat newspaper said on Monday that Saudi Arabia had also sent "huge reinforcements" of its elite forces, along with Qatari troops, to Marib. "Final preparations are being made for a decisive battle, before moving on to liberate Sanaa," al-Hayat said.

Gulf Arab states see the Houthis as proxies for non-Arab Iran, which they accuse of trying to extend its influence into Arab countries, including Syria and Yemen.

Saudi-led forces have helped Hadi supporters drive the Houthis out of the southern port city of Aden in July but have made little progress in other areas since, where the fighting in the Marib and the central city of Taiz remains bogged down.



People salvage belongings from the rubble of a house destroyed by a Saudi-led air strike in Yemen's capital Sanaa September 7, 2015.—REUTERS

On Friday, a rocket fired by the Houthis at a coalition military camp in Marib destroyed an arms depot and killed 64 soldiers, including 45 Emiratis, 10 Saudis and five Bahrainis.

Jean-Marc Rickli, Assis-

tant professor at the Department of King's College London and teaching at the military's Qatar National Defence College, told Reuters: "It is the first time that Qatari ground forces have been deployed in Yemen. So far, the

Qatari contribution was only through its Air Force." "This force will probably take part in the overall war effort to retake the capital after the coalition successfully recapture Aden last month," he added.—Reuters

Kurdish militants claim deadly ambush, Turkish jets retaliate

ANKARA — Kurdish militants said on Sunday they had killed 15 soldiers in an attack on an army convoy in southeast Turkey, and a security source said the military responded with air strikes.

In a statement posted online, the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) said its guerrillas had ambushed the convoy of armoured vehicles in Yuksekova district, in what could be the bloodiest assault since the collapse of a ceasefire in July.

"An attack from several sides left 15 soldiers dead, and a large number of weapons were seized in the action," the statement read.

The number of casualties could not be independently verified but in a televised statement President Tayyip Erdogan con-

firmed an incident had taken place in Hakkari province, close to Turkey's borders with Iran and Iraq.

Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, who had been watching the national soccer team playing in the city of Konya, left the stadium early to return to the capital as news of the attack broke.

A senior security official told Reuters that Turkish jets had retaliated, hitting at least 10 PKK targets, including those behind the ambush.

The clashes mark a crescendo in a deadly stream of attacks since July, which officials said had already claimed the lives of at least 70 members of the security services and hundreds of PKK militants.

The PKK has fought a three-

decades-long insurgency against the government, demanding greater Kurdish autonomy. The group is listed as a terrorist organisation in both Europe and the United States.

Each side blames the other for the collapse of the ceasefire, which has left efforts to bring a lasting end to the conflict in tatters.

"A new strategy will be adopted in the fight against terror. We'll continue with determination," Erdogan said in his address. The location of the ambush had painful symbolism for the Turkish armed forces.

It took place near the village of Daglica, scene of a PKK attack in 2007 in which 12 soldiers were killed and eight captured.—Reuters

Turkish military jets strike PKK targets after deadly militant attack

ISTANBUL — Turkey's military said on Monday its warplanes bombarded Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) targets overnight after the militants staged a deadly attack in which, one security source told Reuters, 16 Turkish soldiers were killed.

The PKK said it had killed 15 troops in Sunday's attack on an armed convoy in the Daglica area of Hakkari province, near the Iraqi border, in what would be the bloodiest assault since the collapse of a ceasefire in July.

"Two of our armored vehicles suffered heavy damage after the detonation of hand-made explosives on the road.

As a result of the blast, there were martyrs and wounded among our heroic armed

comrades," the Turkish military said, without specifying a death toll.

Two F-16 and two F-14 jets had struck 13 PKK targets and military operations were continuing "decisively" despite very poor weather, it said.

The clashes mark a crescendo in a stream of deadly attacks since July, which officials said had already claimed the lives of more than 70 members of the security services and hundreds of PKK militants.

The PKK has fought a three-decade-long insurgency against the government, in which 40,000 people have been killed. The group is listed as a terrorist organization in both Europe and the United States.—Reuters

Roadside bomb kills two military personnel in Egypt's Sinai

CAIRO — An army officer and a soldier were killed on Monday in an explosion in Egypt's Sinai peninsula, an official security source told Xinhua.

Five other soldiers were also wounded when their armored vehicle hit a roadside bomb near

Taweel al-Amir district, in Rafah, the source said on condition of anonymity. Egypt has been rocked by a spate of violent attacks on security personnel since the army removed former Islamist President Mohamed Morsi in July 2013 in response to mass protests against

his rule. Hundreds of army and police personnel were killed in the attacks, most of which were claimed by Ansar Bayt al-Maqdis, a Sinai-based militant group that declared allegiance to the Islamic State last year and changed its name to "Sinai State."—Xinhua

Roadside bomb wounds 3 children in west Afghanistan

QALA-E-NOW, (Afghanistan) — Three school children were injured as a roadside bomb organized by militants went off in Muqar district of Badghis province with Qala-e-Now as its capital, 555 km northwest of the national capital Kabul,

on Monday, provincial police chief Wali Jan Sarhadi said. "A mine planted by militants on a road obviously to target security forces vehicles went off this morning injuring three innocent school children," Sarhadi told Xinhua.

Without giving more details, the official added that investigation has been initiated into the case.

Taliban militants who are largely relying on suicide and roadside bombings have yet to claim responsibility.—Xinhua



A Turkish Air Force F-16 fighter jet lands at Incirlik air base in Adana, Turkey, August 11, 2015.—REUTERS

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 8 September, 2015

Lessons from the past

By Myint Win Thein

LAST week an event marking the 70th anniversary of the Victory of the World Anti-Fascist War took place on a grand scale in China. On the occasion leaders reiterated a pledge to prevent

fascism from ever rearing its head again. Myanmar was occupied by fascists during World War II and took part in the global fight against the spread of fascism. People around the world have united to denounce fascism and several decades have passed since then. Fascism has been rejected by the world's majority, and by definition, any dictator who tries to forcibly suppress any form of opposition and criticism, create a regimented system of commerce and industry and emphasise aggressive nationalism that strays into racism.

We are lucky to live an age when democracy and human rights are valued by most of the world's leaders and for the emergence of fascism to seem so unlikely in the 21st Century. However we must acknowledge that certain elements of fascism, such as an extreme form of nationalism, the oppression of opposition or

monopolisation of political power may linger for some time. Its architects may masquerade these things as mere patriotism and we must be wary of that. We must guard against any inkling of fascism taking root in our society.

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

Sayadaw U Ottama

(In commemoration of Sayadaw U Ottama's Day, 9th September)

Dr. Saw Mra Aung

I as a Rakhine national, was much delighted to hear that U Maung Nyo, a Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Sittway Township, submitted a proposal on changing the name of "Kandaw Mingalar Park" in Yangon to that of U Ottama Park to the 12th regular session of the 1st Pyithu Hluttaw held on 23rd January, 2015, that U Khaing Maung Yee, a Pyithu Hluttaw representative of Ahlon Township, discussed his proposal in support and that all other representatives approved of it with one voice. To the best of my knowledge, this park was opened with the name of "U Ottama Park" by U Ba Saw, the religious minister of the Pyithaungsu Government on the 17th January 1962 to commemorate a patriotic Rakhine Sayadaw U Ottama who first kindled the flames of patriotism and anti-colonialist spirit which lay dormant and latent in the minds of Myanmar for many years (The Mandaing Daily dated 18-1-1962 mentioned the opening ceremony of U Ottama Park held at Kandaw Min Park near the southern cause-way of the Shwedagon Pagoda). But it was turned into Kan Daw Mingalar Park in the early 1970s. At any cost, due to such re-acknowledgement of Kandaw Mingalar Park as U Ottama Park, the Rakhines would no doubt feel as if they recovered their cherished property which had been apart from them for about half a century. This also means the transparency of the Union Government to national races and efficiency and effectiveness of the Hluttaw. What is more, this is a sort of solace to the Rakhines who have been hit severely by some conflicts and wide-spread floods recently. As a stanza of the Mangala Sutta which says "Honouring those who are due is

auspiciousness" goes, honouring Sayadaw U Ottama by changing the name of Kandaw Mingalar Park to his is auspicious.

Sayadaw U Ottama was the embodiment of anti-colonialism. He generated a great wave of patriotism among the Myanmar youths who carried on with Myanmar independence struggles until Myanmar restored her independence on 4th January 1948. He was, therefore, termed the Gandhi of Myanmar. The British officers treated in the servile manner even by educated Myanmar people in those days were traumatized by his seditious speeches. Especially, due to his newspaper open letter titled "Craddock get out of Burma (Myanmar)", patriotism of the then submissive Myanmar people flared up as the live charcoal covered with a thin layer of ash was aflame. He was a locomotive

Sayadaw U Ottama was born of father U San Mra and mother Daw Aung Kwra Pru in Rupa Quarter in Sittway on 14th December, 1879. His childhood name was Paw Tun Aung. He had a younger brother named Kyaw Tun Aung and a younger sister named Ma Ein Soe. At the age of five years, he started to learn at a vernacular school. But when he came to nine years, he moved to an English-Myanmar school in Sittway. By nature, he was candid, resolute, decisive, stubborn and industrious. He never inveigled anyone nor prattled away about frivolities but was outspoken in everything. Although he was amenable to good advice of others, he used to take great exception to any insulting comments on him. So some people say that he had an ambivalent character. Since childhood, he had been so ambi-

"Granting the decision to change the name of "Kandaw Mingalar Park" to its original name "U Ottama Park" by the Union Government and the Hluttaw is a big welcome"

tive personality in the political campaigns launched by the GCBA and the YMBA. He was, therefore, under the constant surveillance of the police due to his heroic, fervent anti-colonialist activities. Moreover, he, for his great erudition, became the first Myanmar who served as Pali and Sanskrit professor at Buddhist Academy in Japan. He was a polyglot well-versed in nine languages—Pali, Sanskrit, Hindhi, Bengli, Nagari, Tibetan, Japanese, English and French.

tious for his learning that he tried to stand first in every examination. Once, as he stood second, he, much to his indignation, threw away the prize into the Kaladan River. While studying in the fifth standard, a Christian priest, who noticed his unbridled enthusiasm for learning, asked his parents for permission to take him to India for further studies. As the parents could not bear to part with him, they dropped him out of school to prevent him from running away for better education and from en-



The caption in Myanmar version reads "U Ba Saw, Minister for Religious Affairs of the Pyithaungsu Government, opening the U Ottama Park".

tering government service when he came of age. And they brought him under the tutelage of Sayadaw Tejjarama, the presiding Sayadaw of the Shwezedi Monastery in Sittway, and engaged him in the pursuit of Buddhist scriptures, when he came to the sixth standard.

At the age of 15 years, he, together with his younger brother, was initiated as a novice with Shwezedi Sayadaw as his preceptor. He was given the title of U Ottama and his younger brother that of Ariya. Then he disrobed himself, went to Toungoo, sat for the Pali texts recitation examination and came out first. A wealthy Shan woman, therefore, adopted him as son and dispatched him to India. At the age of 19 years, he passed the entrance examination to Calcutta University. Then he returned to Myanmar and learnt the Three Baskets of the Dhamma (Tipitaka) under the guidance of Yes-ayyo Sayadaw Ganthasara at the

Pansaw Pariyatti Learning Centre in Pakokku. When he reached the age of 20 years, he was ordained as a monk with the support of U Tun Aung Kyaw, the representative of Bombay Burma Company. Then he went over to India for the second time and studied there English, Sanskrit and Nagari at Hindu College for four years. While in India, he, on the request of Director of Indian Archaeological Department, stayed with him and discussed Buddhist scriptures with him for about one year. In April 1904, he toured England and France with the aids of the archaeological director. During his stay in England, he learnt Law and Political Science from U May Aung and came back to India in 1905. While staying in India, he undertook political activities in communication with the Congress Party. Though he was offered professorship by Calcutta University, he rejected it to avoid

(See page 9)



Union Minister U Ohn Myint and wife being welcomed by Brazilian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Alcides GR Prates at the reception to mark 193rd Anniversary of Independence Day at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon on 7 September.—MNA

Ooredoo offers free data services for WeChat app

Khaing Thanda Lwin

YANGON — Ooredoo Myanmar and the makers of the mobile app WeChat launched a joint promotion on Monday that waives data usage fees for the instant messaging app on 7 September.

At a partnership press event in Yangon, Country Manager of WeChat Myanmar Mr Oliver Ye said that his company is striving

to bring a social and fun experience for WeChat's growing user base in Myanmar.

WeChat is one of the world's popular social communication apps and has 600 million monthly users worldwide; however Mr Ye said it is difficult to estimate the exact number of users in Myanmar.

The promotion includes 200MB of free data use for the

instant messaging app for the period between 7 September and 31 October.

WeChat is owned by China's Tencent Ltd and offers users high discounts on calls, texts and voice messages.

Qatar-based Ooredoo won a licence to operate mobile communications service in Myanmar in June 2013 and currently has 4.6 million users nationwide.—GNLM

Sayadaw U Ottama

(from page 8)

dealings with Indian Government. But he acted as professor of Buddhism and Sanskrit at the national college established by the students who boycotted Calcutta University for one year. When he returned to Myanmar in 1906 to launch political activities, he was always shadowed by the police. So he could not realize his purpose.

Therefore, he on 14th February 1907 voyaged to Japan via Singapore. He got contact with Principal of Tokyo Buddhist Academy and was appointed professor of Pali and Sanskrit. While he was in the capacity of professor, he studied Japanese. He also made the acquaintance of Dr. Sun Yat Sen who came to Japan and discussed the liberation of China with him. In 1910, he returned to Myanmar with an eye to embarking on anti-colonialist instigation. He contributed his speeches and articles on politics and education to the Myanmar Taryar Newspaper published by U Kyaw Yin, an executive member of the Mandalay YMBA and the Sasananugaha Association. As Myanmar political movements did not gain momentum, he went back to Japan in 1912, bringing with him some Myanmar youths so that they could pursue modern technology there. During his stay in Japan, he studied the Japanese and wrote a book entitled "Biography of Ja-

pan". In 1915, he came back again to Myanmar, toured Sittway, Yenanchaung, etc and went over to Japan for the third time.

He through Japan proceeded to America, Australia, Java, etc and returned to Myanmar at the end of the year. As the police kept vigilant against him, he had to stay at the Suriya Newspaper Publication House. From then onwards, he delivered his seditious speeches which could arouse patriotism and the spirit of safeguarding the Sasana. He gained popularity with the assistance of the Suriya Newspaper. Thus he engaged in anti-colonialist movements, sojourning alternately in Myanmar and India. On 25th March 1921, he delivered a speech on comments on field tax and capitation tax at Sukalat Village in Dedaye Township, was arrested by the police and sentenced to an 18-month imprisonment. But he was released on 26 June 1922. Then he, together members of the GCBA, continued campaigning against the Dyarchy Rule and for the Home Rule. In 1925, he roamed England, France, Germany, Netherland, Sweden, Demark, Norway, and other European countries.

On 16th August 1924, he, at the invitation of the some GCBA members, went to the Eindawyar Phaya in Mandalay by train. There, a riot between the audience and the police occurred. Some

GCBA leaders were arrested and had to serve some terms of imprisonment. He was also evicted immediately from Mandalay to Yangon. On 24 September 1924, he delivered a speech on taxes at the corner of Phoneygi Road and Gyungyi Road. He was again arrested and given a five-year term of imprisonment with labour on charge of disturbing the taxation system. During the trial, the court was overcrowded by the audience. Therefore, some lay people and the monks were driven out by the magistrate. So they, out of dissatisfaction for the British Government, held a meeting at the Fytche Square now known as the Maha Bandoola Park. They were dispersed forcibly by some police, and this claimed some injuries, causing a loud clarion call among the people to fight against the colonialists. In February 1927, he was released in February 1927. Then, on 20 March 1927, he attended and addressed the 14th meeting of the GCBA led by U Soe Thein indignantly. He was again arrested at Kyaikto Railway Station together with U Candobhasa on his return from the Kyai-khtiyoe Pagoda in 1928. When he was released, he was afflicted with diabetes and grew old. And at that time, some reputed politicians were manoeuvring for good positions. He, fed up with them, left behind the politics, plying between Myanmar and India.

But just before the election

German-Myanmar network presents research on urban development

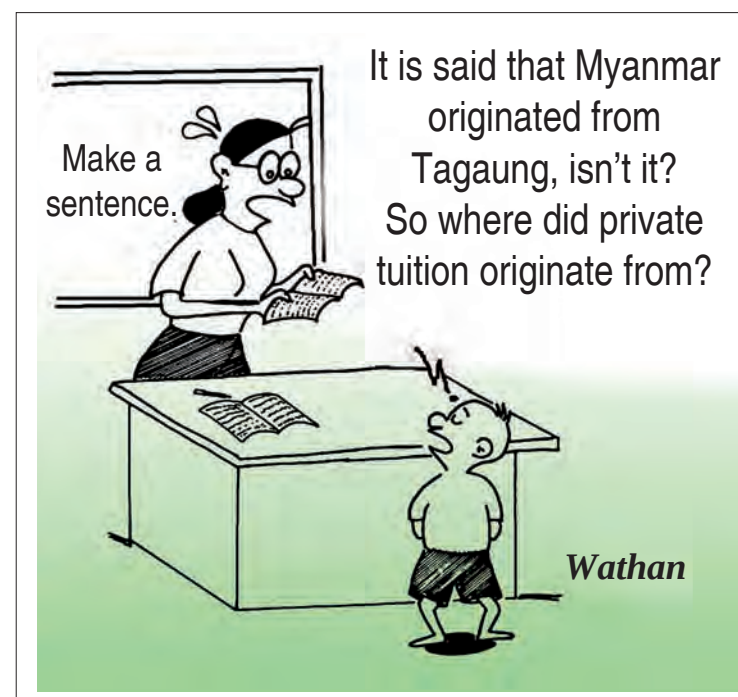
NAY PYI TAW — A workshop titled Urban Systems in Southeast Asia, jointly organised by the University of Cologne, Yangon University and the Department of Human Settlement and Housing Development, was held at Thinhaha Hotel in Yangon on 7 September.

Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin and Dr Frauke Kraas, a professor at the University of Cologne and

chairperson of the Network for Urban Future in Southeast Asia, greeted attendees at the workshop.

The workshop emphasised joint research on the development of urban areas conducted by scholars in Myanmar and Germany. The workshop will continue in Yangon until 9 September.

A similar workshop will be held in Mandalay from 11 to 13 September.—MNA



which would decide on the separation of Myanmar from India scheduled to be held in 1937, the Ngar-pwin-saing Party (Five-leader Party) headed by U Ba Pe approached and brought him round to help his party by giving his fiery talks to the public. Then the party transported him by plane to the towns where he delivered speeches. His speeches were so direct, forth-right and powerful that the party won a thunderous applause of them. As a result, the Ngar-pwin-saing Party won a landslide victory in the election. But due to petty jealousy among the elected candidates of the party, U Ba Pe would not able to form a government. Dr. Ba Maw from the Sinyethar Party (Poor man's Party) became prime-minister with a coalition cabinet. Although some politicians who had been assisted by Sayadaw U Ottama became ministers, secretaries and consultants, he, with no one to look after him, had to go about in Yangon, shabbily dressed, under-fed and oppressed by old age and disease. Often did he have to partake of some pieces of water-melon disposed of at rubbish-heaps on road-sides. He sometimes claimed Myanmar and English newspapers from the publishing houses and read them under shady trees. Only when he, oppressed by the disease and malnutrition, fell down fainted, some philanthropic people put him to the Yangon General Hospital.

Then he, with the assistance of U Ba Kalay, who was in charge of the Suriya Newspaper Publishing House, was transferred to the Nyaungdon Monastery and there Myanmar indigenous physician U Bo Shwe continued to mete out treatment to him. But, he, at the age of 60 years, passed away on 9th September in 1939.

No doubt, it was Sayadaw U Ottama who sowed the seed of anti-colonialism in the hearts of the Myanmar people. He sacrificed all his life for the Sasana, the country and the people. Indeed, he refreshed the race, the language and the Sasana which were weakened and withered under the servitude of colonialists. So he is worthy of honour and remembrance of the people. His selfless, assiduous contributions should be put on the record. Therefore, the author think that granting the decision to change the name of "Kandaw Mingalar Park" to its original name "U Ottama Park" by the Union Government and the Hluttaw is a big welcome to be extended by the entire national peoples, especially by the Rakhines.

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Asia subdued as China stocks see-saw after trading resumes

TOKYO — Asian stocks were subdued on Monday, lacking clear direction as Shanghai shares see-sawed in and out of the red after the Chinese markets resumed trading following a four-day long weekend.

Spreadbetters forecast Britain's FTSE, Germany's DAX and France's CAC opening a touch higher in a rebound from Friday's steep losses. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan was down 0.7 percent.

The index had already dropped earlier in the session following Friday's Wall Street slide, triggered after the August US jobs report failed to give a clear view on the Federal Reserve's interest rate hike.

Japan's Nikkei was down 0.1 percent after hitting a 7-month low. South Korea's Kospi dipped 0.2 percent and Australian stocks shed 0.7 percent.

Chinese stocks once again took centre stage when markets reopened after closing over Thursday and Friday as Beijing celebrated 70 years since the end of World War Two.

Shanghai shares initially rose as much as 1.8 percent following remarks over the weekend by regulators aimed at calming the market, but the index was last down 0.8 percent after bobbing in and out of the red.

China's policymakers and regulators tried to soothe jittery markets, promising deeper financial market reforms and stressing the economy was showing signs of stabilising.

US stock indexes dropped more than 1 percent on Friday after a mixed August jobs report did little to quell investor uncertainty about whether the Federal Reserve will hold off from hiking interest rates this month.



A pedestrian looks at an electronic board showing the various stock prices outside a brokerage in Tokyo, Japan, September 4, 2015.—REUTERS

Nonfarm payrolls increased 173,000 last month, fewer than the 220,000 that economists polled by Reuters had expected. But the unemployment rate dropped to 5.1 percent, its lowest in more than seven years, and wages accelerated.

"The jobs report itself was good. The US economy is recovering, and it should be good for the Japanese

economy if we didn't have worries about China," said Yoshihiro Okumura, an analyst at Chibagin Asset Management in Tokyo. Previously strong expectations that the Fed will tighten this month have weakened somewhat on the global markets turmoil and emerging worries over China's economy and its potential impact on global growth.

The dollar was on the back foot against its peers with Friday's US jobs data inadequate to give a definitive clue to the Fed's rate hike timing.

The US stood at 119.39 yen after sliding from a peak of 120.19 on Friday. The euro rose 0.1 percent to \$1.1143 following up an overnight bounce from a low of \$1.1090.

Marc Chandler, global head of currency strategy at Brown Brothers Harriman in New York, reckoned the dollar could slip back to 118 yen, if not a little further.

"With steep equity losses before the weekend, and the prospects of more volatility from China, which re-opens after being closed September 3-4, leaves the dollar vulnerable to additional losses," he wrote.

"These concerns likely outweigh the prospects of additional easing by the Bank of Japan, which many

continue to see as likely as early as next month."

The dollar index, a gauge of the greenback's strength against a basket of key currencies, was little changed at 96.295 after losing 0.2 percent overnight.

The Australian dollar, used as a liquid proxy of China trades, fell to a fresh 6-1/2-year low of \$0.6892 early on Monday.

Investors have been aggressive sellers of the Aussie in recent weeks, in large part due to heightened concerns about a hard landing for the Chinese economy. China is Australia's top export market.

In commodities, crude oil fell on a lingering supply glut and as the ambiguous US jobs data clouded global demand prospects.

US crude oil futures were down 0.8 percent at \$45.70 a barrel and Brent crude dropped 1 percent to \$49.14 a barrel.—Reuters

Apple to launch Apple TV with gaming focus: NY Times

NEW YORK — Apple Inc (AAPL.O) will make gaming a key part of an Apple TV product it is expected to unveil at an event on Wednesday, according to a New York Times online report on Sunday.

The article, which cited unnamed people briefed on Apple's plans, said the new product is expected to have a starting price around \$150, more power for better graphics, a new remote that could double as a controller and an app store for buying games.

Apple representatives were not immediately available for comment.

The New York Times said most game executives and analysts see little chance that Apple will be able to win over fans of high-end game consoles such as Microsoft Corp's (MSFT.O) Xbox One Sony Corp's (6758.T) PlayStation 4.

But Apple could instead go after the casual gamers who do not want a high-end console, according to the story. On August 27, Apple invited journalists to an event on Wednesday where it is widely expected to unveil new iPhones and potentially a new version of its Apple TV set-top box.—Reuters

UK manufacturers halve 2015 growth forecast as export orders slump

LONDON — Britain's main manufacturing lobby has halved its forecast for growth this year after overseas orders fell to their lowest since the financial crisis, while recruiters said skills shortages were leading to higher wages but slower job growth.

British manufacturing expanded 3.1 percent last year, its best performance since 2010, but the EEF manufacturers' organisation said on Monday that it expected growth to slow this year to just 0.7 percent, down from an earlier forecast of 1.5 percent.

"While UK data has continued to point to solid growth, UK manufacturing is having to contend with a roller-coaster of risks from the rest of the world, and the white-knuckle ride is starting to take its toll," EEF chief economist Lee Hopley said.

Uncertainty about the scale of an economic slowdown in China have caused share prices there to tumble in recent weeks, and

both the United States and China have reported the slowest manufacturing activity in more than two years.

The EEF said the proportion of British manufacturers reporting growth was the lowest since late 2009, and that new export orders had edged down to a six-year low, a weaker picture than a similar survey had shown last week.

But for central bank policymakers in Britain and the United States, who are considering when to start to raise interest rates, the broader picture is mixed. Domestic conditions are strong, and tight labour market is starting to push up wages.

A survey by the Recruitment and Employment Confederation, which represents staffing agencies, said the number of people its members had placed in permanent jobs had risen by the smallest amount in more than two years. "Although demand for staff remained strong,

placements had in many cases been held back by a lack of skilled candidates," it said, adding that the number of people looking for work had fallen by the largest amount in a year.

Pay rose faster than average after growing at its slowest pace in 18 months in July. The latest official data showed British wages excluding bonuses rose by 2.8 percent

in the second quarter of the year, the biggest annual real-terms rise since mid-2007, while total employment edged down from the first quarter's record high.—Reuters



A worker inspects a component on the fuel inlet production facility at Futaba Industrial in Foston, central England January 21, 2014.—REUTERS

YouTube to provide viewability of ads to advertisers

NEW YORK — Google Inc's YouTube is planning to provide advertisers with data on how many of the ads on its internet video service can be seen by viewers, in response to advertiser complaints, according to the Financial Times.

The online story, which cited unnamed people familiar with YouTube's plans, said the company plans to allow third-party verification groups to insert code on its website, which would let them collect data on the position and context

of ads. It said that the move is expected to start by year-end and could attract verification companies including ComScore, DoubleVerify and Integral Ad Science.

The plan is a response to complaints from advertisers, including Unilever

and Kellogg Co, according to the story.

In a statement late on Sunday, YouTube said viewability had long been a concern for its clients, adding: "We're committed to meeting all of our clients' measurement needs through a combina-

tion of product innovation and industry partnerships."

It also said it had further efforts planned and was "taking our clients' feedback into account as we continue to roll out new solutions."—Reuters

Afghan surgeon earns from rich to help pay for treating poor



Plastic surgeon Abdul Ghafar Ghayur performs surgery on a patient at Aria City Hospital, in Kabul, Afghanistan August 6, 2015.—REUTERS

KABUL — Plastic surgeon Abdul Ghafar Ghayur is practicing his own brand of welfare in Afghanistan, where access to healthcare is limited and many cannot afford private treatment.

The money he makes from the hundreds of nose jobs and Botox

injections he performs on wealthy Afghans allows him to perform life-changing surgery on low-income patients at a discount or sometimes for free.

Ghayur's practice in the capital Kabul offers a microcosm of Afghan medicine, where doctors,

driven by a sense of civic duty, try to fill huge gaps in a public health system devastated by decades of war.

The surgeon ticked off parliamentarians, business directors and other "rich people" among his clients, who got their ideas online or

during trips abroad and were prepared to pay thousands of dollars for cosmetic surgery. The average Afghan monthly wage is around \$35.

Income from such treatments, a relatively new phenomenon in Afghanistan, allows him to make a good living as well as treat low-income patients who turn up unannounced seeking reconstructive surgery to treat disease, congenital disorders and post-traumatic wounds. Many of these patients arrive with late stage illnesses and require urgent attention. "If a patient comes and says 'I can only pay \$100', I can do it for \$100. Or \$20, or \$30," Ghayur told Reuters during a recent morning consultation. "Because if we decide to wait until the patient has the money, the patient will have no chance of survival." He added: "I have treated lots of skin cancer patients for free, because some of them had small tumors that were 100 percent curable." Healthcare in Afghanistan has improved since the hardline Islamist Taliban movement was ousted in 2001, according to the World Health Organization, but

key indicators like infant and maternal mortality still rank among the worst in the world.

Public hospitals are also chronically under-funded and patients are expected to cover basic medical supplies like bandages, medicine and even wages.

Nose jobs are the most popular cosmetic surgeries, Ghayur said. He performed over 500 since opening his practice in 2013, many on members of the Hazara ethnic minority who wanted to elongate their distinctive Asian noses. Bibi Zara, an ethnic Pashtun who had come to have the bridge of her nose raised with silicone, said her husband wanted her to look more beautiful. "God made my nose so I am happy with it, but my husband wanted it," she said, smiling widely, her eyes the same opal blue color of her burqa.

Breast procedures were comparatively rare, Ghayur said, and cost around \$3-5,000, depending on the patient's economic status. He has performed five such operations since 2013, when he returned home from his studies in neighboring Pakistan.—Reuters

High schoolers use e-cigarettes to vape marijuana: US study

NEW YORK — Nearly one in five high school students who said they used electronic cigarettes to vaporize nicotine also used them to vaporize pot, according to a survey of nearly 4,000 Connecticut teens.

The study, published on Monday in the journal *Pediatrics*, is the first evidence that teens are using electronic cigarettes to vaporize cannabis, the researchers said. The paper by Meghan Morean of Oberlin College in Ohio and colleagues raises concerns that the rising popularity of e-cigarettes may encourage teens to use the devices to vaporize cannabis, potentially exposing them to higher concentrations of tetrahydrocannabinol or THC, the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. "Forms of cannabis that can be vaporized, like hash oil, can be many times stronger than marijuana that is smoked," Morean said in an email. A study released last month suggested U.S. teens who try electronic cigarettes may be more than twice as likely to move on to smoking conventional cigarettes than those who have never tried the devices.

According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about 2 million middle- and high-school students tried e-cigarettes in 2014, triple the number of teen users in 2013.

Morean and colleagues found that of students who had used e-cigarettes, 18 percent had used them to vaporize cannabis in some form, including hash oil and wax infused with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the main psychoactive cannabis ingredient.

High school students in the study were 27 times as likely to use e-cigarettes to vaporize cannabis as adults who use e-cigarettes, the researchers said.

Male and younger students were more likely to use e-cigarettes to vaporize cannabis than female and older students, but socioeconomic status was not a factor. Use differed among the five schools involved, possibly because of different policies.

While the findings were limited to Connecticut schools and may not apply to states with varying cannabis laws, the pattern is worrisome, said Dustin Lee, a postdoctoral fellow at the Geisel School of Medicine in Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, by email. Lee was not involved in the study.

"We know very little about the acute and long-term effects of high-potency THC on neurobiology and behavior," Lee said in an email. "This is especially concerning for teens, who are in a critical time for development of brain structures that are integral in executive functioning."—Reuters

The sum of tales — Mathematician storyteller visits India

NEW DELHI — Not many people care about the underlying mysteries of how numbers and patterns make the world tick.

But for some like Oxford professor Marcus du Sautoy, one of the foremost minds in the world on mathematics, numbers are a way to tell stories about life, the universe and everything else in between.

Du Sautoy was here recently to launch his book "Number Mysteries," in which he tackles small mysteries of maths in everyday life building up to a larger story about some of the great unsolved problems. The event was organised by the British Council.

"The book picks five different areas through these small stories of maths, builds up the fact

that we don't understand prime numbers, the geometry of our universe and what possibilities there could be solving equations. People love stories. And I think mathematics is full of good stories. Its language underlines the way the universe works," Sautoy says.

For du Sautoy though, the book is also like a manifesto for how school curriculum should be teaching the subject.

"There is another angle to the book in way is my manifesto for what I think our curriculum in schools should be about. I think the maths we teach in school is really boring and too technical. There are great things we could tell them that we are somehow missing out on," he says.

Expressing his disappointment

on the flawed curriculum which "rather than drawing people to maths, ends up alienating them" the celebrated mathematician also stressed on the importance of connecting the dreaded subjects to different fields to make it more accessible.

"The stories I tell are about maths in music, maths in architecture, maths in playing games. We are missing connecting our mathematics curriculum with the rest of the curriculum in schools and just our lives in general," he says.

This, he says can be deadly, because it has taken the heart out of the subject. "You may be good at it but if you don't understand why it works that way or how it can be adapted, then that is a shame."—PTI

Pfizer's quit-smoking drug not linked to depression or heart risks

LONDON — Pfizer's stop-smoking drug Chantix does not raise risks of heart attack or depression, contrary to previous reports, and should be recommended to more smokers wanting to quit, scientists said on Monday.

In a study tracking 150,000 smokers in England for 6 months, researchers found that patients who took Chantix, known generically as varenicline and marketed as Champix in Europe, were no more likely to suffer a heart attack than those using nicotine replacement therapy or another quit-smoking drug. They were also not at higher risk of depression or self-harm, the study found. Describing the study as an "extensive analysis" of the potential risks of Chantix,

Aziz Sheikh, professor and co-director at the University of Edinburgh's Center for Medical Informatics, said he considered it "highly unlikely that varenicline has any significant adverse effects on cardiac or mental health". "Regulators such as the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) should review its safety warning in relation to varenicline as this may be unnecessarily limiting access to this effective smoking cessation aid," he said. Chantix reduces both the craving for and pleasurable effects of cigarettes and is used by heavy smokers who find it difficult to quit. It is one of the biggest-selling stop-smoking drugs in the United States and Britain, and generated \$647 million in revenue in 2014. Invest-

tors had high hopes for the drug when Pfizer first launched it in 2006, but reports of mental health problems in users led FDA officials to order a "black box" warning on the drug's label in 2009. Two years later, the FDA changed the Chantix label further to add a warning of increased heart risks for people who already have cardiovascular disease.

The latest research, published in *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine* journal, studied patients who had been prescribed either varenicline or Zyban, an anti-smoking drug from GlaxoSmithKline known generically as bupropion, to help them quit, or had used nicotine therapies such as patches, gum or lozenges.—Reuters

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1038W)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GSS YANGON VOY NO (1038W) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S CHINA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV TRINIDAD TRADER VOY NO (1503)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TRINIDAD TRADER VOY NO (1503) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T/M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)

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CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV VEGA KAPPA VOY NO (1537)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV VEGA KAPPA VOY NO (1537) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 8.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S MCC TRANSPORT (S'PORE)

PTE LTD

Phone No: 2301185

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV DAI DUONG SUNRISE****VOY NO (DDSR-08/15)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DAI DUONG SUNRISE VOY NO (DDSR-08/15) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (3) where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S G LINK EXPRESS PTE LTD.

Phone No: 2301186

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (417N)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV EVER ABLE VOY NO (417N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 7.9.2015 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S EVERGREEN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 2301185

World loses South Africa-sized forest area in 25 years — FAO

JOHANNESBURG — The world has lost forests the size of South Africa over the past 25 years, a decline of more than 3 percent, although the rate of forest loss has significantly slowed, a report by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said on Monday.

A growing global population and increased demand for food and land are driving deforestation, although the FAO said the rate of global forest area change has slowed by more than 50 percent since 1990.

"The biggest forest area loss occurred in the tropics, particularly in South America and Africa, although the rate of loss in those areas has decreased substantially in the past five years," FAO said.

It said the rate of loss had declined due to reduced forest conversion rates in some countries and increased forest area expansion in others.

"Countries have more knowledge of their forest resources than ever before and as a result we have a better picture of global forest change," the FAO said.

The world has just under 4 billion hectares of forests in 2015 from 4.1 billion in 1990, FAO said.

Forests give protection against climate change, as trees absorb carbon dioxide. Deforestation has been blamed for worsening soil erosion, landslides and floods.

An estimated 1.2 billion people rely on forests for their livelihood, including about 60 million indigenous people who are almost entirely dependent on them, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations said in May.

"Important challenges remain. The existence of sound policies, legislation and regulation is not always coupled with effective incentives or enforcement," the FAO said.—*Reuters*

China, Russia continue cross-border water quality monitoring

HARBIN — China and Russia have completed joint water sampling of the Heilongjiang river, which borders the two countries, Chinese environmental authorities said.

Environmental experts collected water samples from both sides of the river and will conduct quality analysis.

Chemical oxygen demand and contents of heavy metals are among the 40 indices to determine water quality.

Under an agreement reached in 2006, China and Russia will conduct water quality tests of for four rivers and a lake — Heilongjiang, Wusuli, Ergune and Suifen rivers and Xingkai Lake — to strengthen cross-border pollution control.

Monitoring of the Heilongjiang river started in June 2007, with 30 tests conducted so far.

The two countries share about 3,500 kilometers of cross-border bodies of water.—*Xinhua*

Three injured, about 70 homes damaged in strong winds near Tokyo

CHIBA, (Japan) — Three women were slightly injured and 70 homes damaged as severe winds hit the city of Chiba, Chiba Prefecture, just east of Tokyo, on Sunday, according to the prefectural government.

Some windows were also found smashed on a train at a local station late Sunday, while its driver reported seeing what looked like a tornado as the train was travelling into the station.

The Japan Meteorological Agency plans to send investigators to Chi-

ba and other cities in the prefecture to look into the possibility that a tornado or downburst may have occurred there.

Severe winds hit a residential area near JR Soga Station and in its vicinity on Sunday night, according to local police and fire fighters. The three injured women were in their 30s to 80s, they said.

An aerial photo showed one home with its ceiling ripped off and others with damaged ceilings. A concrete fence was also seen toppled because of the winds.—*Kyodo News*



Workers stand on the roof of a house after roof tiles have been blown away due to severe winds in Chiba, near Tokyo, in this photo taken on Sept. 7, 2015 from a Kyodo News helicopter.—Kyodo News

Nepal government urges civil servants to be cautious using social media

KATHMANDU — Nepal's government has issued a circular to all the civil servants on Monday to be cautious while using social media sites.

A press release issued by the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Minister (OPMCM) states

that it urged the government officials to be vigilant while using the social media like Facebook, Twitter and Blog.

"Government officials are appealed not to Like, Share, Tag, Retweet the social media contents that would disrupt the social harmony," the circular states.

The circular comes in the wake of protests, strikes and demonstrations across the country against the number and delineation of federal provinces in the new constitution.

OPMCM is of view that the social media contents like opinion post, car-

toon, photo and graphics can have negative impact on peace and security.

The circular further reads, "The social media contents should not hurt the sentiments of any ethnic groups, language, culture, religion and communities."—*Xinhua*

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Level 8A, Union Financial Centre (UFC), Corner of Mahabandoola Road and Thein Phyu Road, Botahtaung Township, Yangon,

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated 8 September 2015

kmma@kcyangon.com

6.4-magnitude quake hits 191 km SSE of L'Esperance Rock, New Zealand

HONG KONG — An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter scale jolted 191km SSE of L'Esperance Rock, New Zealand 09:13:58 GMT on Monday, the US Geological Survey said.

The epicenter, with a depth of 35.35 km, was initially determined to be at 32.9323 degrees south latitude and 177.891 degrees west longitude.—Xinhua

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Dated 8 September 2015

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Htain Lin Oo LL.B Advocate
MYANMAR TRADEMARK AND PATENT LAW FIRM

E-mail: mtpip@mptmail.net.mm

Tel: 376318 G.P.O Box: 666

Yangon. 8th September 2015

WEATHER REPORT

BAY INFERENCE:

Monsoon is weak in the Andaman Sea and South Bay and moderate to strong elsewhere in the Bay of Bengal.

FORECAST VALID UNTIL EVENING OF THE 8th September, 2015:

Rain or thunder-showers will be scattered in Lower Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway and Taninthayi Regions, Kayah State, fairly widespread in Upper Sagaing Region and Shan State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with likelihood of isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing Region, Kachin, Chin, Rakhine and Mon States. Degree of certainty is (100%).

STATE OF THE SEA:

Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times Deltaic and off and along Rakhine Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (30 - 35) m.p.h. Sea will be moderate elsewhere in Myanmar waters.

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Steve Jobs movie wins reviewer praise, Oscar hopes

LOS ANGELES — A weekend screening of “Steve Jobs,” a biopic about Apple Inc.’s famous co-founder, drew high praise from some reviewers and suggestions that actor Michael Fassbender could be an Oscar contender for his portrayal of Jobs.

While the positive views were not unanimous, Variety.com was impressed. Its reviewer said that Fassbender, director Danny Boyle and screenwriter Aaron Sorkin, gave Jobs “the brilliant, maddening, ingeniously designed and monstrously self-aggrandizing movie he deserves.” It described the movie as a “terrific actors’ showcase and an incorrigibly entertaining ride that looks set to be one of the fall’s early must-see attractions.” The website also listed Fassbender as a “no-brainer best actor Oscar contender.” Hollywood Reporter said the movie is “clearly positioned as one of the prestige titles of the fall season and will be high priority viewing for discerning audiences around the world.” A New York Times blog said the audience “responded warmly”

to the film when it aired at the Telluride Film Festival in Colorado on Saturday.

Apple co-founder Steve Wozniak said he was impressed with the movie, according to Deadline Hollywood. It cited Wozniak saying he felt he was “actually watching Steve Jobs and the others” rather than actors and that he gave “full credit to Danny Boyle and Aaron Sorkin for getting it so right.” Indiewire.com said the movie would “factor in the Oscar race,” and that Fassbender and Kate Winslet, who plays Macintosh marketing chief Joanna Hoffman, “dazzle with their fleet-tongued performances, unlike anything they have done before.”

The Guardian, however, gave a more mixed review, suggesting it would mostly appeal to “the Apple geek.” It said Steve Jobs was “Boyle’s best film in years” and that “Fassbender excels.” But it said that while the movie “appears to be admirably unsentimental in its portrayal of Jobs, by the end we’re getting close to Apple-sponsored hero iWorship.”—Reuters

Europe’s migrant tide ripples through Venice film fest

VENICE—Few people have been left untouched by the plight of desperate refugees trying to make it to Europe, and at the Venice Film Festival, actors and directors alike shared their distress over the crisis, pleading for tolerance and compassion.

Mexican director Alfonso Cuarón, whose “Birdman” won the festival’s top Lion d’Or prize last year and best film at the 2015 Oscars, set the stage on the festival’s first day when he urged Europe to welcome the people flocking to its shores.

“I’m a Mexican living in Europe and I’ve always felt welcome,” Cuarón, head of the competition jury, said at the opening ceremony on Wednesday.

“I would like that today and in the future that the same welcome would be extended to all migrants.”

British actress Tilda Swinton was also there, for the screening of “A Bigger Splash,” which has a subplot involving people coming ashore on the Mediterranean island of Pantelleria.

“May I just suggest by the way that we all get out of the habit of calling any-



Cast members Matthias Schoenaerts, Dakota Johnson, director Luca Guadagnino, Tilda Swinton, Corrado Guzzanti and Ralph Fiennes (L to R) attend the red carpet event for the movie “A Bigger Splash” at the 72nd Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, on Sept. 6, 2015. —XINHUA

body migrants in this situation?,” she said. “We’re dealing with refugees, war refugees.” British director Tom Hooper, whose “The Danish Girl” stars Eddie Redmayne, winner of an Oscar for best actor, as the pioneering transgender woman Lili Elbe, said migrants and refugees, like transgender people, were victims of prejudice. “I think this film is about inclusion, but it’s about the inclusion that’s made pos-

sible by love,” Hooper said. “We live in a deeply divided world. I mean what’s happening on the shores of Europe at the moment, the extraordinary refugee crisis that reaches out to us at the moment, is an appeal to our hearts.”

Of all the films shown so far at the 11-day festival, Italian director Luca Guadagnino’s “A Bigger Splash,” in which Swinton stars along with Ralph Fiennes, Matthias Schoenaerts

and Dakota Johnson, refers to the crisis the most pointedly.

It is a remake of the 1969 French film “La Piscine” (The Swimming Pool), in which a vicious love quartet was played out on the Cote d’Azur.

Relocated to Pantelleria, the film now incorporates flashes of information from television broadcasts about refugees and immigrants landing on Lampedusa.—Reuters

China Film Forum promotes cooperation in Venice



Italian director Giuseppe Tornatore (1st L) addresses the 2nd edition of China Film Forum on the sidelines of the 72nd Venice Film Festival at Lido Island in Venice, Italy, Sept. 6, 2015. —XINHUA

VENICE, (Italy) — The second edition of China Film Forum took place Sunday on the sidelines of the 72nd Venice International Film Festival, where professionals from China and Europe gathered to exchange views on the Chinese film industry.

Organised by the Venice Days section of the festival, the event brought together directors, producers, investors, film critics and journalists for intensive

discussions under the theme “Reasons of Creativity”.

Giuseppe Tornatore, one of Italy’s most influential directors, delivered a keynote speech and joined debates at the forum, expressing strong interest in Chinese films.

“I think the Chinese film market is full of potential. I’m curious about it and I look forward to future cooperation with Chinese filmmakers,” he said.

A major topic at this

year’s forum is “how to create stories for other cultures.” To explore on it, the participants watched the trailer of Forgotten War, an upcoming war-themed film brought to the forum by young Chinese producer Han Yi and director Zhang Duanyang. Zhang said the goal of the film was to demonstrate a historical period of China in a way that Western audience can understand and connect with.—Xinhua

Kapoor’s “Dirty Corner” sculpture damaged in repeat French attack

VERSAILLES — Vandals have damaged British-Indian sculptor Anish Kapoor’s controversial “Dirty Corner” installation at the Palace of Versailles near Paris on Sunday in the second attack against the artwork in three months.

A series of sentences, some of which were anti-Semitic, were painted on Kapoor’s 60 metre steel and rock abstract sculpture, which he has described as “the vagina of the queen coming into power”.

It was not clear how the anti-Semitic element could relate to the artwork, but there has been a general increase in such acts over recent years in France, which has the biggest Jewish community in Europe.

French Culture Minister Fleur Pellerin condemned the incident.

“To attack the work of artists is to attack the universal values of culture



Indian-born British artist Anish Kapoor attends a news conference before a media preview of the exhibition ‘Kapoor in Berlin’ at the Martin-Gropius Bau, in Berlin May 17, 2013. —REUTERS

— that is freedom and human dignity,” she said in a statement. “This is an act that simply shows a facist vision of culture.”

The piece was also sprayed with paint in June soon after it had been installed in the palace gardens.

Last year vandals attacked another controversial artwork, bringing down Paul McCarthy’s giant green inflatable sculpture on the famous Place Vendôme in Paris after its resemblance to a sex toy sparked an outcry.—Reuters

Architect Hadid's firm to submit new plan for Tokyo Olympic stadium

TOKYO—The architecture firm behind the Tokyo Olympic stadium blueprint scrapped by the Japanese government said Monday it intends to submit a new plan for the venue in collaboration with a major local design outfit.

Zaha Hadid Architects will team up with Nikken Sekkei Ltd., after its initial futuristic design for the new National Stadium for the 2020 Games was dropped by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in July amid popular outcry over its ballooning cost.

"Building on the two years of work and knowledge in which the Japanese people have invested, Zaha Hadid Architects and Nikken Sekkei are able to quickly develop a comprehensive and fully costed design," Hadid said in a comment.

In partnership "with a committed construction contractor...we can deliver the most cost-effective delivery plan that will ensure the new National Stadium is ready in good time for the preparations ahead of Tokyo 2020," the architect said.

After dropping the initial plan estimated to cost 250 billion yen, the government decided in August to set a 155 billion yen (\$1.29

billion) cap on the cost of the stadium.

The state-run Japan Sport Council, in charge of screening and selecting bidders for the plan, started seeking a public offering from Sept. 1 on the design and construction of the new stadium with the selection of the plans scheduled for late December.

Nikken Sekkei, which has worked with the firm founded by the renowned Iraqi-British architect since May 2013, have held in-depth discussions with all local authorities to develop plans to "optimize safety, comfort, and the integration with surrounding natural environment," resulting in over 4,000 drawings of the design.

"We believe the best way to respond to the new brief is to maximize the use of the expertise gained by the design team over the past two years," the firm said. As a way to cut costs and the building period, design and construction will be ordered integrally. Nikken Sekkei said it is still negotiating a contractor for its plan. The new stadium will be built in central Tokyo on the site of the previous National Stadium for the 1964 Olympics, which has already been demolished.—*Kyodo News*

Breath of fresh air for a "living fossil"



Women and children peel mulberry bark in a village in Moyu county, Hotan prefecture, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. —XINHUA

BEIJING — What is mulberry paper?

Mulberry paper making is a traditional handicraft of the Uyghur people in China's Xinjiang. It is handmade and today only a few families still produce it.

The finished product is graded as high, medium, or low, according to quality. In the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911 AD), books and brochures were mainly printed with high-quality paper in Xinjiang. It was also used to print money during the period of the Republic of China (1912-1949 AD). Medium grade paper was mainly used for packing tea and

herbal medicine, while low quality, rough paper was used as a subsidiary material to make shoes or clothes.

Today it is more often used for writing and painting, which can last for more than 1,000 years, according to Tursunbahir Tohtibahi, the 11th inheritor of the handicraft.

Tursunbahir Tohtibahi is the 11th inheritor of the handicraft. As it needs much labor, he is training local students for free and hopes to foster more talent to pass down the handicraft.

With help from the local government, he has taken part in several trade fairs

and the market is opening wider to him. His mulberry paper has been exported to East Asia, the US, Japan and Saudi Arabia.

How has it evolved?

According to historical records, the technique dates back to the Tang Dynasty. Relics have shown that mulberry paper was widely used in Xinjiang. Since the 1980s, industrialization of papermaking has changed and traditional techniques have faded out and many craftsmen have left the industry.

Things began to change in 2006 when the handicraft was listed as a national in-

tangible cultural heritage and the "living fossil" was revived and began to be passed down.

How it is made?

The raw material is mulberry tree bark, and it takes nine procedures, all by hand. The process is laborious and time consuming, which partly explains why it remains rare.

The inner skin of the bark is glutinous and the fiber is fine and smooth, hence it is easy to process. The bark is peeled, soaked, boiled, beaten, fermented, filtered, molded and dried, before being made into paper.—*Xinhua*

mitv Myanmar International

(8-9-2015 07:00 am~9-9-2015 07:00 am) MST

Today Fresh

07:03	Am	News
07:26	Am	Insight Myanmar - Women & Election
07:40	Am	Bago: A City Of Famous Historic Pagoda
08:03	Am	News
08:27	Am	Myanmar Masterclass: Kyaw Phyu San
08:43	Am	Ruili City With Mon Yee
09:03	Am	News
09:27	Am	Myanmar Performing Arts- Puppet
10:03	Am	News
10:26	Am	Indian Footsteps
10:35	Am	Karaweik Palace- A Symbol Of Glorious Myanma Culture
10:49	Am	Farming: Duck Breeder

(11:00 Am ~ 03:00 Pm) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Pm ~ 07:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)

Prime Time

07:03	Pm	News
07:26	Pm	A Day Out With Sarah (EP-2)
07:52	Pm	One of the Useful Purposes of Bamboo
08:03	Pm	News
08:27	Pm	Taste Of Myanmar (Glass Noodle Soup)
08:46	Pm	Local Tour Guide: Pho Khant

(09:00 Pm ~ 11:00 Pm) - Today Repeat (09:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(11:00 Pm ~ 03:00 Am) - Monday Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(03:00 Am ~ 07:00 Am) - Today Repeat (07:00 Am ~ 11:00 Am)
(For Detailed Schedule - www.myanmaritv.com/schedule)

Australia to meet Kyrgyzstan in Canberra



Members of the Australian Socceroos national soccer team jog during a training session in Sydney May 23, 2014. —REUTERS

SYDNEY—Asian champions Australia will play their fifth opening round World Cup qualifier against Kyrgyzstan in Canberra on Nov. 12, Football Federation Australia (FFA) said on Monday.

The Socceroos, who won their opening two qualifiers against Kyrgyzstan and Bangladesh and face Tajikistan in their third on Wednesday, will play their first match in the national capital for four years.

Canberra does not have a team on the domestic top flight A-League but attracted good crowds for matches in January's Asian Cup, which Australia won. "This is a rare opportunity for the football community and sports fans to see the Socceroos in action so I encourage everyone to support the investment and support the Socceroos in November," Capital Football chief executive Heather Reid.

Australia, aiming to qualify for a fourth successive World Cup finals, must finish in the top two in their group to progress to a further round robin stage, from which four teams will secure automatic spots in Russia in 2018. —*Reuters*

Whale watching ships search for entangled blue whale off California

LOS ANGELES — Whale watching ships were dispatched on Sunday to help search for a blue whale entangled in a fishing line for several days off the southern California coast, officials said.

The whale, which was first seen by a cruise ship off the coast of the upscale seaside community of Rancho Palos Verdes, was last spotted on Friday in the channel between Los Angeles Harbor and Catalina Island, said Jim Milbury, a spokesman for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Rancho Palos Verdes is about 25 miles (40 km) from Catalina Island. The Coast Guard will also fly over the area to search for the whale, Milbury said.

Aerial footage previously broadcast by local television news outlet KABC showed a thick line trailing dozens of feet off the whale's tail with what appeared to be a buoy attached to the end.—*Reuters*

Venus and Serena set stage for huge quarter-final clash

NEW YORK — The Williams Family show took centre stage at the US Open with Serena and Venus both cruising to straight set wins on Sunday to set up a monster quarter-final between the tennis siblings.

Whenever the Williams sisters clash on court it is a major tennis event but with older sister Venus, a twice US Open winner, standing in the way of defending champion Serena's quest for a rare calendar-year grand slam their meeting on Tuesday has been elevated to a must-see sporting viewing.

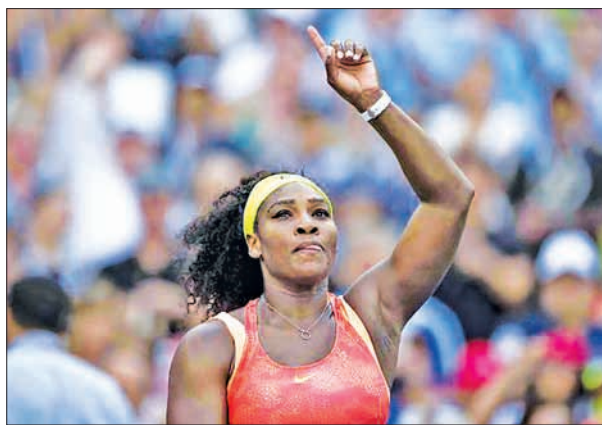
While the National Tennis Center was abuzz over another Williams grand slam showdown, world number one Novak Djokovic was hard at work taming Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 to reach his 26th consecutive grand slam quarter-final.

Only Roger Federer (36) and Jimmy Connors (27) have registered more consecutive grand slam quarter-final appearances than Djokovic since the slams began including professionals in 1968.

With Serena bidding to become just the fourth woman to win all four grand slams in the same year, the US Open hype machine that already had been in top gear is now set to crank into overdrive. The Williams sisters have met 26 times over their careers with Serena coming out on top 15-11 but meeting number 27 will have more than the usual family bragging rights riding on the outcome.

"Obviously getting to a Grand Slam semifinal is the next step toward the final. Pretty clear what's up for grabs here," said Venus. "I think people love to see history being made."

"No one is out to be a



Serena Williams of the US makes a sign towards fans after defeating compatriot Madison Keys in their fourth round match at the US Open Championships tennis tournament in New York, September 6, 2015. —REUTERS

spoiler, but at the same time, you're focused on winning your match even though the circumstances are really much different than you.

"You still have to prepare, still have to play well."

"Even though you're playing your sister you have to be prepared and focus. The preparation doesn't change."

The 35-year-old Venus, seeded 23rd, overpowered 19-year-old qualifier Estonian Anett Kontaveit 6-2 6-1 in a ruthless fourth-round display that took just 50 minutes. Serena followed her sister onto Arthur Ashe Stadium court and was no less efficient, routing fellow American Madison Keys 6-3, 6-3 in 68 minutes.

"She's playing great," 33-year-old Serena said about seven-times grand slam winner Venus, who is two years her elder. "I have to really be ready for that."

"At least one of us, a Williams, will be in the semis."

Defending champion Marin Cilic kicked off centre court action on another sunny day at Flushing Meadows and was the first man through to the last eight, taking down determined Frenchman Jeremy Chardy 6-3, 2-6, 7-6(2), 6-1 to extend his US Open win streak to 11 matches.

Coming off a punishing five-setter with Mikhail Kukushkin in a third-round match that lasted four hours, Cilic took a while to find his power game but was unstoppable once he did, the ninth seeded Croat blasting 23 aces past 27th seed Chardy, who had no answer.

"Key today was find-

ing my rhythm on the serve, especially towards the end of the third set," said Cilic. "I played really good in the fourth set, really great tennis, so I'm happy about it."

After splitting the opening two sets, Cilic's power began to show through, particularly in the third set tie-break when he used his big serve to full advantage firing four aces and going up 6-1 before closing out 7-2.

Four Frenchmen made the round of 16, a US Open record, and at least one advanced to the quarter-finals, with Jo-Wilfried Tsonga beating countryman Benoit Paire 6-4, 6-3 6-4.

Fabio Fognini, who toppled Rafa Nadal in an epic five-setter that ended early Saturday morning, had nothing left in his tank for his fourth-round clash with Feliciano Lopez, the 18th seeded Spaniard easing to a 6-3, 7-6(5), 6-1 win.—Reuters

Welbeck out for six months, says England manager Hodgson



England's Danny Welbeck celebrates his second goal during their Euro 2016 Group E qualifying soccer match against Slovenia at Wembley Stadium in London November 15, 2014.—REUTERS

LONDON — Arsenal forward Danny Welbeck will be out for six months and might be doubtful for England's campaign at the Euro 2016 in France, manager Roy Hodgson has said.

The 24-year-old Welbeck underwent surgery on his left knee last week after struggling to progress in his rehabilitation following an injury, his club Arsenal said.

The former Manches-

ter United striker has not played since damaging the knee after coming on as a late substitute in a 0-0 draw with Chelsea on April 26.

"Well, Welbeck bothers me now. He has already been out for me since March and for Arsenal since April, and now I hear it's another six months," the 68-year-old Hodgson was quoted as saying by the British media.

"I can only hope

that Danny recovers a bit quicker and then hits the ground running."

Hodgson also compared Welbeck's injury problems with that of Liverpool forward Daniel Sturridge and while he is keen on them being fit, he is also prepared to look elsewhere.

"Daniel is a bit the same. It's getting on for a year now (since he played for England)," said the for-

mer Liverpool manager.

"They are always in my thoughts —because I think they're very good players and they did extremely well when they were playing in the national team I was coaching."

"I've got to make certain that there are a few Vardys and Kanes and Walcotts, because we can't keep going around talking about the ones who aren't there."—Reuters

Friendly Football Match 7.9.2015

Myanmar 1 - 1 New Zealand

Dutch media mourn end of an era after Euro 2016 crisis

AMSTERDAM — The Netherlands were plunged into a veritable crisis after Sunday's 3-0 loss in Turkey left their Euro 2016 qualification hopes in tatters with the local press declaring it as the end of an era.

New coach Danny Blind said the team had "shot ourselves in the foot" with individual errors in the defeat in Konya, which followed on a 1-0 home loss to Iceland on Thursday. The two losses in Blind's first two games left the Dutch floundering in fourth place in Group A, needing to overhaul a two-point deficit on third placed Turkey with two games to play in October to have any chance of reaching the Euro 2016 finals via the November play-offs. It is a significant fall for the Netherlands after finishing third at the World Cup in Brazil last year.

"We don't count anymore," screamed the front page of Monday's Algemeen Dagblad while the high brow Volkskrant said there was a "blatant lack of quality, fitness, speed, teamwork and courage" displayed by the team.

Midfielder Wesley Sneijder was not sure what exactly went wrong.

"Maybe it's bad luck, maybe it's a lack of confidence," the Galatasaray player said after the latest loss. "We let two easy goals in against us that had to do purely with a lack of concentration and focus," he told Dutch television.

Robin van Persie, dumped as captain by Blind for the Iceland game but restored on Sunday after injury to Arjen Robben, did not hide his feeling.

"The whole qualifying tournament has all been very difficult. We now no longer have it in our own hands. I feel terrible, really terrible," he said.

The Dutch were on the back foot from the start of the preliminaries as Guus Hiddink's first competitive game back as coach saw them lose in Prague to the Czech Republic, followed the next month by defeat in Iceland. Continuing poor performance and mounting criticism saw Hiddink resign after less than a year in charge with Blind promoted up from assistant.—Reuters