President U Thein Sein felicitates
President of United Mexican States

NAV PYI TAW, 16 Sept—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, President of the United Mexican States, on the anniversary of the Independence Day of the United Mexican States, which falls on 16th September, 2011.

MNA

Harmonization of democracy and human society will bring about internal peace and development
Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw jointly observe International Day of Democracy 2011 in Nay Pyi Taw

NAV PYI TAW, 15 Sept—As the Republic of the Union of Myanmar that has emerged in line with the democratization process in accord with the Constitution 2008 is being built as a modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation, special emphasis is being placed on democratic reforms.

With a view to forging democratic practices and rights and in conformity with the present situation of Myanmar that can serve the interests of the nation and the entire people, the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar jointly held the ceremony to mark the International Day of Democracy 2011 which falls 15th September 2011, on a grand scale at the Pyithu Hluttaw Building, here, at 10 am today.

Present on the occasion were Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, the Union Chief Justice, the Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, the Chairman of the Union Election Commission, Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, Union ministers, the chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the International Day of Democracy 2011 and members, deputy ministers, the Deputy Attorney-General, officials of the Union Supreme Court and the Office of Union Attorney-General, Hluttaw representatives of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, speakers of Region/State Hluttaws, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and diplomats, responsible persons of the UN agencies, non-government organizations, people’s representatives of eight townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, correspondents of foreign news agencies home, reporters of local periodicals and correspondents from foreign news agencies abroad.

He said, democracy is a practice that can protect and uplift individual integrity and fundamental rights. It is the only political system that ensures the right to use reasoning power. Thus, human beings accept democracy as a model practice and goal. Democracy has basic characters of justice, freedom, equality, transparency, responsibility and formation with diversified views and opinions. Harmonization of democracy and human society will bring about internal peace and development.

Democracy must be practised by upholding the law; and human rights are to be upheld within the framework of laws. Prevalence of law and order and respect to human rights are sound foundations for flourishing of democracy.

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint addresses International Day of Democracy 2011 commemorative ceremony. —MNA

Lack of democracy culture and environment may hinder development.

Democracy ensures freedom of expression, peaceful gathering and processing, freedom of forming associations and organizations, rights to vote, stand for election, set up political parties and gathering news from other news agencies apart from government-owned news agencies. Moreover, there must be a human society to enjoy rights and accept responsibilities. There must be tolerance for differences between minority and majority and also cooperation in the command ground so that disunity may not occur.

Moreover, democracy is to be practised at home as well as in international relations. The countries practising democracy at home but not in international relations do not really value democracy.

Every nation has sovereignty and territorial integrity. Moreover, the respective countries are to ensure development according to public aspiration political, economic, social and cultural systems. The global countries are to practise the principles of co-existence in diversity. Interference in internal affairs of other countries, putting pressure, threats and using forces are activities against democracy.

Democracy is created for the rights of all human beings to enable them to participate in public issues. In practising democracy, elections to choose people’s representatives must be fair.

(See page 16)
**PERSPECTIVES**

Friday, 16 September, 2011

**May democracy culture flourish in Myanmar**

Myanmar is a member of global family, having sound foundations for democracy and human rights. The Constitution which guarantees fundamental rights of citizens, democracy and human rights has emerged.

Hluttaws are in session introducing constitutional reforms to legislative, administrative and judicial sectors. Now, they are building a new landscape where ‘Good Governance and Clean Government’ flourish.

MPs are to focus on public interest in Hluttaws in accord with the motto, “People’s Voice is Hluttaw’s (Parliament’s) Voice; People’s will is Hluttaw’s (Parliament’s) Will; People’s Expectation is Hluttaw’s (Parliament’s) Implementation”, Fundamental, democratic and human rights are to be translated into reality. In democracy, the minority will have to follow the majority’s will while the majority respects the minority’s will.

Democracy culture unites the society and brings about the development. Democracy respects individual’s dignity. Foreign policy is centred on the prestige of the State. Legislation is the main responsibility of the Hluttaws. Enactment, addition or amendment of laws will be from the democratic point of view.

MPs are mandated mainly to protect fundamental rights of citizens as well. In this democratic nation, we all need to initiate reforms.

Myanmar is on the right track of democracy. Her people are to march under the same flag for flourishing of democracy culture and democratic practices in the country.

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**Union FM felicitates Mexican counterpart**

**MYANMAR GAZETTE**

**Commencement of Myanmar’s Oral Pleadings over Case Concerning Delimitation of Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and Myanmar in Bay of Bengal**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept—Oral pleadings for the first round over the case concerning the delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and Myanmar in the Bay of Bengal is hearing today before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ITLOS.

The International Tribunal for the law of the Sea comprises of 21 judges, who are independent and elected in the principle of geographical distribution and is seated in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Germany.

The first round of public hearings for Bangladesh began from 8 to 13 September 2011 and is beginning for Myanmar today. Dr Tun Shin, Union Attorney-General of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has represented Myanmar in the Bay of Bengal made an opening statement as follows:

This is the first time that Myanmar has taken part in proceedings before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS). Indeed, this is the first time that Myanmar has been a party to inter-State proceedings before any international or tribunal.

The collective decision together with Bangladesh, our friendly and neighbourly State, to submit this case to the Tribunal, rather than to arbitration under Annex VII of the Law of the Sea Convention 1982, is a measure of the confidence that we have in you, the Members of the Tribunal. This is, of course, the first maritime boundary delimitation case to come before the Tribunal. States with maritime delimitation disputes, and there are many of them, in all parts of the world, will be following this case with great attention. So the case is a historic one, both for the parties and for the Tribunal. Myanmar’s decision to submit this case to the Tribunal is a measure of the confidence we have in the Tribunal. It is a function of our belief that, with your collective wisdom and expertise, you will reach a decision firmly anchored in the modern international law of the sea, a decision that is firmly anchored in the law on maritime delimitation as it has developed in the case-law of the international courts and tribunals.

The flowing legal counsels who are internationally renowned and prominent in the fields of Public International Law and Law of the Maritime Boundary Delimitation will be pleading for Myanmar so as to achieve equitable results for both States:

- Professor Alain Pellet, Professor at the University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Defense, France, Mr Benjamin Samson, Researcher at the Centre de droit international de Nanterre (CEDIN), University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Defense, France, Mr Coalter Lathrop, Attorney-Advisor, Sovereign Geographic, Member of the North Carolina Bar, United States of America, Mr Daniel Muller, Consultant in Public International Law, Researcher at the Centre de droit international de Nanterre (CEDIN), University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Defense, France, Mr Benjamin Samson, Researcher at the Centre de droit international de Nanterre (CEDIN), University of Paris Ouest, Nanterre La Defense, France, Mr Eran Sthoegar, LL.M., New York University School of Law, New York, United States of America.

**Chairman of Central Committee for Organizing International Day of Democracy, Hluttaw representatives meet media persons**

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept—National race Hluttaw representatives from various political parties led by Chairman of the Central Committee for Organizing the International Day of Democracy 2011 Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Htay Oo met correspondents of local-based foreign news agencies, reporters of local periodicals and correspondents from foreign news agencies abroad at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, this evening.

At the press meeting, they explained submission of proposals to the Hluttaw, practising democratization process including voting, and holding the ceremony to mark the International Day of Democracy 2011 and replied to queries raised by reporters.

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MNA
Kenya govt warned about pipe explosion danger

Families living in Kenya’s slums are vulnerable to explosions, electrocution, fires, poisoning and other disasters because politicians anxious for votes won’t enforce city codes, they said.

The three largest slums in Kenya — home to over 500,000 people — are located on land unsuitable for human habitation, according to 2008 research by the University of Nairobi, said Peter M Ngau, a professor in the department of urban and regional planning at the university.

The report, which was presented to government, had warned that the Sinai slum was built on top of a gasoline pipeline and a sewer leading from the industrial centre. On Monday the pipeline burst a gasket, gushing gasoline into the sewer, where it ignited as hundreds of slum residents were fetching it, according to those who survived the fire.

The death toll from the disaster rose to 95 on Wednesday as more people died of their injuries, said Pamela Indiaka, an official with the Kenya Red Cross.

One person died on Tuesday night and six people died Wednesday in the hospital, she said. Another body was also recovered from a river which cuts across the slum.

More than 100 people were hospitalized with burns.

“Just disasters waiting to happen,” said Ngau, the professor. “It is just by the grace of God that they (disasters) do not happen more.”

In Kibera, Kenya’s largest slum, residents live in mud-walled, iron-roofed structures dangerously close to railway lines that carry fuel and dangerous chemicals, he said. In Mathare, the second biggest slum, people live on steep slopes prone to mudslides.

In the third largest slum of Mukuru, shacks sprung up under high voltage electricity lines.

17 killed in spate of attacks in central Iraq

BAGHDAD, 15 Sept.—A series of attacks against the Iraqi security forces in central Iraq on Wednesday killed a total of 17 people and wounded 53 others, the police said. The deadliest attack occurred in Babil Province during morning rush hours when a car bomb detonated outside a popular restaurant in the town of al-Shomaly southeast of the provincial capital City of Hilla, some 110 km south of Baghdad, killing 11 people and wounding 41 others, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity. The powerful blast destroyed the entire front of the restaurant which often frequented by Iraqi security forces, the source said, adding that most of the victims were civilians, including women and children.

Joplin tornado death toll rises to 162

KANSAS CITY, 15 Sept.—The death toll in the 22 May tornado that tore through Joplin, Missouri, has reached 162 people and is likely to rise further, a county coroner said on Wednesday.

Dorothy Johnston, 91, died on Sunday from a brain injury and Ronnie Holloway, 68, died on 15 August from an injured spine, Jasper County Coroner Rob Chappel said.

Chappel said there is sometimes a lapse in deaths of tornado victims being reported to him as the coroner for Jasper County, which includes the City of Joplin. There are likely other people with serious tornado injuries who have died or may yet die, he said, “I would be shocked if we are finished with this,” Chappel said.

Roof collapse hurts 17 at busy US-Mexico crossing

SAN DIEGO, 15 Sept.—A roof collapsed at the San Ysidro border crossing between Mexico and the United States on Wednesday, plowing debris on lines of cars, injuring at least 17 travellers and construction workers and closing lanes to northbound traffic.

The world’s busiest border crossing linking Tijuana, Mexico with San Diego, California — has been undergoing a $600 million upgrade since February that aims to more than double its capacity.

Russia sees no need for Arctic militarization

MOSCOW, 15 Sept.—Russia sees no need for military troops’ presence in the Arctic region, a high-ranked official said here Wednesday.

Russia’s Ambassador-at-large for Arctic issues Anton Vasiliev told a news conference ahead of the Second International Arctic Forum that Moscow sees no unresolvable problems in the region that require use of military forces.

“We have an effective international judicial base to resolve all potential problems,” Vasiliev said. He said Moscow has not seen any practical follow-up proposals to create a “mini-NATO” comprising of circumpolar countries. The idea of “mini-NATO” was voiced out during a summit of Northern European countries in London in January 2011. The forum entitled “Arctic the territory of dialogue” is to start on 22 Sept in the northern Russian City of Arkhangelsk.

Volunteers from Granby, Missouri, help clean rubble left from the 22 May tornado in Joplin, on 1 June, 2011.—INTERNET

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UNSG’s Message on the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer  
16 September 2011

The international community adopted the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer to protect the earth from harmful ultraviolet radiation. In more than 24 years of successful implementation, the Protocol has been gradually strengthened to cover the phase-out of nearly 100 ozone-depleting substances. The latest adjustments were adopted in 2007 to accelerate the phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons, or HCFCs.

HCFCs are both ozone-depleting substances and powerful greenhouse gases: the most commonly used HCFC is nearly 2,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide in adding to global warming. By agreeing to speed up the phase-out of HCFCs, Parties to the Montreal Protocol increased their already-substantial contributions to protecting the global climate system.

The level of climate benefits that can be achieved depends on what chemicals and technologies are chosen to replace HCFCs. The phase-out thus presents countries and industries with a unique opportunity to acquire cutting-edge technologies that not only eliminate ozone-depleting compounds but do so in a way that lowers energy costs and maximizes climate benefits. To facilitate this transition in developing countries, the Montreal Protocol’s Financial Mechanism is providing increased funding.

Parties to the Montreal Protocol are now considering further amendments, including proposals to bring hydrofluorocarbons, or HFCs, under the Protocol in a manner that would complement existing efforts under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol. HFCs do not deplete the ozone layer but are highly potent greenhouse gases, and their consumption has been increasing rapidly as they are being replaced to use HCFCs.

I urge Parties and industries to seize the opportunity provided by the HCFC phase-out to leapfrog HCFCs wherever possible. Only by limiting global climate change can we hope to achieve sustainable development for all.

UNSG

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER 16 SEPTEMBER

“HCFC phase-out: a unique opportunity”

TB vaccine tested in mice shows promise

New York, 15 Sept—A vaccine made of a genetically modified bacterium closely related to the bacterium that causes tuberculosis protected mice against TB, US researchers say. Study leader William R Jacobs Jr of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York says TB, a disease that kills an estimated 1.7 million worldwide, is caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

A vaccine to prevent TB infection, called bacille Calmette-Guerin, is widely available, but it provides limited protection and can cause severe TB infection in infants infected with HIV, restricting its use in certain countries, Jacobs says.

Jacobs and colleagues genetically modified M. smegmatis, a relative of Mycobacterium TB that is generally harmless to humans, by replacing a set of M. smegmatis genes called esx-3 — believed to be important because its DNA sequence is unusually consistent across species — with the corresponding but not identical set of genes from Mycobacterium TB. The researchers vaccinated mice with the modified form of M smegmatis, essentially delivering the Mycobacterium TB version of esx-3 without the bacterial components that would cause infection and then challenged the mice with Mycobacterium TB. —Internet

UBS rogue trader loses $2 billion

UBS shares immediately tumbled 8 percent at the open and were trading down 5.8 percent at 10.30 francs at 0714 GMT (3:14 am ET), compared with a flat European banking sector index.

“It is amazing that this is still possible,” said ZKB trading analyst Claude Zehnder. “They obviously have a problem with risk management. Even when the amount isn’t so high it is once more a loss of confidence that casts UBS in a poor light.”

“This with they are losing a lot of credit that they had regained with effort,” he added.

UBS had started to see client confidence return this year after it had to be rescued by the Swiss state in 2008 following massive losses on toxic assets held by its investment bank. UBS AG announced last month it is to axe 3,500 jobs to shave 2 billion Swiss francs ($2.3 billion) of annual costs as it joins rival investment banks in reversing the post-crisis hiring binge and preparing for a tough few years.

Investment banks worldwide have been hit by slow trading due to the debt problems in the euro zone and United States, as well as regulations aimed at forcing banks to hold more capital to protect them from future shocks after the 2008 global financial crisis.

UBS expects to book a restructuring charge due to the job cuts of some 550 million francs, and around 450 million francs of this will be booked in the second half of the year, with the majority recognized in the third quarter. —Reuters

Groupon IPO back on track

An online coupon sent via email from Groupon is pictured on a laptop screen on 29 November, 2010 in Los Angeles. —Reuters

New York, 15 Sept—Groupon seeks to go public in October or November, people familiar with the matter said the New York Times on Wednesday, a week after the daily deals website put its IPO on hold for a few weeks as it waited to ride out global market turmoil.

The company, which had postponed a roadshow to attract potential investors early this month, could go ahead with the presentations by mid-October, sources told the NY Times. The online coupon giant’s Chief Executive Andrew Mason had earlier lashed out at critics in an internal memo to employees, which became public in August.

The IPO restart is being driven in part by a resolution between the Securities and Exchange Commission over the memo, sources told the newspaper. Groupon, which is among a clutch of Internet companies heading toward an IPO this year or next, including social games maker Zynga and Facebook, could again delay the stock sale and roadshow in case of another bout of market volatility, people briefed on the matter told the paper. —Reuters
Russia sets first post-crash manned flight for November

MOSCOW, 15 Sept—Russia on Tuesday set its next manned space flight to the International Space Station for November and said it will not let the orbiter be abandoned despite a recent accident involving its workhorse Soyuz rocket.

“According to the schedule the launch of the manned Soyuz spaceships (has been set for) 12 December of this year,” Russia’s space agency Roskosmos said in a statement.

“The schedule has been put together taking into consideration the readiness of propulsion systems of thirstage rocket boosters,” said the statement, noting the move also took into account recommendations of industry officials.

A Soyuz rocket blasts off from the Russian-launched Baikonur cosmodrome early to the International Space Station (ISS), in June 2011. Russia on Tuesday set its next manned space flight to the International Space Station for November and said it will not let the orbiter be abandoned despite a recent accident involving its workhorse Soyuz rocket.—INTERNET

Russia is the only country capable of sending manned missions into space and the accident has prompted a series of urgent consultations with NASA officials who are concerned about the prospect of possibly leaving the ISS unmanned.

A spokesman for the Russian Space Mission Control told AFP later on Tuesday that the resumption of manned and cargo launches indicated that there was no need to evacuate the space station.

Sony says to launch new handheld device on 17 December in Japan

TYOKO, 15 Sept—Sony Corp will launch its new PlayStation Vita handheld games device on 17 December in Japan, and will discount the price of its exoplanet hunting since the very first world beyond the Solar System was spotted in 1995, the European Southern Observatory (ESO) said in a press release.

The planets were detected using a light analyser, or spectrograph, on a 3.6-metre (11.7-feet) telescope at La Silla Observatory in the ultra-dry conditions of Chile’s Atacama desert. The findings were presented at a conference on Extreme Solar Systems in Moran, Wyoming, attended by 350 exoplanet specialists.

Six of the planets have been designated “super-Earths”, a term meaning that they are exceptionally small for exoplanets that have been spotted so far. A Super-Earth is between one and 10 times the mass of the Earth. It does not necessarily mean that the world is rocky — as opposed to gassy — or that the conditions for life exist.

However, one of the 16 new “super-Earths”, called HD 85512b, which is estimated to be only 3.6 times the mass of the Earth, is orbiting at an intriguingly promising distance from its star.

It is just at the far edge of the so-called Goldilocks zone where the temperature should be balmy enough for water, the stuff of life as we know it, to exist in liquid form rather than as ice or a gas.

A handout released by the European Southern Observatory (ESO) in 2010 shows an artists impression of the atmosphere around a super-Earth exoplanet. Astronomers on Tuesday unveiled a haul of more than 50 planets orbiting other stars, including a “super-Earth” which inhabits a zone where, providing conditions are right, water could exist in liquid form.—INTERNET

Astronomers claim biggest haul of other worlds

SAN FRANCISCO, 15 Sept—Microsoft released on Tuesday a test version of Windows 8 to developers, posing to regain ground of the tablet market dominated by Apple and Google.

At its developer-focused BUILD conference held in Anaheim, California, the software giant handed out new Samsung tablet computers with a test version of the code-named “Windows 8”, the first detailed preview of the system for developers and people outside Microsoft.

Generally expected to be launched in fall 2012, Microsoft did not say when the system will ship or price.

Featuring a home page filled with colorful application tiles, the new system boots up in seconds. Microsoft said the system will run on lower-power ARM-based chips that power smartphones and tablets. Windows 8 also introduces a new “Metro style” interface which run full-screen and users can multitask in two at a time.

“We reimagined Windows,” said Steven Sinofsky, president of the Windows and Windows Live Division at Microsoft, in his keynote address to the thousands of developers in attendance.

“Our new system is consumer-oriented and intuitive but it will take time to see it as an iPad killer.”

Microsoft releases first Windows 8 test version

SONOY Computer Entertainment Japan President Hiroshi Kawano speaks during a news conference in Tokyo on 14 September, 2011. INTERNET

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Sony says to launch new handheld device on 17 December in Japan

Tokyo, 15 Sept—Sony Corp will launch its new PlayStation Vita handheld games device on 17 December in Japan, and will discount the price of its PlayStation 3 gaming console by a fifth in a bid to regain lost ground against its rival Microsoft, which makes the Xbox. ($1 = 76.880 Japanese Yen).—Reuters

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“From the chipset to the user experience, Windows 8 brings a new range of capabilities without compromise.”

Analysts said the new system is consumer-oriented and intuitive but it will take time to see it as an iPad killer.”

Microsoft releases first Windows 8 test version

Microsoft Windows President Steven Sinofsky introduces the new tablet running a test version of its touch-enabled Windows 8 at the Build conference in Anaheim, California on 13 September, 2011.—Xinhua

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Xinhua

Xinhua
Bodies of pilots recovered in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 15 Sept—The bodies of an Australian pilot and his Slovakian co-pilot who died when their small plane crashed in Indonesia’s Papua Province have been recovered, according to an official. “At 7:00 am today we sent three helicopters to recover the bodies of Susi Air pilot David Cootes from Australia and co-pilot Thomas Munk from Slovakia,” Papua police spokesman Wachyono said on Wednesday.

The choppers collected the bodies from the crash site in Yahukimo district and flew them to Biak island, off Papua’s northwestern coast. Wachyono did not say when the bodies would be repatriated. Susi Air’s light Cessna Grand Caravan plane was carrying food and fuel to a remote district when it crashed Friday in bad weather. Thick fog and bad weather prevented a prompt search-and-rescue mission to the remote site.

The sprawling Indonesian archipelago relies heavily on air transport and has a poor aviation record. Turbulent weather conditions in Papua have caused several aviation accidents in recent years.—INTERNET

Peruvian police seize 361.2 kg of cocaine

LIMA, 15 Sept—Peruvian police announced on Tuesday it had seized a shipment of 361.2 kg of cocaine in an operation near the capital city. During the operation in the District of Pucusana, some 50 km south of Lima, the National Police of Peru also arrested two brothers.

The confiscated drug was brought to Lima where it is being held by judicial authorities, local RPP radio quoted the police as saying. The drug, which had been hidden in a hopper, a container shaped like a pyramid, was heading for the remote port Town of Matarani near the Chilean border.—Xinhua

US blames BP for Gulf spill

WASHINGTON, 15 Sept—The United States heaped the lion’s share of blame for the country’s biggest ever offshore oil spill on BP on Wednesday as the government issued its final assessment of last year’s Gulf disaster.

In a report that may be pivotal in the multibillion-dollar legal several previous investigations, this report offered the most comprehensive glimpse into the government’s official view on the causes of the Gulf oil spill, including analysis of the recovered blowout preventer and violations of federal regulations by the companies involved with the well.

BP shares soared 5 percent on the day as investors viewed the findings as spreading responsibility more broadly.

Shares of Halliburton — which was responsible for cementing — dipped 0.33 percent. Rig operator Transocean rallied more than 4 percent.

What they’re saying is, it’s BP’s well. Transocean may have made some mistakes, but part of that was because BP didn’t tell them or communicate to them about increasing operational risks. BP is the operator of the well, it’s their responsibility,” Pursell said.

Investors will now turn their attention to the courts, where numerous cases pitting the company against each other, the public and the government could drag out for years.—INTERNET

Bystanders become heroes in motorcyclist’s rescue

SALT LAKE CITY, 15 Sept—The students knew they had to act quickly when they disregarded the dangers of approaching a smoking car and rushed to help lift it so a man — trapped beneath with a motorcycle just feet away in flames — could be freed. Abassi Sharif, 28, remembers only that something needed to be done as he, a fellow Utah State University doctoral candidate and more than half dozen others lined up on one side of the 4,000-pound car. They were able to lift it within moments, allowing one of the rescuers to pull Brandon Wright to safety.

“The chance of him dying if we don’t do it is like 100 percent,” Sharif said, recalling the sequence of events that played out Monday in Logan, a college town roughly 90 miles north of Salt Lake City. “If you weigh the chance of you being in danger, that’s going to be low, like 20 percent, compared to 100 percent.”

After the heroic act, Assistant Logan Police Chief Jeff Curtis said one could “only speculate what the outcome would have been” had none of the rescuers sprung to action.—INTERNET

News International Chairman and Chief Executive James Murdoch is seen in London in July. MPs have announced they will recall James Murdoch to answer questions about what he knew about phone hacking at the News of the World newspaper.—INTERNET

Likewise, 15 Sept—Members of Parliament will recall Rupert Murdoch’s son James, for more questioning over phone hacking at the now-closed News of the World after two former executives contradicted his testimony. Deputies will quiz James Murdoch, chairman of News International, News Corp’s British newspaper subsidiary, over allegations he misled an earlier hearing when he denied he knew hacking was widespread at the paper.

The fall-out from the crisis spread across the Atlantic after a group of US investors on Tuesday added fresh charges to a lawsuit alleging mismanagement at Murdoch’s News Corp. The parliament’s media committee grilled both Murdochs in a high-profile public hearing in July. But committee chairman John Whittingdale said Tuesday that James Murdoch would be asked back to answer some unresolved questions. “The committee is beginning to reach the end of its deliberations, we’ve spent a lot of time on this, but there are still one or two loose ends that we want to tie up,” Whittingdale told Sky News television.—INTERNET
Myanmar continues to work closely... 
(from page 16)

With the aim of energizing the country’s export trade, commercial tax on export goods has recently been reduced from 8 per cent to 2 per cent. In addition, all agricultural and timber export products are now tax-exempted to significantly boost our external trade.

Regarding the micro-finance scheme, the Government has been providing loans up to the village level so as to expand comparable growth between the rural and urban areas. Due to this initiative, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) throughout the country will achieve considerable progress in the years ahead. These structural adjustment programmes in the economic and financial sectors are already making their impact within the short period of time.

Madame President,

Let me now turn to the promotion and protection of human rights in my country. As a conscientious member of the community of nations, Myanmar has been working closely with the United Nations and the international community in promoting and protecting human rights of its people. As in the state communications of other countries, the promotion and protection of human rights is fully guaranteed in Chapter VIII of our own State Constitution, Madame President.

While talking about the promotion and protection of human rights in my country, I would also like to touch briefly on our efforts to promote rights of our workers. Efforts by the new government to enable our workers to enjoy their rights in line with international labour standards are now bearing fruit. The Labour Organizations Bill drafted with the assistance of ILO, was approved by the Amyotha Hluttaw (House of Nationalities) on 29 August 2011. The bill is now under submission to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament) for its adoption. It is expected that this bill will soon be made into law, in accordance with Section 24 of the State Constitution.

Likewise, the Ward or Village tract Administration Bill is now before the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (Union Parliament). This bill, when promulgated as law, will effectively contribute to Myanmar’s efforts in eliminating the practice of forced labour in the country.

Madame President,

Human rights situation in Myanmar was reviewed by the Human Rights Council’s UPR Working Group last January.

During the Working Group session, 57 countries contributed 190 recommendations on the human rights situation in Myanmar. Out of these, 74 recommendations enjoyed our instant acceptance while 46 recommendations were brought back to the Capital for further consideration. Seventy recommendations did not enjoy our support.

At the Plenary of the 17th session of the HRC last June, Myanmar agreed to accept four additional recommendations out of the 46 recommendations following their consideration at the Capital. The remaining 42 recommendations received either a partial acceptance or no acceptance at all. It was so, because of the intrusive language and the ambiguous nature of those recommendations.

Madame President,

Myanmar is now on track, taking necessary measures to become a State Party to some international core human rights instruments, such as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

In my view, the UPR process is the most dependable and uncontroversial monitoring mechanism to address and ratify the human rights situation of all countries. As such, I firmly believe that country-specific mandates and resolutions are no longer desired or required in the Council.

Madame President,

In order to effectively promote and protect human rights of its citizens, Myanmar established the National Human Rights Commission on 5 September 2011. The National Commission is composed of independent experts from all strata of life; they are well respected by the community they represent. Citizens who assume that their rights are violated could freely file their Complaints to the Commission. Upon receiving a complaint, the commission will investigate it and the findings will be transmitted to the concerned authorities for redress. The Commission will submit its annual report directly to the President of the Republic. Standing itself as an independent human rights entity, the Commission, while promoting and protecting human rights in the domestic context, will also actively cooperate with international organizations such as the United Nations, the Human Rights Council, and other international groupings.

Madame President,

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar is vested by the State Constitution with the authority to grant amnesties. The President had exercised this authority for the first time by issuing an amnesty order on 16 May 2011 commuting death sentences to life imprisonment and removing other prison terms by one year. As a result, approximately 20,000 inmates from prisons and labour camps were released till the end of July 2011.

As a gesture of our renewed cooperation with the ICRC (The International Committee of the Red Cross) which has always been permitted full access to the prisons with a view to upgrading water and sanitation facilities there.

Madame President,

Reaffirming our commitment to the ongoing cooperation with the international community including the Human Rights Council, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, Mr Tomas Quintana, visited Myanmar from 21 to 25 of August 2011, his fourth visit, at the invitation of the Government. During the visit, he was able to observe the parliament (Hluttaw) in session and meet with high-ranking government officials and other stakeholders. He was also received by the Hluttaws (Parliaments) Speakers, the Chief Justice, the Union Ministers, the Union Attorney-General, the Chairman of the Election Commission, the Minister of Police, the Advisory Group to the President, and the parliamentarians. He met privately with the seven prisoners at Insein Prison at his request.

At the press conference concluding his visit, Mr Quintana stated that the visit was very productive and that the Government’s efforts should be encouraged by the international community.

Myanmar will continue to work closely with the Special Rapporteur in promoting and protecting human rights in the country. At the same time, Myanmar earnestly hopes that the Special Rapporteur would report his findings back to the United Nations based on the principles of objectivity, impartiality, non-selectivity, and constructive dialogue which are clearly stipulated in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006.

Madame President,

With regard to the national reconciliation, the President of the republic of has clearly stated that those who truly wish to serve the interests of the State and the people must participate in the process by contesting elections in accordance with the Constitution, setting aside differences. The parliament (Hluttaw) is the only appropriate venue to discuss the future of the nation and its people.

The Government, expressing its magnanimity and genuine goodwill for national reconciliation, has asserted that the door of peace is being kept open. It is determined to pursue a peaceful resolution of differences with the national race armed groups.

Recently, Union Minister U Aung Kyi and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met twice. The discussed the rule of law, elimination of discrimination and serving national interest. They reached agreement to cooperate in pursuing the stability of the State and the national development with the help of the international community, for the desire and desire of the entire people, for the flourishing of democracy, and ensuring of economic and social development of the country.

The President himself met Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on 19 August and they discussed to find out potential common grounds for cooperation in the interest of the nation and the people, setting aside different views. Madame President,

Myanmar today has entered a new era. The new constitutional government is pursuing the national goal of building a modern, developed and democratic nation. Progress in the political, economic and social sectors of the country will be incremental, systematic and dynamic. Myanmar is changing, and changing for real progress. In the transformational process, Myanmar will not immune from various challenges. At this important juncture, the international community can best assist us by providing necessary encouragement and support.

I thank you Madame President.
From this milestone of democratization, all institutions, departments...

(by page 16)

In accord with the election results of 31 January to 30 March, people representatives and Defence Services Personnel representatives elected Speakers and Deputy Speakers for respective Hluttaws, the Vice-Presidents and President. Next, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw approved the appointment of 30 ministers for 34 ministries, chairperson and eight members of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union, chairperson and six members of Union Election Commission, Chief Justice and six Judges of the Supreme Court of the Union, Union Attorney-General and Union Auditor-General.

I set this motto People’s Voice, Hluttaw's (Parliament’s) Voice; People’s Will, Hluttaw’s (Parliament’s) Will; People’s Expectation, Hluttaw’s (Parliament’s) Implementation and implementations are being undertaken in accord with the motto.

In Hluttaw, representatives asked questions what the people want to know and representatives from organizations of three branches of power elected by the people answered the queries.

People’s representatives submitted bills and demands of the people as proposals. People’s representatives and members of respective organizations discussed the proposals of which some are put into record by Hluttaw. Sometimes, decision to respond the proposal is passed, policy to do so is adopted and bill is drafted.

The Section 95 Sub-section (a) and (b) of the Constitution suggest that if a Bill initiated in the Pyithu Hluttaw or the Amyotha Hluttaw is approved by both Hluttaws, it shall be deemed that the Bill is approved by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw; if there is a disagreement between the Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw concerning a Bill, the Bill shall be discussed and resolved in the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Hluttaw has two main duties. These are the duty of legislation and the duty of reciprocal control, and check and balance.

The legislation duty includes revoking and amending existing laws after consideration and prescribing new laws, including budget law.

Legislation is the specific duty of Hluttaw. It means people’s representatives on behalf of the people are to do legislation. In transforming political will to law, the facts to be considered are whether it protects public interest, whether it protects the interest of the people, whether it accords with the Constitution, whether it is pragmatic, and whether it accords with international laws, and conventions and treaties adopted by our country.

Hluttaw representatives of Union-level organization can submit bill.

The duty of reciprocal control, and check and balance means separation of powers among Hluttaws, executive institutions and judicial bodies.

Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw started on 22 August, 2011.

On the first day of the session, he, as a Hluttaw Speaker, urged the Hluttaw as follows:

“This session would bring questions, proposals and bills for discussion that will contribute to the nation. Present at the session are distinguished guests and journalists apart from the Hluttaw representatives who will raise questions and submit proposals and laws. So, it is fair to say that the session has met all democratic requirements. They have to accept suggestions the media, the people and the international community will make.”

They will carry out the tasks in accordance with the nation’s Hluttaw formation, duties and powers of the Hluttaw, the Hluttaw committees and commissions, and bodies in which the President exercises the executive power and the Hluttaw exercises the legislative power which is different from the process in which the Parliament exercise the legislative and executive powers.

Learning lessons from the past events, they will have to do all what should be done with determination and in unity today. Therefore, the Hluttaw needs to be competent and strong. It is also needed to make the Hluttaw stronger. Hluttaw representatives need not only to improve their skills, but also to show mutual respects to consolidate unity. He said that he is pleased to see that Hluttaw representatives are in action with the concept of serving the interest of the people, the Union and the nation without attachment to party concerned, dogmatism, localism, racism and regionalism.

In fact, Hluttaws are an organization that has all characteristics and essence of democracy and shares powers equally. The laws that serve and protect the interests of the nation and the people need to come into effect as soon as possible in the process Hluttaw representatives submit public stances as questions, proposals and bills for discussions. Similarly, Hluttaw are the major organization that works for protection of fundamental, democratic rights and human rights of citizens.

(See page 9)
From this milestone of democratization...

(From page 8)
The laws enacted by respective bodies upon which the power is bestowed to enact the laws the Hluttaw has promulgated such as bylaws, rules, regulations, orders, directives, notifications, procedures and manuals are to be scrutinized to ensure that they conform to the laws promulgated by the initial Hluttaw. And all organizations and citizens have to abide by those laws and contribute towards the check and balance system. These duties are to be shouldered mainly by Hluttaw committees and commissions and bodies formed with Hluttaw representatives. They are required to have good volition and qualifications and exert correct procedures to have their missions accomplished.

Hluttaw representatives are responsible for bringing into force the laws that can really serve the interests of the people and the nation in the pragmatic world and ensuring the entire people and all organizations honour the laws, while assessing the public voices, desires, stances and hopes in all seriousness. Therefore, all Hluttaw representatives have to be convinced of and accomplish their duties. Only then can they prove their allegiance to the country and the people. He seriously urged Hluttaw representatives to act as dutiful and loyal ones.

Hluttaw Committees were formed in both Amyotha and Pyithu Hluttaws at the second regular sessions. Pyithu Hluttaw established 19 new committees in addition to four original Hluttaw committees, totaling 23.

Hluttaw is somewhat similar to US Congress. In US, the President is directly elected by votes. Though in Myanmar, the President is elected by the people’s representatives. Generally, formation, and duties and rights of Congress and Hluttaw are similar to each other.

Duties and rights of each committee in general are:
(a) To help respective Union Ministries and Union Organizations succeed in making their undertaking.
(b) To monitor and support in enforcing the existing laws and instructions issued occasionally by respective departments and institutions if they are appropriate with present situations;
(c) To examine complaints, petitions and reports in connection with departments and institutions in respective fields and submit report to Hluttaws through Hluttaw speakers;
(d) To put it in a nut-shell, Hluttaw representatives represent the Hluttaws and implement respective works on behalf of the Hluttaws.

The total responsibilities of the all Hluttaw committees comprise legislative enshrined in Table-1 of the Constitution and Hluttaw committees are coordinator institutions between the whole nation and organizations concerned for accomplishment of objectives.

Legislators discuss questions, proposals and bills and then policy and procedure come into force by common consent. Those holding administrative power have to govern and manage by issuing resolutions of organizations concerned as rules, regulations, principles, orders, directives, notices, procedural manuals.

Those holding judicial power have to make judgments in accordance with procedures and laws.

Those who have the rights to practice people’s power can not act lawlessly and legislators, administrators and judiciary, people, actual power, who are governed and judged also have to abide by law and it is usual to do so. Likewise, journalists who are the fourth pillar of the nation have to be interactive and so have to be between people and mandated bodies.

If so, we can regard that adorable democracy society allows and leads to mutual respect based on frankness; freedom to express own opinions in holding action. Those who will play the leading role are needed. They are not away but most of them are just in this hall. I hope those playing the leading role may work with right thinking and right action.

We national people are responsible for history of Myanmar today and in the future. We national people have to practice democracy on our own. Wishes of people are important. Opinions of people are important.

And our discussions on International Day of Democracy are really meaningful. If we合肥 for success and development of the nation and ourselves, every citizen, apart from democratic practices, need to be ethical, disciplined, industrious, moreover, they have to respect the time and make good use of it, try to obtain modern techniques and technologies, human resources and strength, and also they have to be dutiful and have a heart for systematic coordination and cooperation.

Democracy is not an authoritarian system, but acting in accordance with the wishes of the majority through discussion. In democracy system, decisions become policies, which then become laws if they need to be strictly pursued. So, good governance is not authoritarian system, but a system that governs and manages in accordance with the decision of the majority policy and laws. And it can be said that good governance is the essence of democracy.

In conclusion, we aspire for national development, we have to make reforms with modern concepts and in doing so, political field, economic field, social field and executive field are to participate. Laws are to be promulgated to enforce all people and institutions practicing the people’s

Myanmar-Malaysian Innovative Products & Services Expo-2011 opens

YANGON, 15 Sept — Organized by Myanmar Industrialists Association, the opening of Myanmar-Malaysian Innovative Products & Services Expo-2011 took place at Tatmadaw Convention Hall here this morning, attended by Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe.

Regional Minister for Electric Power and Industry U Nyan Tun Do, Chairman of Myanmar Industrialists Association U Zaw Min Win, Vice- Chairman U Aung Lwin, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr. Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, leader of Malaysian delegation Tan Sri Dato Sosong Hiew Hoong and Malaysia-Myanma Business Council Chairman Mr. Gilbert Lee formally opened the expo.

Next, the Chief Minister unveiled the signboard of Myanmar-Malaysian Innovative Products & Services Expo-2011, and the MIA chairman and the leader of Malaysian business delegation extended greetings.

Then the Chief Minister and party observed the expo where 136 booths of 86 companies are available.

UN Resident Representative Mr Bhairaja Pandey reads message sent by UNSG Mr Ban Ki-moon.—MNA

We national people are responsible for history of Myanmar today and in the future. We national people have to practice democracy on our own. Wishes of people are important. Opinions of people are important.

And our discussions on International Day of Democracy are really meaningful.

After the ceremony, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and personnel cordially greeted guests and personnel of foreign embassies.

First Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Shield Football Tournament on 18 Sept

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept — The first Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Shield Football Tournament-2011 will be held at Nay Pyi Taw FC (Paunglaung) Sports Ground and Nay Pyi Taw Sports Grounds (1) and (2) starting from 18 September to 5 October.

The tournament includes eight football teams of the townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, dividing into two categories—Tatkon, Pyimana, Deekhinaithiri, and Zeyathiri Townships in Group A, and Lewe, Ottarathiri, Pobbathi, Zabuthiri Townships in Group B.

The first prize is K 1 million and the second, K 700,000. At 14:00 pm on 18 September, the first match between Pyimana Township Team and Tatkon Township Team is played at Nay Pyi Taw FC (Paunglaung) Sports Ground. Only four State/Region selected footballers can be included in each team.

The players must not be those who register in Myanmar National League (MNL) and its reserve football clubs.—MNA

First Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman Shield Football Tournament on 18 Sept

Navin Prasad, a member of the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, who is a visiting professor of the University of Hong Kong, will speak at the event. The tournament will be held from 18 September to 5 October. The tournament includes eight football teams of the townships of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area, dividing into two categories—Tatkon, Pyimana, Deekhinaithiri, and Zeyathiri Townships in Group A, and Lewe, Ottarathiri, Pobbathi, Zabuthiri Townships in Group B. The first prize is K 1 million and the second, K 700,000. At 14:00 pm on 18 September, the first match between Pyimana Township Team and Tatkon Township Team is played at Nay Pyi Taw FC (Paunglaung) Sports Ground.
Thai delegation of Royal Thai Army concludes visit

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept—A goodwill delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Prayut Chan-O-Cha and wife arrived in Yangon from Nay Pyi Taw by special aircraft.

They were welcomed there by Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hsan Oo and wife, senior military officers, Thai Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Apirath Vienravi and officials.

The delegation went to wards 3 of South Okkalapa Township. They paid homage to Dattaw Pyataik Sayadaw of Parame Monastery, Theindau Monastery, Bhuddanta Kittavara and donated alm.

At the Memorial to Fallen Heroes, they paid tribute and laid a wreath.

They then visited Shwedagon Pagoda. In the evening, the Thai delegation left Yangon by special flight.—MNA

Unions Minister receives Chinese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept—Union Minister for Labour and for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Aung Kyi received Chinese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Li Junhua at his office here this afternoon.

They discussed exchanging views on matters related to measures for natural disaster, social security, and rehabilitation of industries and work shops in rural areas in poverty alleviation tasks.—MNA

KOICA supports Myanmar sports sector with sports aids

YANGON, 15 Sept—A donation ceremony took place at Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) in Tamway Township this noon.

At the ceremony, KOICA donated sports publications to Sports and Physical Education Department and Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon).

Resident of KOICA Ms. Kim Tae Eun presented the purpose of the donation, and handed Principle U Tin Win sports publications costly US $ 1400.

With the aim of promotion of sports training sector, KOICA sends three Teikwundo coaches, one physical education coach and one nurse to Sports and Physical Education Institute (Yangon) respectively once every two years. Besides, it was known that Teikwundo sports aids, and air conditioners and refrigerators costly US $ 20425 was offered in 2007, 16 kinds of sports aids amounted US $ 12000 in 2009, materials for all sports costly US $ 59450 in 2001. MNA

Danger water level of Sittoung, Thanlwin Rivers

NAY PYI TAW, 15 Sept—According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River in Toungoo (657) cm has exceeded by (57) cm (about 1.8-ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hours commencing noon today, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

According to the 12.30 hr MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River in Hpa-an (758) cm has exceeded by (8) cm (about 0.3-ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (72) hours commencing noon today.

China stresses people-to-people exchanges for stronger China-Europe ties

BEIJING, 15 Sept—Vice Premier Li Keqiang on Wednesday called for enhanced people-to-people contacts and cultural exchanges between China and Europe for stronger social foundations of their strategic cooperation partnership.

While addressing a China-Europe non-governmental dialogue launched in Beijing on Wednesday, Li said cultural exchanges connect people from different countries, and people-to-people diplomacy should serve as important part for a country’s overall diplomacy.

Chinese Vice Premier Li Keqiang addresses the opening ceremony of China-Europe People-to-People Dialogue on Friendship and Cooperation in Beijing, Capital of China, on 14 Sept, 2011.—Xinhua

Agents find weapons, rocket launcher near Rio Grande

MCALLEN, 15 Sept—US Border Patrol agents found a rocket launcher, assault rifles and explosives near the Rio Grande river in Texas, the agency said on Wednesday, a discovery that suggests a link to Mexico’s drug wars. Agents found the weapons on Tuesday in a black bag along a quiet stretch of the Rio Grande near Fronton, a small community about 210 miles south of San Antonio. No arrests have been made.

The weapons are similar to those reported used in the borderland drug wars and smuggled south from the US into Mexico, and were found in an area of the river that is easily crossed and close to a Mexican cartel battleground.

But authorities stopped short of making any direct link between the guns and the drug cartels, saying only that they signaled a threat to public safety in both Texas and Mexico. Reuters

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But authorities stopped short of making any direct link between the guns and the drug cartels, saying only that they signaled a threat to public safety in both Texas and Mexico. Reuters
Qantas in ‘world-first’ tablet trial

SYDNEY, 15 Sept—Passengers on Qantas will be the first in the world to have in-flight entertainment streamed wirelessly to tablet devices in a trial announced on Thursday.—INTERNET

West African finance ministers warn over economic crisis

Dakar, 15 Sept—West African finance ministers said Tuesday they were concerned about the knock-on effect of the financial crisis plaguing Europe and the United States in a region whose common currency is pegged to the euro.

Ministers of finance from the eight member countries of the West African Monetary Union met in Dakar on Monday at the headquarters of the region’s central bank (BCEAO). In a statement released Tuesday the ministers “welcomed the improved macroeconomic prospects of the union in relation to the gradual normalisation of the economic situation in Ivory Coast”.

The world’s leading cocoa producer was plunged into four months of post-electoral violence, ended in April, which shook the economy of the region’s powerhouse.

The ministers also lauded accelerated infrastructure investment in member countries, which include Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. All use the CFA franc, which is pegged to the euro.—INTERNET

New dolphin species discovered in Australia

Melbourne, 15 Sept—Researchers in Australia have discovered that dolphin colonies living around Melbourne are a species unlike any other in the world, they revealed on Thursday. The dolphins that frolic in Port Phillip Bay and the Gippsland Lakes, numbering around 150, were originally thought to be one of the two recognised bottlenose species.

But Monash University PhD researcher Kate Charlton-Robb found they were different by comparing skulls, DNA and physical traits with specimens dating back to the early 1900s.

She has named them Tursiops australis, although they will commonly be known as the Burrunan dolphin, an Aboriginal name meaning large sea fish of the porpoise kind.—INTERNET

23 sailors kidnapped in tanker attack in W Africa

LAGOS, 15 Sept—Armed pirates raided a tanker off the West African coast and kidnapped 23 sailors Wednesday, taking off with the vessel in waters that are increasingly at risk of piracy, an international monitoring group said.

The International Maritime Bureau, which tracks piracy worldwide, said pirates boarded the tanker as it idled about 62 nautical miles from Benin’s Capital of Cotonou. Pirates struck as the Cyprus-flagged vessel tried to transfer its cargo of crude oil to a Norwegian-registered ship, said Cyprus authorities.

Serghios Serghiou, the director of Cyprus’ Department of Merchant Shipping, said Serghiou said Cyprus authorities and the ship’s management company had not been able to confirm Wednesday whether a hijacking took place.

“The ship sent out the initial security alert, but unfortunately, we haven’t been able to communicate with the ship,” Serghiou said.

A spokeswoman for Spain’s Foreign Ministry said Spaniards accounted for less than five of the hostages. She spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter.

2011 Summer Davos opens in northeast China city

DALIAN, 15 Sept— The Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2011, also known as the Summer Davos, opened in Dalian City of northeast China’s Liaoning Province on Wednesday morning.

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao delivered a speech at the opening ceremony.

The forum, scheduled on 14-16 Sept, has attracted some 1,700 participants from 90 countries and regions. —Xinhua

The horse fighting competition attracts spectators at Galonggo in the Xiangfen Township of Rongshui Miao Autonomous County, southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on 13 Sept, 2011. People in Rongshui County usually hold horse fighting competitions to pray for and celebrate harvest on the 16th day of the first month and 16th day of the eighth month of the lunar calendar every year. —Xinhua

The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting of the New Champions, also known as the Summer Davos Forum, opens in Dalian, a coastal city in northeast China’s Liaoning Province, on 14 Sept, 2011. —Xinhua
**INVITATION FOR TENDER**

**TENDER NO. 1(T)/MP/SH-1/2011-2012**

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of (782) Metric Tons Lubricating Base Oil & Additives.

2. Tender Closing Date: 27-9-2011 at (12:00) noon.

3. Tender Opening Date: 27-9-2011 at (13:00) hrs.


5. Tender Documents and detailed information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise, Near Y Ty Tan Bin office hours commencing 15-9-2011 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.

6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise

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Suspected meth lab was brewing beer

Police in Colorado said an apartment building was evacuated when a manager confused a home-beer-brewing operation with a meth lab. The Colorado Springs police said the apartment building at 2400 Tremont St. was evacuated Monday and a Hazardous Materials team was brought in after the manager conducted a routine inspection and discovered a pair of 5-gallon buckets giving off an odor he suspected to be involved with the production of meth. The (Colorado Springs) Gazette reported Wednesday.

However, residents were allowed back into the building after about 45 minutes when the buckets were found to contain home-brewed beer.

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Pajamas protect crotch from sleep kickers

An Australian father said he created pajamas with groin protection for dads whose small children kick in their sleep.

Hugh McGuinness, 45, of Turramurra said he submitted the protective PJs to an inventor’s competition that could see them wind up for sale on oo.com.au, The Sydney Morning Herald reported. “My son Cameron, who is now 4, used to sleep in the bed with us. Basically, I thought it would be a good idea to have crotch protection in case he kicks in his sleep,” McGuinness said.

“When I have mentioned it to other fathers, you could see the pain in their eyes. It can be funny, but it is painful when it happens,” he said.

McGuinness said he is considering creating a similar product for fathers who use a popoose to carry their babies.

“In that case, their feet are directly in line,” he said.

Jet-powered school bus reaches 320 mph

The creator of a jet-powered school bus with a 42,000-horsepower engine says he has reached a top speed of 320 mph during test runs in Nebraska.

Paul Stender, a native of Big Bend, Wis., said he and his team created the jet-powered bus in Lincoln, Neb., by taking an F4 engine and building the school bus around it, CBS News reported Monday.

Stender said he was clocked at 320 mph during a recent run.

“When you do a full throttle run, you hit full throttle and then the afterburner,” he said. “It sets you back in the seat with a couple G’s and you just launch, and before you know it you’re up to 300 miles per hour. It’s really a neat feeling,” he said.

Stender said he went with the school bus design to help interest children when he and his team talk about their work at schools.

“Plus we got three seats in there so we can give rides, too,” he said.

British pop artist Richard Hamilton dies at 89

Richard Hamilton’s influence on younger artists was “immeasurable.”

Hamilton was often called the “Father of Pop Art” — Britain’s answer to Andy Warhol — and was credited with coining the name for a movement marked by its ironic and iconic use of commercial and pop-culture imagery. — Internet

Musicares to honour Paul McCartney next year

New York, 15 Sept—Paul McCartney will be honoured as MusiCares person of the year during Grammy week next year.

The former Beatle will not only be honored for his music but also for his charitable side. Recording Academy President and CEO Neil Portnow says McCartney “exemplifies the phrase ‘artist/philanthropist.’

The annual event celebrates a legend in the days before the Grammy Awards. Previous honourees include Aretha Franklin, Barbra Streisand and Neil Diamond. An array of music stars pay tribute by singing their songs, and the honouree sometimes performs as well.—Internet

Angolan beauty wins Miss Universe crown

Sao Paulo, 15 Sept—Angola’s Leila Lopes became the new Miss Universe, edging out beauties from Ukraine, Brazil, the Philippines and China in the final as the pageant marked its 60th anniversary.

Statusque Lopes, 25, takes the crown from last year’s winner Ximena Navarrete of Mexico.

Ninety-eight young women took part in the contest — in South America’s largest city, Brazil’s industrial hub of Sao Paulo — watched by an estimated one billion people around the world. — Internet

Trust fund request made for Michael Jackson beneficiaries

Los Angeles, 15 Sept—The executors of Michael Jackson’s estate asked a judge on Tuesday to allow them to put aside $30 million in a trust fund for the late singer’s mother and three children, who are the designated beneficiaries. The executors, who is overseeing matters related to the Jackson estate, to sell the long-time Jackson family compound in the Los Angeles suburb of Encino.

A petition from attorneys for the executors said that Katherine Jackson, the late “Thriller” singer’s mother, wishes to “sell the Hayvenhurst property (in Encino) and purchase another residence as a replacement.”—Reuters

A sheep painted with the emblem of England’s rugby team looks on at a farm on the outskirts of Dunedin on 13 September, 2011, England will play against Georgia in their Rugby World Cup Pool B match in Dunedin on Sunday.

A sheep painted with the emblem of England’s rugby team looks on at a farm on the outskirts of Dunedin on 13 September, 2011, England will play against Georgia in their Rugby World Cup Pool B match in Dunedin on Sunday.
Barcelona sees sponsorship as key to making profit

Barcelona, 15 Sept — Barcelona says its sponsorship deal with Qatar Foundation is crucial to balancing its financial books.

The team jersey already bears the Qatar Foundation logo this season, but the club’s general assembly must ratify the $225 million, five-year deal on 24 Sept.

Club Vice President Javier Faus said Wednesday that without the $40 million the club is set to make from the deal this season, it “would suffer losses.”

Ajax, Lyon in opening stalemate

Lyon 15 Sept — Ajax and Lyon opened their Champions League campaigns with a goalless draw at the Dutch giants’ Amsterdam Arena here on Wednesday.

The two sides last crossed swords in the 2002/03 season’s opening fixtures, with Ajax winning 2-1 at home and then 2-0 in France.

Lyon, the seven-time former French titleholders, went into this Group D tie missing influential forward Lisandro with a sprained ankle. The French visitors’ captain and right back Anthony Reveillere was featuring in his 66th Champions League appearance, in contrast Ajax’s 19-year-old Danish defender Nicolai Boilesen was having his first taste of Europe’s premier club competition.

Ajax, four time European champions and topping the table in their domestic league, fielded three new recruits in Kolbeinn Sigthorsson and Dirk Boerrigter up front, and Theo Janssen behind.—Internet

Trabzonspor stuns Inter Milan in Champions League

Milan, 15 Sept — Trabzonspor marked its Champions League debut by upsetting Inter Milan 1-0 on Wednesday night, while Manchester United and Manchester City were held to draws.

Czech defender Ondrej Celustka scored a 74th-minute goal for Trabzonspor, which qualified for the competition only because Turkish rival Fenerbahce was removed while the club is probed for match-fixing.

United, which lost to Barcelona in last season’s final, rallied for a 1-1 tie at Benfica in Group C on Ryan Giggs’ stunning equalizer in the 42nd minute, a left-footed drive from the edge of the penalty area. Oscar Cardozo had put the hosts ahead in the 24th.

Alexandr Kolarov’s 74th-minute free kick gained City a 1-1 draw at home against Napoli in the English team’s first match since 1968 in Europe’s top club competition. The visitors, in their first match in the competition since 1990, had gone ahead five minutes earlier on a goal by Edinson Cavani.—Internet

Kehl wanted to kick himself after Arsenal blunder

LONDON, 15 Sept — Borussia Dortmund captain Sebastian Kehl has admitted he wanted to kick himself in the backside after his first-half blunder allowed Arsenal to score in the 1-1 Champions League draw.

The Gunners left Dortmund on Tuesday with a point after captain Robin van Persie scored the opening goal on 42 minutes before Borussia replacement Ivan Perisic netted an equaliser in the 88th minute of the Group F clash.

Van Persie scored after managing to shake off his marker Kehl for Arsenal’s goal and the Dortmund captain admitted he was left kicking himself in the changing room at half-time.—Internet

Federer to face Hewitt in Davis Cup clash

Sydney, 15 Sept — Roger Federer will face Lleyton Hewitt while Stanislas Wawrinka takes on Bernard Tomic on the opening day of the Davis Cup World Group play-off between Switzerland and Australia on Friday.

The draw pits Australia’s Tomic against Wawrinka in the opening match on grass courts at the Royal Sydney Golf Club, with Federer and home hope Hewitt to follow.

Despite a grueling five-set US Open semi-final loss to eventual champion Novak Djokovic on Sunday and a long flight to Sydney, Federer was also named to play doubles.

The world number three will pair with close friend Wawrinka to face Hewitt and Chris Guccione on Saturday as the Swiss attempt to reverse losses in their four previous Davis Cup meetings against Australia.

Rafael Nadal of Spain and Novak Djokovic of Serbia pose ahead of the men’s final of the US Open tennis tournament in New York.—Internet

Donald puzzled by tabloid quoting him on Tiger

LONDON, 15 Sept — Luke Donald disputes a British newspaper headline in which it says the Tiger Woods era is over.

“I don’t recall ever saying the Tiger era is over,” Donald said Wednesday at the BMW Championship.

“I’ve certainly said in the past I think it’s tough to come back from physical injuries. I’ve had some, and obviously being away from the game for so long, it’s certainly not going to be easy for him to get back to where he was.

“I wouldn’t doubt that Tiger will come back and win again.”—The Daily Express

Bayern too strong for Villarreal

MUNICH, 15 Sept — An early Toni Kroos strike set Bayern Munich up for a convincing 2-0 win over Villarreal on Wednesday as they look to assert themselves in the Champions League group of death.

With Manchester City and Napoli also in Group A they are all set to be tough matches and no side can afford to drop points.

Bayern got off to the perfect start with Kroos firing home after six minutes and they never looked back in a commanding performance from the Germans.

They had a series of chances in the second half to finish off Villarreal before substitute Rafinha secured the win with 15 minutes left.

Bayern arrived at El Madrigal after an excellent start to the season that included a 7-0 defeat of Freiburg at the weekend.
Weather forecast for 16th September, 2011

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<th>Region/States</th>
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<th>Minimum Temperature (°C)</th>
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</tbody>
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Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

East China city solicits names for rare tiger triplets

NANCHANG, 14 Sept—The city of Nanchang, capital of east China’s Jiangxi Province, is soliciting names for three newborn South China tigers in order to boost public awareness of the rare species.

Over a thousand submissions were sent in by Thursday, according to Kuang Huaming, a spokesman from the city zoo where the triplets were born.

The triplets, born to a female tiger nicknamed “Xin Xin” in late May, are made up of two females and a single male, Kuang said.

He added that the cubs’ names will be chosen in late September in accordance with a Chinese tradition that states babies should be named exactly 100 days after being born.

The South China tiger is the oldest subspecies of tigers and is also the most endangered, with less than 100 of the animals remaining in the world. All surviving South China tigers have been bred in Chinese zoos.

Kuang said that captive breeding is difficult because of inbreeding, low reproductive and genetic degeneration.—Xinhua

Myanmar TV

Friday, 16 September

Programme Schedule (16-9-2011) (Friday)

**Local Transmission**

- Opening
- News
- Thiri Zeya Buhmi Bagan Golden Palace and Museum of King Anawrahta
- News

**Overseas Transmission**

- Opening
- News
- Thiri Zeya Buhmi Bagan Golden Palace and Museum of King Anawrahta
- News

**International Programme Schedule**

- Myanmar Movies Impact “Crying Eyes, Smiling Faces”
- News
- Journalist Meeting with Vethjani Hospital
- Music Gallery
- News
- How to Extract Timber Using Elephant
- News
- Youth of the Future (Swimming)
- News
- Record Album
- News
- Working & Living in Myanmar (Tourism)
- News
- Travelogue “Visititation to Mawlamyine” (Part-II)
- News

News

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From this milestone of democratization, all institutions, departments and organizations in Myanmar to continue practicing democracy systematically and firmly in all fields

Myanmar will continue to work closely with Special Rapporteur in promoting and protecting human rights in the country

Commander-in-Chief of Royal Thai Army General Prayut Chan-O-Cha and wife offer floral tribute at fallen heroes.

Kenya govt’t warned about pipe explosion danger

UBS rogue trader loses $2 billion

Russia sets first post-crash manned flight for November