Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attends second plenary session of 32nd AIPA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attended the second plenary session of the 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly at Nuon Srei Hall of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 9.30 am on 23 September.

Also present at the session were President of Senate of Cambodia Mr Samdech Akka Moha Thamma Pothial Cheasim, the President of AIPA and President of Cambodian National Assembly, speakers of parliaments of AIPA member countries, Hluttaw representatives, leaders of special observer and observer countries, officials of AIPA and ASEAN and guests.

Officials of Committee on Political Matters, Committee on Economic Matters, Committee on Social Matters, Committee on Organizational Matters, Committee on Women Parliamentarians of AIPA (WAIPA), Committee on Dialogue with observer Countries and Committee on Joint Communiqué read out their reports on meeting decisions.

Heads of the AIPA member countries including Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint signed the joint communiqué.

The President of 32nd AIPA and President of Cambodia National Assembly handed over duties and functions to Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Dr Marzuki Alie who will host the 33rd AIPA. Next, the date and venue for the 33rd AIPA was declared.

The Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Indonesia extended greetings. The President of AIPA and President of Cambodia National Assembly presented commemorative medals to the Parliament Speakers of AIPA member countries. Indonesia that will host the 33rd AIPA presented documentary video on location of the Republic of Indonesia, history and arrangements for hosting the parliaments.

MNA

Hluttaw representatives led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint arrive in Phnom Penh

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — At the invitation of President of ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Mr Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin, the delegation made up of 14 Hluttaw representatives led by Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Union of Myanmar U Khin Aung Myint left Yangon by air on 18 September morning to attend the 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly to accept the recognition as a full-fledged member and arrived at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok of Thailand at 11.40 am local time, where Myanmar Ambassador to Thailand U Aung Thein and embassy staff gave the delegation a reception.

The delegation left Bangkok for Phnom Penh by air and arrived at Phnom Penh International Airport at 7.25 pm local time. Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung, Minister-Counselor U Thiha Han, embassy staff, the Vice-President of Cambodian National Assembly and officials welcomed the delegation.

The delegation led by the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker proceeded to Hotel Inter-Continental in a motorcade.

MNA

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (25-9-2011)

Hkmhti 3.59 inches

Toungoo 2.44 inches

Machanbaw 1.65 inches

Dawei 1.30 inches
Landmine blast kills one civilian

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — A 27 year-old died in a land mine blast as he stepped on it in Shwegyin Township, Bago Region, yesterday.

Ko Sit Naing from Wahdawgyi Village died on the spot by the blast from the land mine while he was cutting bamboo along with his companion Ko Chit Tun in jungle about two miles east of the village in Shwegyin township. The blast blew off his left foot and pieces from the blast ripped into the part under his chin.

Officials concerned provided necessary assistance with the case.—MNA

Myanmar media delegation visits Philippines to witness journalism boom

YANGON, 25 Sept — A 10-member media delegation led by Secretary of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association U Ko Ko (Ko Ko-Sethmu Tekkatho) left here for the Philippines by air this morning to observe media development of the Philippines under the arrangement of MWJA and Singapore-based Asia Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC). Members of the delegation—Sarpay Beikman Chief Editor U Myo Tun, Snap Shot Journal Chief Editor U Myat Khine (Myat Khine), Today Media Group Chief Executive Officer Dr Tha Tun Oo, Popular News Journal Chief Editor U Pho Naing Lin, the Voice Journal Chief Editor U Zeya Thu, Messenger Journal Editor-in-Charge U Aung Paw Tun, the Seven Days News Journal Executive Editor U Arman, the Myanmar Times Journal Editor U Myo Lwin, and the Flower News Journal Editor-in-Charge U Saw Myint Than (Pauktaw) — boarded the same flight.

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — Myanmar and Poland held talks at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here today. The visiting Polish delegation led by Deputy Foreign Minister and Development Cooperation of Poland Mr. Krzysztof Stanowski took part in the meeting while Myanmar delegation was led by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Mynn. During the meeting, the two sides discussed matters on strengthening bilateral friendship and promoting bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on progress in both countries.

In the evening, Deputy Minister U Maung Mynn hosted a dinner in honour of the Polish delegation at Thingaha Hotel here.

The Polish delegation have arrived here at the invitation of Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Mynn.—MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Monday, 26 September, 2011

Gear up quality and productivity

State economy is based on agriculture sector. Focusing on the increased production of various kinds of crops, Myanmar is now standing at the high position of producing paddy and beans and pulses. Vigorous efforts are being made for ensuring local food sufficiency, exporting surplus foods to international market.

More and more efforts must be made for modernization and development of the State. Improvement of industrial sector contributes a lot to modernization of the nation. At present, sound foundations are being built to industrialize the nation. Many import-substitute factories can be seen among the already-built factories and workshops.

The State and private sectors are to work in harmony for development of the industrial sector. While many new factories including heavy industries and workshops are being built in industrial regions and industrial zones, and many of them are in operation at full capacity.

The factories with high technologies and productivity have been established in industrial regions. These factories are manufacturing heavy machines and machinery, diesel engines, hydropower turbines and generators. Production of automobiles meeting standard is being operated on a wider scale. Applying new technologies for productivity, the factories generate job opportunities for the local people.

The process in industrializing the nation in a short time needs skillful technicians with capabilities of applying modern technologies. Greater efforts are to be made for constantly turning out technicians and skillful workers.

As a result of establishing industrial regions and industrial zones, various kinds of products are being manufactured. Emphasis is to be placed on distribution of the products to keep abreast of international goods in the international market. As such, officials concerned in respective sectors are to operate factories and workshops at full capacity, manufacture products and earn income exceeding the targets and increase the marketable products to meet set standards in leaps and bounds.

Myanmar, Poland to promote bilateral cooperation

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Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint inspects progress in renovation of SEAMEO Regional Centre at History and Customs (Thiri Hall) in compound of Yangon University. (News reported) — MNA

A meeting between Mandalay Region Fire Services Department and Mandalay Zone Auxiliary Fire Brigade Supervisory Committee on fire preventive measures and conditions of fire fighters in progress at Region FSD on 12 September. — NLM
Bridge kills five travelling on roof of Indian train

MUMBAI, 25 Sept—Five young men travelling on top of an overnight train in western India were killed on Sunday when they slammed into a bridge.

The accident happened at about 3:00am between Ajmer city and Bhilwara. India’s state-run railway system — still the main form of long-distance travel despite fierce competition from private airlines — carries 18.5 million people every day.

Roof-top travel is illegal but common as trains are often overloaded. An accident early this month saw a speeding train ram into a stationary one in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, killing nine people and injuring 80. Internet

Police and rescue workers stand in the debris of the UN building after last month’s blast in Abuja. Nigerian customs officials have seized an illegal shipment of explosives — with the country already buckling under a wave of bomb attacks blamed on militants.—INTERNET

One dead in blast at UN mine service in Somalia

MOGADISHU, 25 Sept—At least one person was killed Saturday by a powerful explosion at the offices of the United Nations Mine Action Service in Somalia’s capital Mogadishu, witnesses said.

The blast destroyed a car in the service’s parking lot, killing at least one person in the vehicle, witness Abdulahi Ahmed said.

“The explosion happened inside the compound (of the UN service). I can see the remains of the car destroyed in the blast and the body of at least one person,” Ahmed said.

Another witness, Muktar Isa, said that “the explosion was very strong and it destroyed part of the compound’s wall.” A UN representative in Mogadishu, who requested anonymity, confirmed that an explosion had destroyed a car in the Mine Action compound, without giving further details.

Police and rescue workers stand in the debris of the UN building after last month’s blast in Abuja. Nigerian customs officials have seized an illegal shipment of explosives — with the country already buckling under a wave of bomb attacks blamed on militants.—INTERNET

Nigerian customs seize shipment of explosives

LAGOS, 25 Sept—Customs have seized an illegal shipment of explosives into Nigeria, a country buckling under a wave of bomb attacks blamed on militants, including one against UN offices, an official said Saturday. “A 40-foot container of explosive materials was intercepted yesterday at the port of Tin Can” in Lagos, customs spokesman Wale Adeniyi said.

The container, which arrived a week ago at one of Nigeria’s busiest ports, originated from China and was falsely declared to contain industrial spares and children’s toys. “It was declared to be industrial valves and...toys by the source, but it was discovered that the majority of the stuff were explosives,” he said. “It contained all the things that could be used to make explosives — detonators, wires. They have been confirmed to be explosive materials.” Internet

Four people killed, three wounded in Iraq’s violence

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept—Four people were killed and three others were wounded in separate attacks by gunmen against Iraqi security forces and a government employee in central and eastern Iraq on Saturday, the police said. In western Baghdad, unidentified gunmen attacked a police checkpoint in southern the City of Fallujah, some 90 km west of Baghdad, killing two policemen and wounding three others before they fled the scene, a local police source said.

The men, all in their early 20s, were employees in central and eastern Iraq, the source said. Separately, an employee from the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs was gunned down in a drive-by shooting by armed men while driving in Baghdad’s western District of Jami’a, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.—Xinhua

Suicide blast kills two, wounds two in Afghan town

KABUL, 25 Sept—A suicide bomber in attempt to target headquarters of Khushi District in Logar Province 60 km south of Afghan capital Kabul blew himself up, leaving two people including himself dead and injuring two policemen on Saturday, a local television channel reported.

“A terrorist driving an explosive-laden car and designed to target the headquarters of Khushi District was identified by police and detonated himself at 01:30 pm local time today killing himself and wounding two policemen,” Tolo aired in its news bulletin. A woman accompanying the suicide bomber in the car was also killed in the blast, it added.—Xinhua

Nine killed, 90 injured in Iraq’s Karbala explosions

BAGHDAD, 25 Sept—Up to nine people were killed and some 90 others wounded in a spate of bomb attacks in Iraq’s holy Shi’ite city of Karbala south of Baghdad on Sunday, the police told Xinhua.

“The latest report said that nine people were killed and 90 others wounded in four bomb attacks of Karbala,” said a source from the city police, citing reports from Karbala’s health office.

The first blast occurred at about 9:30 am (0630 GMT) when a bomb attached to a car parking outside the passport and identity card office in central Karbala, some 110 km south of Baghdad, detonated, the source said.

Minutes later, a second blast ripped through the scene of the first blast, the source added.

Two blasts in a quick succession followed after about 20 minutes when Iraqi security forces spread at the scene of the earlier two blasts, he said.

Many Iraqi soldiers and policemen were among the victims, the source said, adding that some of the wounded people left the hospitals after they received treatment. Iraqi security forces sealed off the scene and blocked all the roads leading to the heavily populated area in central the City which also includes Karbala’s provincial council and the provincial police headquarters, the source said.—Xinhua

Indian commuters travel on the roof of a train in western India were killed on Sunday when they slammed into a bridge.—INTERNET

A Somali woman walks past ruined buildings in Mogadishu. At least one person was killed by a powerful explosion at the offices of the United Nations Mine Action Service in Somalia’s capital Mogadishu.—INTERNET

Firefighters inspected the explosion site in Iraqi City Karbala on 25 Sept, 2011.—Xinhua

The accident happened at about 3:00am between Ajmer city and Bhilwara. India’s state-run railway system — still the main form of long-distance travel despite fierce competition from private airlines — carries 18.5 million people every day. Roof-top travel is illegal but common as trains are often overloaded. An accident early this month saw a speeding train ram into a stationary one in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, killing nine people and injuring 80.
BAE may cut 3,000 jobs as Typhoon orders slow

London, 25 Sept—British defence giant BAE Systems is set to announce up to 3,000 job losses as it struggles to secure orders for the Eurofighter Typhoon in the wake of cuts to defence budgets by partner nations, British media reported on Sunday.

The Sunday Telegraph and Sky News said up to 3,000 workers could lose their jobs, all of them in Britain, as BAE prepares for a slowdown in orders to core markets — including the joint Eurofighter project.

The firm said it was actively pursuing Typhoon contracts in India, Japan, Oman and Malaysia and that exports of the fighter aircraft “remained a priority” for the business.

The Sunday Telegraph said the job losses could come as early as next week at the firm’s military aircraft division at two plants in northern England.

BAE has a 33 percent stake in the Eurofighter, alongside EADS and Finmeccanica and has received orders for some 550 planes from the four partner nations involved — the UK, Germany, Italy and Spain. A spokeswoman for BAE said the company would not be drawn on possible job cut figures, which she said were speculative.

“As a company we haven’t officially announced anything yet and our approach to this is, as and when we do, we would inform our staff first,” she said. But in a statement the company, which is Britain’s biggest manufacturer, said it had informed staff it is “reviewing our operations across various businesses” to make sure it was best placed to secure future business. BAE added: “In order to bridge the gap between current demand and future anticipated export contracts the production rate on the current Typhoon programme for the partner nations will be slowed.”

The firm said it was actively pursuing Typhoon contracts in India, Japan, Oman and Malaysia and that exports of the fighter aircraft “remained a priority” for the business.

Chinese solar firm to put US HQ in NY


Linsuo Solar Group Co of Jinan, China, 250 miles south of Beijing, plans to hire up to 1,000 people by 2014 and invest $100 million in the operation, which will make solar panels, solar cells and solar hot-water systems, international development Director Bevan Zhang said at a Poughkeepsie, NY, news conference Friday.

The 17-year-old company, which had $1.3 billion in revenue in 2010 and employs 13,000 people globally, said it bought the million-square-foot, five-building former IBM semiconductor research-and-development site on 157 acres in East Fishkill, NY, for $4.5 million in part because the exurban Hudson Valley Region north of New York City is fast-becoming a solar energy hub.

But a promise of up to $6.4 million in state and local incentives was critical, Zhang said.

The company — which also looked in Arizona, California, Florida, New Jersey, Texas and Utah — will be required to hire at least 150 people next year and 600 by 2014 — and retain those jobs for at least a decade — to qualify for up to $6 million in state incentives. Empire State Development regional Director Aimee Vargas told the Poughkeepsie Journal.

The August bankruptcy filing by Solyndra LLC, a California solar-panel maker that received a $535 million federal loan guarantee in 2009, has renewed a highly partisan debate in Washington over the benefits or failings of President Barack Obama’s stimulus programme and the wisdom of clean-energy subsidies in general. Linsuo intends to meet or exceed the New York incentive requirements, Zhang said.

Health Tip: Keep a diabetes notebook

A notebook of instructions and helpful information will make it easier to stay organized when your diabetic child gets sick.

The American Diabetes Association offers these suggestions for what to include in the notebook:

* A list of your doctor’s guidelines, including recommendations for when to call.
* Daytime and after-hours phone numbers for your child’s diabetes care team.
* Copies of important documents, such as your child’s insurance card.
* A meal plan that will provide your child with 50 grams of carbohydrates every three or four hours.
* Over-the-counter medications that won’t interfere with other meds or affect blood glucose.
* A list of what your child has eaten, including blood glucose readings, insulin administered and carbohydrate counts.
WASHINGTON, 25 Sept.—A bus-sized US satellite that hurtled unpredictably toward Earth crossed over Africa and the northern Atlantic before likely plunging into the Pacific Ocean off California, NASA said on Saturday.

The six-tonne Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS) fell from the sky between 11:23 pm Friday and 1:09 am Saturday (0323-0509 GMT Saturday), the space agency said, but there were no sightings or reliable accounts of damage.

The best and latest estimate, made by the Joint Space Operations Center at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California at two hours before entry, put the re-entry time at 0416 GMT. "If the re-entry point was at 0416 GMT, then all that debris wound up in the Pacific Ocean," said Johnson.

The satellite was expected to break into 26 pieces as it plummeted toward Earth, with surviving parts including titanium fuel tanks, beryllium housing and stainless steel batteries and wheel rims.

"Influence from solar activity and the tumbling motion of the satellite made it difficult to narrow down where it would penetrate Earth’s atmosphere, and it was expected to leave a 500-mile (800-kilometer) debris footprint. UARS was the biggest NASA spacecraft to fall since the 85-ton Skylab crashed into western Australia in 1979.

"Twenty-six satellite components, weighing a total of about 1,200 pounds (550 kilograms), could have survived the fiery re-entry and reach the surface of Earth. However, NASA is not aware of any reports of injury or property damage," the space agency said.

UARS was launched in 1991 to measure the ozone layer and other atmospheric conditions and was decommissioned in 2005. The last of its fuel was used up to change its orbit so it would return to Earth sooner.

Biologists celebrate comeback of endangered ferret

INTERIOR, (South Dakota) 25 Sept.—As the cage door opened, black-footed ferret No 7505 tentatively peeked his head out, looked hesitantly at the prairie dog burrow offered before him, and then rushed inside, disappearing beneath the earth of western South Dakota’s badlands. His freedom had been months in the making, but in less than a minute — and three decades after his species was believed extinct — he was gone, unleashed into the wild to do what the endangered ferret does best: attack and kill prairie dogs.

"Hopefully, he’s showing down on a prairie dog now," said Paul Marinari, a fish and wildlife biologist with the National Black-Footed Ferret Conservation Centre.

The release was invitation-only event at the Badlands National Park, attended by about two dozen ferret fanatics, to kick off a weekend of nationwide festivities celebrating the 30th anniversary of the rediscovery of a mustelid once thought extinct.

On 26 Sept, 1981, a ranch dog in Meeteeete, Wyo, proudly presented his owners with a dead black-footed ferret. A local taxidermist identified the creature, which had been thought extinct for several years, launching a decades-long recovery effort that has seen the ferret population grow from 18 to more than 1,000 in the wild.

The ferret is still endangered, but conservationists are hopeful that by 2020, enough will be in the wild to wipe them off the list.

China to launch eight Antarctic, Arctic research expeditions in five years

SHANGHAI, 25 Sept.—China plans to launch five Antarctic research expeditions and another three to the Arctic from 2011 to 2015, said an official with the Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration (CAA) on Sunday. China will launch the 28th Antarctic research expedition in early November and the fifth to the Arctic in early July 2012, said Qu Tanzhou, director of the CAA, at the annual seminar on China’s polar region expedition and research in Shanghai.

In the 2011-2015 period, Chinese researchers will focus on monitoring the weather and environment changes in the polar regions, Qu said.

Qu said climate change in the polar region, particularly that in the Arctic, will inevitably influence China, and the research would benefit the nation’s adaptation to climate change. China plans to build a new icebreaker before 2015, which will form an Arctic-Antarctic maritime research team with Xuelong (“Snow Dragon”), an icebreaker that operated in Antarctica, said Qin Weijia, head of the CAA’s committee of the Communist Party of China. Qin said the plan to build the new icebreaker has already been approved by the National Development and Reform Commission, the nation’s top economic planner. China will have two icebreakers concurrently operating at both the north and south poles. Qin said.—Xinhua
Russia’s Putin, Medvedev agree to swap roles

MOSCOW, 25 Sept—Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Saturday he would run for president in 2012 and suggested President Dmitry Medvedev should become prime minister after the elections.

Putin announced the long-awaited decision after being proposed by Medvedev at the ruling United Russia party’s annual congress.

Putin, who currently serves as prime minister, also said he was confident Medvedev would become prime minister after the 2012 election and the ruling party would win the parliamentary elections in December.

“I am sure that United Russia will win and Dmitry Anatolyevich Medvedev will be able to build a new, efficient and young team and lead the government so as to continue modernization of all aspects of our lives,” Putin was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying at the two-day congress, which began Friday in Moscow’s Luzhiki sport complex.

In proposing Putin’s candidacy, Medvedev said: “I believe it would be right if the congress support party leader Vladimir Putin’s candidacy for president,” he said.

Meanwhile, Medvedev agreed to head the ruling party’s list for the 4 Dec parliamentary elections, adding that he was ready to do some practical work in the government and continue modernization of the national economy.

The president also said he and Putin had “agreed long ago on who will do what following the elections.”

“We what we proposed at the congress is a well-thought-out decision. Even more, we discussed, indeed, this version of developments at the time when our comradely union was formed,” Medvedev said.

He hoped Russian citizens could trust the strategy and efficiency of the administration model set by him and Putin.—Xinhua

Gas balloon blast kills

Palestinian in Gaza smuggling tunnel

Gaza, 25 Sept—One local worker was killed and seven others wounded when a gas balloon exploded Saturday in a smuggling tunnel beneath the borders between the Gaza Strip and Egypt, medics and witnesses said. Bassam Abu Ziada, in his early 20s working in a tunnel used for smuggling gas balloons from Egypt into the Hamas-ruled coastal enclave, died in the hospital shortly after he was seriously wounded in the blast.

Seven other workers were moderately wounded, said the medics at Rafah town hospital. After Israel imposed a tight blockade on the Gaza Strip when Hamas seized control of the enclave by force in June 2007, the country’s gas pipelines. Iran’s first nuclear power plant suffered major equipment failures as technicians struggle to bring it online.

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Iran’s nuclear setbacks: More than just a single target in Iran, devices that can make weaponsusable ura-

Pirates release Cypriot tanker seized off Benin

MAJOR, 25 Sept—Pirates have released a Cyprus-flagged tanker seized off the West African country of Benin 10 days ago with a 23-strong crew, including five Spaniards, a Spanish foreign ministry spokeswoman said on Saturday.

“The boat has been freed. I have not been informed of whether anyone was injured or killed in the operation,” she said. “We are in contact with the relatives,” she added, without giving details.

The International Maritime Bureau announced on 14 September that armed pirates had boarded and hijacked the tanker and taken its 23 crew hostage.

According to Spanish media, the tanker was freed during the morning once the pirates had left the ship after unloading its cargo of oil. The daily El Pais said on its website that one of the members of the crew had been injured but was out of danger.

The coast of Benin, which neighbours Nigeria, Africa’s largest oil producer, has seen a steep increase in hijackings this year, with 19 ships coming under attack.

Of the 19, eight were hijacked, nine were boarded and there were unsuccessful attempts to attack two others, according to the maritime bureau.

In such attacks pirates generally steal fuel or oil being hauled by tankers with the aim of selling it on the region’s lucrative black market.—Internet

An armed pirate keeping vigil in Somalia. Pirates have released a Cyprus-flagged tanker seized off the West African country of Benin 10 days ago with a 23-strong crew, including five Spaniards, according to Spain’s foreign ministry.—INTERNET

India tests fires surface-to-surface ballistic missile

NEW DELHI, 25 Sept—India Saturday successfully test-fired its surface-to-surface ballistic missile Shourya from a test range in Orissa, eastern India, the Indo-Asian News Service reported.

The news service quoted Indian defence ministry sources as saying the 600-km-range supersonic missile was launched at 14:30 pm from a canister in a ground launch mode at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur in the coastal district of Balasore in Orissa.

“The launch of the missile was perfect like in test book and followed the path exactly to the pre-defined target in the Bay of Bengal,” SP Dash, director of the test range, was quoted as saying. The missile has reached the target within few meters of accuracy.

The missile, which is meant to give the Indian Army a credible second-strike capability, was first tested from the same defence base 12 Nov, 2008, according to the report. Xinhua

Internet

In this 27 Feb, 2005 file photo, the reactor building of Iran’s nuclear power plant is seen, at Bushehr, Iran, 750 miles (1,245 kilometers) south of the capital Teheran.—INTERNET

Iran’s nuclear setbacks: More than just a single target in Iran, devices that can make weapons usable uranium. Dozens of unexplained explosions hit Iran’s nuclear programmes. The Stuxnet computer worm that infected computers worldwide zeroed in on a single target in Iran, devices that can make weapons usable uranium. Dozens of unexplained explosions hit

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker meets Cambodian Dy PM, ministers

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—During his visit to Cambodia, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Khin Aung Myint — accompanied by Hluttaw representatives, Myanmar Ambassador to Cambodia U Cho Tun Aung and officials of Hluttaw Office — met Vice Governor of National Bank of Cambodia Ms Neav Chan Thana, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Finance of Cambodia Mr Keat Chhon, Minister of Commerce of Cambodia Mr. Chom Prasith on 19 September, and Minister of Culture and Fine Arts of Cambodia Mr Him Chhem on 21 September evening.

The meetings focused on maintaining amicable relationship between two countries and matters for boosting cooperation. The Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint attend a welcome dinner hoisted by President of National AIPA Group of Cambodia Dr.Chean Yeap at Sofitel Phnom Penh Hotel in Phnom Penh.

After the dinner, the delegation took part in the executive committee meeting of AIPA at the hotel.

Sitagu Shwe Pyi Hein Hospital’s sixth free-of-charge eye surgery programme

YANGON, 25 Sept—Sitagu Shwe Pyi Hein Sakkudhana Hospital, 10th eye hospital branch established by Sitagu Sayadaw Venerable Monk Dr Nanssara in the compound of Shwe Pyi Hein Monastery in Pyithaya Bauktaw ward of Yankin Township, provided free eye surgery to patients with eye complaints for sixth time under the leadership of Shwe Pyi Hein Sayadaw Venerable Monk Khemuss-rilanakara.

Fifty one eye patients underwent surgery yesterday and 54 today, totalling 105 in this batch. A total of 620 patients had free surgery in the series of programmes.

The Alcon (USA Laureate System), which is worth US$ 45489, is used in surgery. Pathology, blood test and medicines for surgery are free of charge at all. One-day stay in hospital is allowed. Patients in good conditions are allowed to discharge from the hospital. An eye patient costs between K 40,000 and K 50,000.

Medicines and cash contributed by donors and interests of medical fund pay the cost, said the Shwe Pyi Hein Sayadaw.

Specialists and GPs are providing treatment to 200 patients daily at Shwe Pyi Hein specialist clinic. Poor patients are satisfied with the helpful free treatment.

Nyunt Than (MNA)

Translation: HKA
At 5 pm, parliament speakers of AIPA member countries, members of delegations of observer countries and officials of AIPA and ASEAN including Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint called on His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah Boromneath Norodom Sihamoni.

The Myanmar delegation led by Speaker U Khin Aung Myint left Phnom Penh International Airport at 10 am yesterday and arrived in Yangon in the evening.

**Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint signs cooperation report at second plenary session of 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly.**—MNA

**Hluttaw representatives attend respective meetings**

NAVPYITAW, 25 Sept—A Hluttaw representative delegation who accompanied Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint on his attendance at the 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly participated in the respective meetings.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Win Maw Tun and party, together with women parliamentarian delegations of ASEAN countries, attended WAIPA-Women ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Meeting at Sofitel Phnom Penh Hotel in Phnom Penh on 19 September.

On 21 September, Hluttaw representatives led by Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Rights Committee U Nyunt Tin attended meeting of Committee of Political Matters, Hluttaw representatives led by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Wunna Kyaw Htin U Htay Myint meeting of Committee on Economic Matters, Hluttaw representatives led by Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Khin Shwe meeting of Committee on Social Matters, Chairman of Government’s Guarantees, Pledges, Undertaking Vetting Committee Dr Aye Maung meeting of Committee on Organizational Matters at Inter Continental Hotel and participated in respective discussions.—MNA

President of AIPA and President of Cambodia National Assembly Mr Samdech Akka Moha Ponhea Chakrei Heng Samrin presents commemorative medal to Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint.

**Chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Government’s Guarantees, Pledges, Undertaking Vetting Committee Amyotha Hluttaw Representative Dr Aye Maung and party attend Meeting of Committee on Organizational Matters at Inter Continental Hotel in Phnom Penh.**—MNA

**Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Win Maw Tun and party attend WAIPA-Women ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Meeting at Sofitel Phnom Penh Hotel in Phnom Penh.**—MNA
Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint addresses ceremony to accept Myanmar as full-fledged member of AIPA

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept — Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Khin Aung Myint attended the 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and delivered an address at the ceremony to accept the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as a full-fledged member of AIPA at Nuon Sei meeting hall on the third floor of Peace Palace in Phnom Penh of Cambodia at 9.30 am on 20 September.

[The opening of the 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) and the speech delivered by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint at the ceremony to accept the Republic of the Union of Myanmar as a full-fledged member of AIPA were reported on papers issued on 21 September 2011.]

Next, leaders of AIPA member countries Brunei Darussalam, the Republic of Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Malaysia made addresses respectively.

In his address, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint said that he would like to give a brief account of Hluttaws in Myanmar to speakers of parliaments of ASEAN member countries and its partners. The State announced the process to systematcally implement the seven-step Road Map for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy on 30 August 2003. In seeking the approval of the people for the draft Constitution by holding the National Referendum, the fourth step of the Road Map for the realization of the new light of Myanmar, Mr. Nguon Nhel of National Assembly of Cambodia-hosted a dinner to the participants of the 32nd AIPA at Inter-Continental Hotel.

The participants approved the programmes to implement the seventh step of the seven-step Road Map of the State, the government and administrative bodies were constituted after convening the Hluttaw meetings. The presidential electoral college with participation of all Hluttaw representatives elected three vice-presidents, and then one President of three vice-presidents. The elected President sought the approval for the number of ministries, number of ministers, nomination of ministers, nomination of the Union Chief Justice and member judges, the Union Attorney-General and members, the Chairman of Union Election Commission and members, the Chairperson of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and members from the Hluttaw. Thus, the new government was elected in line with the multi-party parliamentary democracy after realizing the seven-step Road Map of the State.

The Pyithu Hluttaw and the Amyotha Hluttaw have formed four standing committees namely the Bill Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, Hluttaw Rights Committee and the Government’s Guarantees, Pledges and Undertakings Vetting Committee. Moreover, the Hluttaws may form the ad hoc committees in respective sectors. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw has constituted the Joint Bill Committee and the Joint Public Accounts Committee permanently. In accordance with the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, power of the State is shared to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial bodies through the Union of Myanmar, power of the State is shared to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial bodies through the Joint Public Accounts Committee permanently. In accordance with the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, power of the State is shared to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial bodies through the Joint Public Accounts Committee permanently.

In conclusion, he on behalf of Myanmar pledged Myanmar has decided to actively participate in the AIPA activities and cordially cooperate with ASEAN member countries for ensuring peace and stability and development in ASEAN region.

The Secretary-General of the ASEAN delivered an address. The second session of the first plenary session continued at 2 pm. Leaders of observer countries namely Australia, Canada, the People’s Republic of China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation and special observer countries delivered addresses.

The participants approved the programmes to be undertaken at the 32nd AIPA, First Vice-President of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Mr Nguon Nhel of National Assembly of Cambodia hosted a dinner to the participants of the 32nd AIPA at Inter-Continental Hotel.

MNA
Last bullfights in Spain’s Catalonia before ban

BARCELONA, 25 Sept—Spain’s top matadors gathered Saturday for a final weekend of bullfighting before the blood sport is banned in the northeast Catalonia region, and crowds of fans carried them for miles (kilometres) to their hotel after they killed the bulls. Top-flight ‘toreros’ were on the bull both Saturday and Sunday at the La Monumental arena in Barcelona. They include Jose Tomas, one of Spain’s most popular bullfighters.

The ban takes effect 1 Jan, but this weekend’s fights are the last events of the 2011 season in the Catalan capital.

The conservative, pro-bullfighting newspaper El Mundo ran an analysis by an economist lamenting that the city will lose money by banning bullfighting that is permitted in all other regions of Spain except in the Canary Islands, where it was prohibited in 1991.

The newspaper published another article that read like an obituary, with vignettes about matadors who made their names in Catalonia and others who died in the ring; including four in Barcelona’s La Monumental.—Internet

Bear attacks Idaho bow hunter near Yellowstone park

SALMON, (Idaho) 25 Sept—A bear, possibly a grizzly, attacked an Idaho elk hunter armed with a bow and arrows who may have startled the animal near Yellowstone National Park on Saturday, wildlife officials said. The 40-year-old man was airlifted to a hospital suffering from a broken arm and wounds to his hand that required surgery, but his injuries were not life-threatening, said Gregg Losinski, regional conservation educator with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The attack was the latest in an unusual spate of bear attacks in the Yellowstone area this year. Losinski said the man and a hunting partner were seeking elk near Island Park, Idaho, south of the Montana border, when they startled a bear. The bear charged at the hunter, who was nearer the animal than his partner. The partner used a bear spray canister, which shoots an aerosol mixture of hot pepper, as the animal retreated.

Idaho conservation officers said early indications suggested the bear was a grizzly but they were awaiting confirmation from DNA evidence gathered from the scene. Wildlife officials decided not to capture the animal, based on the description of the attack provided by the hunters, both from Island Park, and an investigation of the scene.—Reuters

BEEF bound for Georgia schools recalled over E coli worries

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—A Texas company has recalled 40,000 pounds of frozen ground beef products, shipped for distribution to Georgia schools, due to possible contamination from E coli bacteria, the US Department of Agriculture said.

Palo Duro Meat of Amarillo, Texas, produced the meat products on 9 September and shipped them to two warehouses in Georgia for transportation to six school districts and other institutions, the USDA said.

Officials said they were not aware of the beef having been served as part of school lunches in the districts, which participate in the National School Lunch Programme, the USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service said in announcing the meat recall on Friday. It said in a statement that most of the ground beef products had not left those warehouses and there had been no reports of illnesses from consumption of the products now subject to recall.—Reuters

Widespread power blackout hits much of Chile

SANTIAGO, (Chile) 25 Sept—A massive power blackout affected 9 million people across Chile on Saturday, forcing thousands in the capital to be evacuated from trains or subway cars.

Energy Minister Rodrigo Alvarez said the cause of the blackout has not been definitively determined but he cited “oscillation problems” in two power lines and a failure in a computer system.

The blackout occurred at 8:30 pm local time (23:30 GMT) Saturday and affected a 1,300-kilometre (810-mile) stretch of this narrow, coast-hugging country. Two hours later, officials said power had been restored to 90 percent of the capital, Santiago. Other parts of Chile remained without electricity.

Authorities said the blackout affected 9 million of Chile’s 16 million people.—Internet

Visitors look at a PGO car during the 16th AUTOMECH AKHBAR EL YOM, International African Arabian Exhibition for Vehicles, Buses, Motorcar Workshops, Service Station Equipment, Automobile Spare Parts, Accessories and Feeding Industries, at Cairo International Convention & Exhibition Centre in Cairo, capital of Egypt, on 24 Sept, 2011.—Xinhua

SANTIAGO, (Chile) 25 September.—10 million people across much of Chile remained without electricity. Chile remained without electricity. Saturday and affected a 230-kilometre (140-mile) stretch of this narrow, coast-hugging country. Two hours later, officials said power had been restored to 90 percent of the capital, Santiago. Other parts of Chile remained without electricity.

Authorities said the blackout affected 9 million of Chile’s 16 million people.—Internet

Iranian children play on surface-to-air missiles during a war exhibition to mark the Week of Defence, which is held to commemorate Iranian sacrifices during the eight-year Iraq-Iran war in the 1980s, in Teheran, Iran, on 24 Sept, 2011.—Xinhua

People view kites flying in the sky during a kite festival with the theme of “Dance of Wind” held at Baisha Bay of Xing’ei City, southeast China’s Taiwan, on 24 Sept, 2011. Kite craftsmen from 15 countries and regions attended the festival, which kicked off here Saturday. Barcelona and Sevilla moved one point behind leader Real Betis, 12 points, while Madrid has 10 along with Valencia. —Xinhua

Beef bound for Georgia schools recalled over E coli worries

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A waiter separates oil from water at a kitchen waste disposal company called Lusen in Foshan, south China’s Guangdong Province, 22 Sept, 2011. Kitchen gutter oil is collected and processed here to be refined as biodiesel. However, kitchen leftovers disposal companies such as Lusen are stranded due to less supply of the oil. According to Li Yaosong, president of Lusen, the daily reclaimed oil volume dropped from 20 tons in 2004 to 10 tons presently in the company, accounting for 20% in the whole reclaimed kitchen oil volume of the city’s Nanhai District. Part of the rest sneaked back to dining tables through an underground money network. Being in charge of the oil recycle business of Nanhai, Lusen signed contracts with 5,000 local restaurants, among which over 3,000 restaurants didn’t supply their waste oil to the company because of low purchasing price provided.—Xinhua

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Customers cheer with staff members of Apple Inc at the new store in International Financial Centre Mall on 24 Sept, 2011.—INTERNET

Obama links education reform to economic recovery

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept—Young people in the United States are falling behind their overseas peers in reading, math and science, President Barack Obama said on Saturday, calling education reform an essential part of economic recovery.

In his weekly radio and video address, Obama said as many as a quarter of American students are not finishing high school and far too few young people are getting college degrees.

"It is an undeniable fact that countries who out-educate us today will out-compete us tomorrow. Businesses will hire wherever the highly skilled, highly trained workers are located," the Democrat said. "We have to pick up our game and raise our standards." With the 2012 campaign for the US presidency heating up, Obama is speaking increasingly often about education, a key issue for his political base.

His $447 billion job creation plan includes money for hiring teachers and school repairs, and on Friday he announced a loosening of "No Child Left Behind," a decade-old education measure introduced by former President George W. Bush that seeks to hold schools accountable for students’ performance.

Boat sinking kills 13 in Indonesia

JAKARTA, 25 Sept—A boat capsized near Madura, East Java, on Saturday, killing 13 passengers and 14 others survived the accident while some are still missing, according to the report.

The boat sank after reportedly being struck by strong waves.

Frontier Airlines to cut 213 jobs in Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE, 25 Sept—Indiana-based Frontier Airlines plans to lay off more than 200 workers in Wisconsin in November as the commercial carrier dramatically reduces service to the Milwaukee airport. Frontier filed a mass layoff notice on Friday with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, saying it would cut 213 jobs in Milwaukee, effective 14 November.

Frontier, a subsidiary of Republic Airways, said earlier this month it planned to suspend nonstop service from Milwaukee to six destinations, including Des Moines, Cleveland and Minneapolis, and to reduce service to a number of other destinations, including Kansas City.—Reuters

Samsung says 10 million Galaxy S II handsets sold

SEOUL, 25 Sept—South Korea’s Samsung Electronics, the world’s second-largest mobile phone maker after Nokia, said it had sold 10 million Galaxy S II smartphones worldwide since the device debuted in April.

Sales of the new model, an upgraded version of the firm’s flagship smartphone, had doubled in two months after hitting the five-million mark in July, the company said on Sunday.

The new device was released locally on April 29 and in some European countries in May. It also went on sale in China in July before hitting the US market in September.

"In just five months the Galaxy S II has seen tremendous growth, reflecting strong support from carrier partners," JK Shin, the head of the firm’s mobile device unit, said in a statement. Shin said earlier this year that Samsung planned to sell globally more than 10 million of the phones, powered by Google’s Android operating system and spearheading the firm’s smartphone push this year.—INTERNET

Hong Kong’s 1st Apple store mobbed on Sept 23

HONG KONG, 25 Sept—Apple Inc opened its long-awaited first store in Hong Kong on Saturday, with thousands of fans of the computer and gadget maker pouring in on the first day.

Some Apple enthusiasts had camped out for nearly two days to secure a place at the head of the line and be among the first to walk through the doors of the new store, where they were greeted with high fives and chants of “Apple, Apple!” by the 300 newly hired staff.

The store is located on two floors linked by a glass spiral staircase in Hong Kong’s upscale International Financial Centre Mall, in the city’s central business district. The Cupertino, California-based company’s products are wildly popular in mainland China. The Hong Kong store follows the opening of a third Shanghai store on Friday as the company boosts its presence in a key market. It also has two stores in Beijing.

“I’ve always wanted to participate in this kind of event, to enjoy the atmosphere. It’s cool,” said 17-year-old Liu Jia- rong, a high school student from Shenzhen, across the border from Hong Kong in mainland China. Liu said he had been waiting for the day that an Apple store would open near his home. He was one of the first to enter the store after joining the line at about 4 pm Friday.

The first person in line arrived sometime on Thursday evening, according to security guards.

Staff handed out free T-shirts to the first 5,000 people in line, which snaked out the mall and over a long footbridge to nearby ferry piers. The store is one of 30 that the company plans to open in the current quarter.—INTERNET

LG to pour about $7 billion in “Green New Business”

SEOUL, 25 Sept—LG, South Korea’s second largest business conglomerate, said on Sunday it will invest 8 trillion won ($6.83 billion) in “Green New Business” sectors such as electric vehicle parts, LED lighting and sewage treatment industries by 2015. The business group also said it was aiming to generate 10 trillion won in revenues and create 10,000 new jobs through these investments.

LG will invest 2 trillion won in the electric vehicle battery area by 2013, 1 trillion won in the photovoltaic, LED and water treatment sectors and 490 billion won in the polysilicon business by 2014. In addition, another 400 billion won was set aside to build facilities to produce solar cell wafers on a step-by-step basis by 2015, according to an LG statement.

People walk past a company logo of LG Electronics in Seoul on 21 October, 2009.—INTERNET

South Korea’s Samsung Electronics, the world’s second-largest mobile phone maker after Nokia, said it had sold 10 million Galaxy S II smartphones worldwide since the device debuted in April.—INTERNET

President Barack Obama greets sixth grade student Keiry Herrera on stage after making remarks on the need to Provide states with relief from key provisions of the No Child Left Behind education policy, at the White House in Washington on 23 Sept, 2011.—INTERNET

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India to pursue nuclear energy after safety ensured

NEW DELHI, 25 Sept—Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Saturday said his country will pursue nuclear energy after “full satisfaction” about its safety is attained, reported local daily Indian Express on Sunday. Singh told the UN General Assembly session in New York that India is ready to work with International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to enhance safety and security levels and that the country has undertaken a thorough review of the safety of nuclear plants in the wake of the Fukushima disaster in Japan in March.

“Our plans for utilizing nuclear power to meet our energy needs hinge upon full satisfaction that the safety of nuclear energy. We have undertaken a thorough review of the safety of our nuclear plants,” he was quoted as saying. — MNA/Xinhua

Missile may have downed airliner over Italy in 1980

MILAN, 25 Sept — A plane crash off the island of Ustica 1980, which killed all 81 people on board and triggered numerous conspiracy theories was probably caused by military aircraft, accoutered to Thursday. Itavia flight 870 was flying from Bologna to the Sicilian capital, Palermo, when it crashed into the sea 80 miles south-west of Naples. At first, mechanical failure was suspected. Then it was claimed that a terrorist attack was to blame. Even more people died in a bomb attack at Bologna's station the same year.

But many blamed military aircraft for the accident, and judges in Palermo concluded yesterday that the crash was caused by a missile or an-air-collison with unidentified military aircraft flying around the airliner at the time of the disaster. Previous inquiries claimed that US, French and Libyan military aircraft were flying nearby at the time of the crash. Magistrates and victims' relatives have long suspected that the DC-9 was caught in a dogfight between NATO planes and Libyan jet, the wreckage of which was found months after the Ustica crash.—Internet

Largest international music festival kicks off in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, 25 Sept — After a ten-year hiatus, the world's largest music festival, Rock in Rio, returned to its hometown Rio de Janeiro for seven days of concerts from Friday, attracting 700,000 people over the whole week. It is the 10th edition of the Rock in Rio festival, but only the 4th to be held in Rio as the organizers exported the fest to Lisbon and Madrid ten years ago.

The first edition of the festival in 1985, gathering an audience of 1.38 million in ten days of concerts, and the most recent edition in Rio was held in January 2001. A total of 700,000 tickets were sold out for this year's festival. The success prompted organizers to announce an extra day of concerts, and tickets for that day has been sold out as well.

The festival consists of four stages, in which the concerts are expected to last up to 14 hours a day, with the participa- tion of international stars including Elton John, Katy Perry, Shakira, Rihanna, and bands Metallica, Evanescence, and System of a Down. Several stars which performed in previous editions of the fest, such as Guns N' Roses and Red Hot Chili Peppers, are also on the list this year. In addition, a number of local singers and bands, such as Paralamas do Sucesso and Titas, will also join this year.

Meet Medusa the world’s largest snake

KANSAS, 25 Sept—She weighs more than 300lbs, is 25ft long and it takes 15 people to hold her. Now Medusa is set to slither into the record books as the world’s largest snake living in captivity. The massive python, which will be on display at the Edge of Hell haunted house attraction in Kansas City, eats a 40lb animal about once a week but could easily eat something weighing more than 100lbs. She will soon be visited by representatives from the Guinness Book of World Records who are coming to verify her new title. Medusa’s trainer Larry Elgar told NBC Action News he isn’t intimidated by the monster python. He said: ‘They’ve actually cut people out of them, they are man eaters.’ Fear is just a lack of understanding. I have no fear. I understand that she can kill me. I’ve been wrapped up and put unconscious by a reaceted python that was only 18feet long. “I understand the repercussions, but that’s no reason to fear. That car you drove in has killed more people than anything else in the world.” But you’re not scared when you put your keys in, are you?” Mr Edgar said he bought the seven-year-old snake as a baby and she’s still growing. Seven years ago this snake was 244 inches long, as big as my finger,” he said. Medusa is set to bump Fluffy, a reaceted python, off the top spot. At 244ft long she holds the record for longest snake living in captivity until she died at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Powell, Ohio, last October.—Internet

Models present creations of the Italian fashion house Moschino during the Milan Fashion Week Women’s Wear Spring/Summer 2012 in Milan, northern Italy, on 23 Sept, 2011. — Xinhua

US businessman jailed for drunken rant on BA flight

LONDON, 25 Sept—A US businessman who drunkenly abused staff on a British Airways flight to London has been jailed for three months. Timothy Bradley, 32, a mortgage consultant, of Phoenix, Arizona, had pleaded guilty to common assault and being drunk on an aircraft.

The incident took place on 20 August on a Phoenix to London flight. Isleworth Crown Court heard Bradley swore at staff and was abusive after he was refused more alcohol.

The businessman had been drinking beers and bourbon cocktails with friends before boarding the flight and had continued to drink once aboard.

Early on in the flight he began chatting up a female crew member, Charlotte Howell, who was replaced by her male colleague Stuart Williams, after she felt uneasy.—Internet
Lottery win has longtime friends at odds

A dispute over who should collect a $1.35 million jackpot in a French lottery has two longtime friends pitted against each other, officials said. State-owned lottery operator Francaise Des Jeux said it was contacted by one of the claimants after the winning ticket numbers were displayed in a cafe in the town of L’Ecrevisse, The Local reported Friday.

Cafe owner Chok Guendouzi, 73, said he is entitled to half the jackpot in the ironically named “Amigo” lottery won by cafe regular Messaoud Boudissa, 79.

Guendouzi said he and Boudissa played the lottery together regularly and that on this particular day he gave Boudissa the money to play.

“He didn’t have any money so I gave him 20 euros ($27),” Guendouzi said. “He played and got the jackpot. He was happy to share it. But then after four or five days he changed his mind as if he didn’t know me anymore.”

Boudissa denied that.

“These are lies,” he said. “He wants me to give him the money, that’s all. I did it with my money. I don’t owe anyone anything.” Guendouzi said he has hired a lawyer and has around 30 people who can back up his version of events.

Beer heist goes about as wrong as possible

An alleged beer burglary in Covina ended with three 19-year-olds in custody and a botched getaway that injured a store employee and reportedly sent one suspect through a car wash on foot, police say.

Nicholas Kalscheuer and Nicholas Fiumetto are accused of trying to steal beer from the Baja Ranch Market in Covina. The store is located at 425 S Citrus Ave, according to Covina police. On Wednesday around 3 pm, the men entered the store and each grabbed a 30-pack of Tecate beer, said police.

“As they walked to exit the store, Kalscheuer dropped the beer due to store employees following him, and continued to follow Fiumetto, who was still holding the 30-pack of beer,” according to a statement from Covina police.

Fiumetto and Kalscheuer ran outside, where Andy Huynh was waiting in a getaway car, police allege. Kalscheuer was detained by a store employee while Fiumetto managed to hop in the vehicle with his beer, according to police.

Greer plays Kutcher’s ex-wife on ‘Men’

Los Angeles, 25 Sept—Actress Judy Greer will play the ex-wife of Ashton Kutcher’s character Walden Schmidt on “Two and a Half Men,” CBS said.

Greer’s first appearance as Bridge on the show will be Monday. Kutcher joined the cast this season as a replacement for fired actor Charlie Sheen. He plays a heartbroken Internet tycoon who befriends the family of Sheen’s character, the recently deceased Charlie Harper, and buys his house.

Greer is best known for her work on TV’s “Arrested Development.” Her film credits include “Adaptation,” "The Wedding Planner," “13 Going on 30,” “27 Dresses” and “Love and Other Drugs.”—Internet

Kim Delaney escorted from Philadelphia podium

Philadelphia, 25 Sept—Kim Delaney, star of the television show "Army Wives," had to be escorted from the podium at an event in Philadelphia after struggling to read her speech from a teleprompter.

It happened Thursday at an event honouring former Defence Secretary Robert Gates. Delaney is a 52-year-old Philadelphia native. Her remarks were punctuated by long pauses and fragmented sentences. After several minutes, a video began to play. She was escorted away from the podium to a chair on the side of the stage by a woman who appeared to be a producer.

Her publicist did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment.

'B'Follies' on Broadway extends run until 22 Jan

New York, 25 Sept—Stephen Sondheim's “Follies” will be haunting Broadway for a little longer. Producers of the hit revival said Friday they’re extending its run for three more weeks, until 22 Jan.

The show benefits a veteran cast of 41 actors that includes Bernadette Peters and Jan Maxwell and is backed by a 28-piece orchestra. Most reviews have applauded the production, which centres on middle-aged angst and ghosts of the past.

The production began at the Kennedy Centre in Washington, DC, before arriving at the Marquis Theatre on Broadway in September.—Internet

Early Monroe photos, copyrights to sell at auction

Los Angeles, 25 Sept—Copyrights and images from Marilyn Monroe’s first photo shoot are hitting the auction block.

A bankruptcy judge in Florida ruled earlier this week that photos taken in 1946 of Norma Jean Dougherty—who went on to become the iconic Monroe — will be sold at auction to settle the debts of the photographer.

Joseph Jasgur’s photos, negatives and image copyrights will be sold in December by Julien’s Auctions. The collection also includes several model-release forms Dougherty signed for Jasgur in Hollywood.

Darren Julien, chief of Julien’s Auctions, said the photos have not been widely distributed and the collection has been locked up in court battles for more than two decades.
Hat tricks for Messi and Ronaldo

Barcelona, 25 Sept — Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo each scored his second hat trick of the season, leading Barcelona and Real Madrid to victories in the Spanish league on Saturday night following draws in midweek.

Messi scored on brilliant individual moves in the 26th and 76th minutes, and added a goal in second-half stoppage time, leading Barcelona over visiting Atletico Madrid 5-0. Messi also forced an own-goal by Miranda in the 55th, six minutes after David Villa had put Barcelona ahead. Messi has 12 goals in nine matches this season and leads the league with eight, one more than Ronaldo.

At Madrid, Ronaldo scored in the 39th minute and converted penalty kicks in the 51st and 84th to help Real defeat Rayo Vallecano 6-2. Gonzalo Higuain, Raphael Varane and Karim Benzema also scored for the hosts.

Bob Bradley signs as coach of national team

Former United States coach Bob Bradley

Cairo, 25 Sept — Former United States coach Bob Bradley signed a contract to take over the Egyptian national team on Saturday, charged with regaining prominence for a tournament it has won on the last three occasions. The record seven-time champion Brazil in November. Longtime coach Hassan Shehata stepped down in June after Egypt collected two points from four African Cup qualifiers and a subsequent loss to Sierra Leone confirmed Egypt’s failure to qualify for a tournament it has won on the last three occasions.

The record seven-time winners will not compete in the continental championship for the first time in 33 years.

Wenger fears Walcott will miss Euro tie

Theo Walcott

LONDON, 25 Sept — Theo Walcott is a major doubt for Arsenal’s Champions League clash against Olympiakos in midweek after suffering a knee injury in his side’s 3-0 victory over Bolton.

Walcott pulled up late in the game and will undergo a scan on the injury to establish the full extent of the problem and Gunners manager Arsene Wenger admitted his concern about the England winger’s availability for his side’s second group game following the 1-1 draw at Borussia Dortmund.

Gladbach on top, Dortmund win at the death

MOENCHENGLADBACH, 25 Sept — Borussia Moenchengladbach went provisionally top of the German Bundesliga on Saturday with a 1-0 win over Nuremberg, while champions Borussia Dortmund thanked a last-gasp goal for a 2-1 win at Mainz. Gladbach have not won the league since 1977 and their most recent honour, in 2008, was the second division trophy.

But Belgian defender Filip Daem of Daem’s fifth in seven games this season, as they moved a point clear of Bayern Munich facing Bayer Leverkusen later.

Saturday’s success was Gladbach’s fifth in seven games this season, as they moved a point clear of Bayern. Reigning champions Dortmund, meanwhile, had to抓好 as they came from a goal down to win 2-1 at Mainz.

Federer pulls out of Shanghai Masters to rest

SHANGHAI, 25 Sept — Roger Federer has pulled out of next month’s Shanghai Masters to rest, event organizers confirmed on Saturday. The 30-year-old Swiss star wrote in a letter to the organizing committee in Shanghai that he needs “necessary time to rest and recuperate after a long summer.”

But it was Uruguay forward Suarez who took the headlines for a man-of-the-match performance, capped with the decisive second goal after Roger Johnson’s own goal gave Liverpool an early lead. Steven Fletcher got one back in the 49th minute, but Liverpool held out to record a vital win — ending a run of two successive league defeats and condemning Wolves to a third consecutive loss.

United drop 1st points of season in Premier League

London, 25 Sept — Peter Crouch scored on a header in the 57th minute, giving Stoke a 1-1 tie with visiting Manchester United on Saturday and ending the Red Devils’ perfect start to the Premier League season. Nani scored in the 27th minute for Man U., which was without injured forward Wayne Rooney.

Manager Alex Ferguson said Rooney, who leads the EPL with nine goals, will be sidelined more than a week because of a hamstring injury. Crouch’s goal was his first since he scored Stoke bought him from Tottenham for a club record transfer of £15.5 million last month.

City defeated visiting Everton 2-0, getting second-half goals from substitutes Mario Balotelli and James Milner against American goalkeeper Tim Howard. Chelsea (4-1-1) is three points back after beating visiting Swansea 4-1. Demba Ba had a hat trick for fourth-place Newcastle (3-0-3) in a 3-1 home win over Blackburn while Liverpool (3-2-1) climbed to fifth by beating Wolverhampton Wanderers 2-1 at Anfield — the team’s first win in three league games.

Tottenham (3-2-0) won 2-1 at Wigan on goals by Rafael van der Vaart and Gareth Bale for its third straight victory, Robin van Persie scored twice for Arsenal in a 3-0 win over Bolton, giving him 100 goals for the Gunners. Fans sang “There’s only one Arsene Wenger!” the Arsenal manager under pressure for a 1-1-3 league start coming in. Fullham held West Bromwich Albion to a 0-0 draw in a game between two of the division’s bottom four.

Gerrard’s Anfield return overshadowed by Suarez

LIVERPOOL, 25 Sept — Liverpool midfielder Steven Gerrard’s first appearance at Anfield since March was overshadowed by Luis Suarez’s virtuoso performance in his side’s much-needed 2-1 victory over Wolves on Saturday. Gerrard, who returned after groin surgery during Wednesday’s League Cup win at Brighton, made just his second appearance of the season — and his first in front of the Kop — after coming on for the final nine minutes.

But it was Uruguay forward Suarez, who took the headlines for a man-of-the-match performance, capped with the decisive second goal after Roger Johnson’s own goal gave Liverpool an early lead. Steven Fletcher got one back in the 49th minute, but Liverpool held out to record a vital win — ending a run of two successive league defeats and condemning Wolves to a third consecutive loss.

Internet

Manchester United’s Nani, second right, scores against Stoke City during their English Premier League soccer match at the Britannia Stadium.

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Federer

Roger Federer

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Jacqueline: On a roll with Hrithik.. 

NEW DELHI, 25 Sept—Ex-Sri Lankan beauty queen-turned-actor Jacqueline Fernandes feels lucky to be working with actor Hrithik Roshan. She has just replaced Chitrangda Singh in Krissh 3 and will play the role of a female mutant.

Jacqueline says, “I am excited and gearing up for my first action film.” She has, in the past, shot an ad with the film’s lead actor, Hrithik Roshan when she was new to the city and hadn’t done any films. She says, “I was a random ‘foreign’ model and he was a huge star. I saw him at an award function later, but I didn’t think he would remember me. Even after signing Krissh 3, I didn’t think he would recall me from the past.”

So, has she met Hrithik yet? “We haven’t met after signing the film. I had a narration and meeting with Rakesh Roshan (director). I don’t know the dates yet,” she says.

Is she upset about not being considered for Murder 3, since she was part of the second franchise? “The Bhatts have created a Bond-like franchise and people want to see who the next Murder girl would be. It’s better if they get another actor for the next one.”
Appamadoca dhamesu; to be diligent in laws; this is the way to auspiciousness

Sittoung Canal Bridge as sixth above-180-foot bridge emerges on DaikU-Sittoung Road in Waw Township

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Sittoung Canal Bridge located at mile post No. 5/4 on DaikU-Sittoung road in Waw Township of Bago Region was inaugurated as the sixth above-180-ft bridge in the time of incumbent government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar this morning, attended by Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint, Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tin, Region Ministers and locals.

The Union minister explained construction works of the bridge, and the Chief Minister expressed thanks for opening of the bridge.

The RC type facility constructed by Special Bridge Construction Group No (2) is 240 feet long and 24 feet wide with two-way traffic, flanked by 3.5-ft wide pedestrian walk and can withstand 60-ton load inclusive of the vehicle.

The bridge lies on the shortcut linking DaikU on Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway with Sittoung on Yangon-Bago-Mawlamyine road. Cutting 24 miles of the route, it can benefit vehicles running on DaikU-Sittoung road.

Thanks to the emergence of the bridge, local people will be able to travel from Bago Region to other parts of upper and lower Myanmar, to Mon State, Kayin State and Taninthayi Region and commodity will be transported from east to west and south to north through road networks, thereby contributing towards development of economic, social, education, health and administrative sectors of the region.—MNA

Innocent Kachin woman killed in gun fire of KIA in Sadon Sub-Township

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—KIA group opened fire with small arms and threw grenade at Sadon market in Sadon Sub-Township of Waingmaw Township, Kachin State, at about 3 am on 22 September. In the scene, Daw Ma Shi Kawt, 43, (daughter of U Phaung Mya Lahyin) of Ward 5 in Sadon Sub-Township was injured at the body below the armpit by the gunshot and while receiving medical treatment at the hospital, she died of the wound in the afternoon.

In a Friday, 23 Sept, 2011 photo, wildlife biologist Paul Marinari, left, releases an endangered black-footed ferret into the wild, in the Badlands National Park.

Myanmar, Poland to promote bilateral cooperation

Rangers steal a point from Villa

LONDON, 25 Sept—The hosts dominated the first half with Adel Taarabt hitting the post before Barry Bannan had a free-kick saved.

Bannan then stepped up to give the visitors the lead from the spot on 38 minutes after Armand Traore’s foul on Gabriel Agbonlahor.

But just as it got worse for QPR when Traore was sent off, Dunne was unlucky to turn in Stephen Warnock’s clearance.

The Irishman could not do much to avoid the ricochet off his team-mate as Luke Young tried to get on the end of Heidar Helguson’s cross.

Rangers can point to two penalty appeals when Alan Hutton twice appeared to handle ball from Shaun Derry’s header and Tommy Smith’s cross, both of which were waved away by referee Michael Oliver.

Much like the goalless draw against Newcastle in their last home game, Rangers were full of enterprise play, despite the number of new recruits, but they failed to turn their superiority into goals.

Richard Dunne has now scored nine own goals in the Premier League.

Want truly fabulous skin — glowing, vibrant, and, yes, younger-looking skin? Make sure you’re drinking plenty of water and eating a healthy skin diet. “Everything you eat becomes a part of not only your inner being, but the outer fabric of your body as well.”

Union Minister for Construction U Khin Maung Myint and Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win walk on Sittoung Canal Bridge.—MNA