President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Algerian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Mr. Cherif Chikhi, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at President Office, here, at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with President U Thein Sein were Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

President U Thein Sein receives Ambassador of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria Mr. Cherif Chikhi at President Office in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Portuguese Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Dr. Jorge Ryder Torres Pereira, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Portuguese Republic to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at the President Office, here, at 10.30 am today.

Also present on the occasion together with U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union
* Non-disintegration of National solidarity
* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

MNA
**PERSPECTIVES**

**Tuesday, 27 September, 2011**

**Speedy flow of commodities through better transportation**

People can travel easily from one region to another as a great number of new roads and bridges have been built across the nation. Thanks to the Ayeyawady river crossing bridges, better transportation can be witnessed in the regions on western bank of the Ayeyawady River where there was poor transport due to geographical condition in the past. Now, a day trip to some regions with poor transport in the past can be made now.

Better transportation is of vital importance to regional development. Transport of commodities has become speedy thanks to a road network connecting every part of the entire Union, thereby contributing towards all-round development of the region in economic, social, education, health and administrative sectors.

Sittoung Canal bridge located on DaikU-Sittoung road in Waw Township of Bago Region was put into service on 25 September. The RC type facility with two way lane is 250 feet long and can withstand 60-ton load inclusive of the vehicles.

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 opening of this facility, locals can go easily from Bago Region to the regions in upper and lower Myanmar and to Mon and Kayin States and Taninthayi Region.

In the time of the government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, six bridges which are 180 feet and above long including Sittoung Canal bridge were inaugurated successfully in the regions and states. People are bound to maintain them constantly for durability. Only with construction of new roads and bridges across the nation, will traveling and flow of commodities be smoother and easier resulting in economic development.

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**Appointment of Swedish Ambassador agreed on**

**NAI PVT TAW, 27 Sept.—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of HE Mr Klas Fredrik Molin as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.**

HE Mr Klas Fredrik Molin was born on 19 July 1959. He obtained the Bachelor of Arts in 1983 and Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy in 1985. He worked as an intern at the Office of Senator Edward M Kennedy of United States Senate in 1984. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1985 and served in various capacities at the Ministry and Embassies of Sweden in Bangkok and Washington DC and Permanent Representation of Sweden to the United Nations, New York. At present, he is serving as Deputy Director-General, Head of Department for Asia and the Pacific, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stockholm, Sweden.

He will be accredited as Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in Bangkok. —MNA

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**Appointment of German Ambassador agreed on**

**NAI PVT TAW, 27 Sept.—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of HE Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortisch as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.**

He studied law and political science at Universities of Munich and Paris from 1971 to 1997. He served as junior barrister and lecturer at the Institute for Politics at Munich University from 1977 to 1979. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1980 and served in various capacities at the Ministry and German embassies in Athens, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur and Algeria at Federal Chancellors’ Office, Berlin from 2000 to 2003. He served as Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from 2003 to 2007. Currently, he has been serving as Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany to the Republic of the Philippines. He is married and has two children. —MNA

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**Union Auditor-General receives Vietnamese guests**

**NAI PVT TAW, 26 Sept.—Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung received a six-member delegation led by Deputy Auditor-General of Auditor-General’s Office of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Mr Cao Tan Khong at his office here this afternoon.**

They shared auditing experiences and discussed matters for promoting cooperation.

Also present at the call were the deputy auditor-general, the director-general (duty), the deputy director-general and directors. —MNA

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**RUMFCCI delegation to participate in 4th Myanmar-India Joint Trade Committee Meeting**

**YANGON, 26 Sept.—A Myanmar delegation comprising entrepreneurs left here for India yesterday to participate in the 4th Myanmar-India Joint Trade Committee Meeting in New Delhi tomorrow.**

The delegation was led by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry U Win Aung.

They were seen off at the Yangon International Airport by Vice-Presidents of the federation U Zaw Min Win, U Aung Lwin, U Thaung Tin and U Tun Aung and responsible personnel. —MNA

**Deputy Transport Minister visits dockyards**

**NAI PVT TAW, 26 Sept.—Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein inspected functions of Ahlon and Dalla Dockyards of Inland Water Transport, Thienbyu, Setsan and Antgyi Dockyards of Myanma Port Authority, and Dawbon Dockyard of Department of Marine Administration on 24 September and yesterday and gave necessary instructions.**

Minor and major repairs of vessels, shipbuilding, maintenance of navigation devices and developing new devices and nurturing skilled works are being carried out dockyards under the Ministry of Transport.

The ministry is placing emphasis on capacity building of dockyards and staff in order to meet annual work targets. —MNA

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**Union Auditor-General U Lun Maung receives Vietnamese delegation led by Deputy Auditor-General Mr Cao Tan Khong.** —MNA

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**Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein inspects Setsan dockyard of Inland Water Transport.** —MNA

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**Donate Blood**

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**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT**

**Deputy Minister for Transport U Win Shein inspects Setsan dockyard of Inland Water Transport.** —MNA
Indonesian ferry catches fire after tug collision

JAKARTA, 26 Sept—An Indonesian ferry with more than 400 people on board collided with a barge and caught fire, killing at least four, a search and rescue official said. The KM Marina Nusantara, travelling on Monday from Surabaya in eastern Java, collided with the barge as it approached the City of Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan Province on Indonesian Borneo.

“The accident happened after 7 am this morning. So far, two people have died. We can’t confirm how many are injured, but we are expecting more casualties,” said Rusli Ansyah, head of search and rescue in South Kalimantan.

“The boat was carrying 443 people, some vehicles and other goods. Everyone has now been evacuated and some have been taken to hospital,” he said. The Indonesian archipelago of more than 17,000 islands has a poor sea safety record, and fatal accidents are common.—INTERNET

Seven militants killed, 32 arrested in E Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Sept—Afghan and NATO-led forces during operations have killed seven militants and captured 32 in eastern Afghanistan’s Paktika Province over the past 24 hours, the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said on Monday.

“Ten Afghan and Coalition force conducted operations in RC-East (Regional Command-East) killing seven enemies, the detaining 32 suspected individuals and a weapon cache turned in over the past 24 hours throughout the region,” said a statement issued by ISAF’s RC-East here.

A concerned local Afghan civilian turned over a weapons cache that included 11 mortar rounds, two anti-tank mines, an anti-personnel mine, a jug of homemade explosives, a bag of improvised explosive device (IED) components, two rocket primers, two 82mm recoilless rifle rounds, two bolt actions rifles and two shotguns and a heavy machine gun barrel, according to the statement.

Balso confirmed that a Coalition drone was crashed in country’s eastern Paktika Province in the same period of time.

“An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) crashed in the Sar Rowzah District of Paktika Province. The UAV was recovered and there was no enemy activity in the area prior to the crash,” it said.

Blasts kill two NATO soldiers in Afghanistan

KABUL, 26 Sept—Two soldiers of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed in two separate blasts in eastern Afghanistan on Sunday.

“An International Security Assistance Force service member died following an improvised explosive device (IED) attack in eastern Afghanistan today,” ISAF said in a statement.

In a separate incident, one International Security Assistance Force service member died following an IED attack, also in eastern Afghanistan today, the statement added.

However, it did not identify the nationalities of the victims, saying it is ISAF policy to defer casualty identification procedures to the relevant national authorities.

More than 400 foreign soldiers, most of them Americans, have been killed in Afghanistan so far this year.

Taliban militants have been largely relying on suicide and roadside bombs to fight Afghan and NATO-led troops.

Typhoon nears Philippines, shuts schools, flights

MANILA, 26 Sept—Schools in the Philippine capital have suspended classes and many local flights are canceled as the country’s main island braces for heavy rains and winds brought by fast-moving Typhoon Nesat.

Forecasters say Nesat will make landfall in northeastern Aurora Province in the next 24 hours and cross Luzon Island north of Manila with winds of up to 133 miles (215 kilometres) per hour.

Heavy downpours and wind on Monday prompted the government to shut schools in Manila while airlines canceled flights to central and eastern parts of the country.

Rains, flooding kill dozens in north, east India

LUCKNOW, 26 Sept—Monsoon rains have collapsed mud huts and flooded wide swaths of north and east India, killing at least 48 people in recent days and leaving hundreds of thousands of people marooned by the raging waters, officials said Monday.

Those stranded were taking shelter atop trees, hills and rooftops in eastern Orissa state and the northern states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

National rescue helicopters were dropping food parcels in hard-to-reach areas, while hundreds of boats were being used to ferry the stranded to safety.

But the rains, expected to continue for another two days, were holding up rescue efforts, officials said.

11 killed as bus plunges into ditch in Bangladesh

DHAKA, 26 Sept—At least 11 people were killed and another two critically injured when a small bus veered off a road and plunged into a ditch in Bangladesh’s Magura District, some 150 km west of capital Dhaka, on Sunday evening.

The district’s police chief, Proloy Cisim, told Xinhua over phone: “The accident which killed 11 people on the spot and injured 2 critically took place at about 4 pm local time Sunday.”

Quoting witnesses, he said the small vehicle skidded off the road as it gave way to a speedy truck from its behind. The injured were rushed to a local hospital.—Xinhua

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Dining as a family may create happier, healthier teens

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept—A new survey reveals that a family sit-down at dinnertime can benefit teenagers in more ways that you may think, and may even reduce your child’s risk for trying or using drugs, cigarettes, and alcohol.

Last week, the US National Centre on Addiction and Substance Abuse released the results of a family dining trends and how family mealtimes can impact the health of teenagers.

The study surveyed more than 1,000 teens and found that 58 percent dine with their families at least five times per week — a number that has held steady over the years, experts say.

In the report, teenagers who dined with their families five to seven times a week were four times less likely to use alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana than those teens who ate alone with their families fewer than three times a week.

Also a recent wide-scale UK survey revealed that dining together is a key ingredient to ensuring your child’s happiness. Researchers stated that children in the survey reported higher levels of happiness when they dined together with their families at least three times a week.

Other factors in increasing childhood happiness? Spending time together. “Contrary to the popular belief that children only want to spend time playing videogames or watching TV,” said researcher Dr Maris Iacovou of the University of Essex, “we found that they were most happy when interacting with their parents or siblings.”

Dining together as a family, putting family before friends, and limiting your child’s after-school activities to opt for more time together at home. Also, create a calm environment at home by never arguing in front of the kids, experts say.

Healthy snacks take a bit of planning

SANTA MONICA, (Calif) 26 Sept—After-school snacks for children and teens are fuel for growth, but with some planning can also boost their nutrition, a US food expert says.

Phil Lempert, a food industry analyst, trend watcher and creator of the Web site supermarkt guru.com, said children will mimic what their parents eat and what they find handy at home.

Fresh fruit is an easy choice, with bananas, apples, oranges available all year long. Frozen berries and other fruit taste can be defrosted and mixed in with a scoop of ricotta cheese or plain yogurt.

Cut-up stalks of celery, baby peeled carrots, red, yellow or green bell peppers, and lightly blanched cauliflower or broccoli florets all make delicious snacks — no dips are necessary, Lempert says.

The blender can make fresh food vegetables, water and a bite of vegetable or chicken stock into a pureed soup. Small quantities of raisins, currants, nuts or a homemade mix are delicious with a small glass of milk or juice.

Peanut, almond, sunflower and other nut butters — excellent sources of protein, healthy fats, minerals and vitamins — can be slapped on sliced apples, celery stalks or whole grain crackers, Lempert advises.

On cold wintry days, vegetable soup, homemade chicken soup, stir-fried vegetables with brown rice or a bowl of hot cereal topped with apple sauce for sweetening all make hot snacks, Lempert says.

Asia stocks drop amid recession fears, debt crisis

BANGKOK, 26 Sept—Asian stock markets fell Monday as investors worried about Europe’s prolonged debt crisis and the possibility of a global recession continuing to fuel the riskier assets.

Japan’s Nikkei 225 index fell 1.7 percent to 8,419.36, as a stubbornly strong yen weighed on the country’s export sector, making its products more expensive overseas. Consumer electronics giant Panasonic Corp fell 3.8 percent and Sharp Corp lost 3.6 percent. Isuzu Motors Ltd tumbled 4.7 percent. South Korea’s Kospi index was 0.8 percent lower at 1,684.48. Hong Kong’s Hang Seng index fell 0.7 percent to 17,538.43.

Bucking the trend was Australia’s S&P/ASX 200 index, up 0.2 percent to 3,911.10. Gold shares slumped as investors sold off holdings in the precious metal to raise cash. Hong Kong-listed shares of Zijin Mining, China’s largest gold miner, fell 7.6 percent. “Gold’s sharp decline and extreme volatility in recent weeks has raised questions about it retaining its traditional role as a safe-haven asset and the sustainability of its multiyear rally,” Credit Agricole CIB wrote in a report.

On Wall Street on Friday, the Dow Jones industrial average rose slightly — but closed the week down 6.4 percent, its worst showing since the depths of the financial crisis three years ago. Meanwhile, fears about Europe’s debt increased early Friday on news that Moody’s Investors Service had downgraded its ratings of eight Greek banks by two notches.

Investors have been waiting in vain for news that Greece will receive the next installment of a bailout package in time to avoid defaulting on its debt next month. In currencies, the euro fell to $1.3427 from $1.3467 late Friday in New York. The dollar fell to 76.40 yen from 76.72 Japanese yen.

Rio Tinto eyeing Australia aluminum business spin-off

SYDNEY, 26 Sept—Global miner Rio Tinto is considering spinning off part of its Australian aluminum assets as a planned carbon would raise costs, the Australian Financial Review said on Monday.

Rio has been working with Macquarie Group and PricewaterhouseCoopers to consider its options for the business, the paper said.

Rio’s aluminum business in Australia is made up of three refineries, three smelters and two bauxite mines, the paper said, adding Rio would hold onto the mines as they offer the highest margins.

Rio last week told investors it plans to achieve 40 percent earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization margin from the aluminum business through the sale of two non-specific assets, the paper said.

Rio Tinto officials could not be immediately reached for comment by Reuters.

UNSG’s message on World Tourism Day

27 September 2011

The theme of this year’s World Tourism Day, “Tourism — linking cultures”, highlights the powerful role of tourism in building international understanding and mutual respect.

There is no better way to learn about a new culture than to experience it first-hand. Tourism offers a wonderful connecting thread between visitor and host community. It promotes dialogue and interaction. Such contact between people of different backgrounds is the very foundation for tolerance.

In a world struggling for peaceful coexistence, tourism can build bridges and contribute to peace.

Tourism’s contributions to development also advance the cause of global sustainability. At a time of profound global economic uncertainty, tourism’s ability to generate socio-economic opportunities and help reduce the gap between rich and poor, is more important than ever.

I encourage all involved in tourism to embrace the ten principles of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. These guidelines for sustainable and responsible tourism development, approved by the UN General Assembly in 2001, are based on the proven interaction between tourism and peace, human rights and understanding.

World Tourism Day is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of tourism to global well-being. As we travel, let us engage with other cultures and celebrate human diversity. On this observance, let us recognize tourism as a force for a more tolerant, open and united world.

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A man walks past an electronic stock board of a securities firm in Tokyo, on 26 Sept, 2011.

Buckingham Palace's message on World Tourism Day

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Business

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Forecasts signal late-week launch of Tiangong-1

BEIJING, 26 Sept—Weather forecasts showed that Thursday or Friday might be suitable for launching the Tiangong-1 spacecraft, experts said.

The unmanned spacecraft, part of China’s first spacecraft rendezvous and docking mission, was set to blast off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in Northwest China at an appropriate time between Tuesday and Friday. But the latest weather forecast showed that Tuesday and Wednesday would not be suitable for a launch, Cui Jijun, chief commander of the mission’s launch site system, was quoted by China National Radio as saying on Sunday.

A precondition for launching is that the average wind speed at the launch site should not be faster than 10 metres a second. The upper-level wind, at 300 metres to 25,000 metres above the Earth, should be no faster than 70 meters a second.

If the wind is too strong, the rising rocket carrier could wiggle and pose a danger, experts said. “Everything is ready now except for the right weather,” Cui said.

On Sunday afternoon, all systems of the Tiangong-1 project went through a joint maneuver, he said. Before that, the 8.5-ton spacecraft, and the Long March II-F rocket that will carry it skyward, were positioned onto the launch pad last Tuesday.

Engineers carried out checkups on the conditions of the rocket and the spacecraft, among many other tests in the past few days. All preparation work is done except for fuel loading, he said.

Wang Xiaoping, a publicity official at the launch site, said that the fuel loading usually begins one day before the launch. Once the fuel is loaded into the carrier vehicle, the launch becomes “irreversible.”

Honda shows fuel efficient commuter-scooter engine

Tokyo, 26 Sept—Honda has developed a new fuel-efficient motorcycle engine that will be used in a scooter that goes on sale globally next year. Honda Motor Co said Monday that the new engine for 125-cc scooters is 25 percent more fuel efficient than similar conventional ones.

It targets people who use scooters to commute not only in Japan but also in Southeast Asia and other nations, according to Tokyo-based Honda, which also makes the Odyssey minivan and Civic sedan.

Honda developed a series of little ideas that worked incrementally, rather than one major breakthrough, to reduce friction in engine parts such as new types of pistons as well as better control over combustion and improved electronic starters. Honda did not give a price for the new scooter, but acknowledged that keeping prices low through cost cuts is the crucial challenge for the business.

Honda also said it was planning green technology for a bigger motorcycle engine that will be sold globally, but targeting especially Europe.

Honda did not say when the midsize motorcycle will go on sale. Details will be announced at the Milan and Tokyo auto shows next month, it said.

Honda has a strong motorcycle division and controls nearly half of the global market in commuter scooters.

That has helped drive growth and profits, compared to rival Japanese automakers including Toyota Motor Corp and Nissan Motor Co that don’t have such businesses.—Internet

Researchers attack studies linking increased brain function to video games

NEW YORK, 26 Sept—Published within Frontiers in Cognition, Walter R. Boot and Daniel P. Blakely of Florida State University as well as Daniel J Simons of the University of Illinois called into doubt the methods used within studies that found video game players out-performing non-gamers in cognition and perception. Cognition includes aspects like solving problems, attention, making decisions as well as linguistic skills while perception involves understanding of the environment and awareness of surroundings. While the previous research shows a clear lead in cognitive ability with people who play games regularly, the researchers don’t believe that games are the only possible cause for the increased cognition. It’s possible that people with increased levels of cognition are naturally drawn to video games due to the requirements of solving puzzles in games like Tomb Raider or deciding which path to take in games like Mass Effect. The group also found no link to video game training when trying to increase someone’s cognitive ability and weak control groups didn’t show any sign of improving even the most basic measures of attention after training with action games.

The researchers also found issues with the method that people were recruited into these studies.—Internet

GetGlue offers an entertainment-based social media Android app

NEW YORK, 26 Sept—Social media networks have become a big part of our lives. Facebook is here to stay. Twitter continues to grow, and Google+ just opened up to everyone. Do we need more? If you think we do, then you need to check out GetGlue. Many people prefer an entertainment-based social media site, and for them, GetGlue is the one. The app serves as a nice looking stickers as this app gives shiny and performing non-gamers in cognition and perception. Cognition includes aspects like solving problems, attention, making decisions as well as linguistic skills while perception involves understanding of the environment and awareness of surroundings. While the previous research shows a clear lead in cognitive ability with people who play games regularly, the researchers don’t believe that games are the only possible cause for the increased cognition. It’s possible that people with increased levels of cognition are naturally drawn to video games due to the requirements of solving puzzles in games like Tomb Raider or deciding which path to take in games like Mass Effect. The group also found no link to video game training when trying to increase someone’s cognitive ability and weak control groups didn’t show any sign of improving even the most basic measures of attention after training with action games.

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Nearly 100 pangolins seized by Thai officials

A Thai customs official holds the tail of a pangolin before putting it in a cage prior to a news conference at the customs office in Bangkok, Thailand on 26 Sept. 2011. Authorities in Thailand have rescued nearly 100 endangered pangolins worth about $32,000 that they say were to be sold and eaten outside the country. Customs Department Director-General Prasong Poontaneat says the antelopes were seized from a truck Sunday evening in the southern province of Prachuap Khiri Khan after a driver fled a checkpoint there. Prasong says the driver was detained.

Prasong said Monday the mammals might have come from Malaysia or Indonesia and were en route to either Vietnam or China, where many believe they can cure ailments and boost sexual prowess. The animals are protected by a convention on international trade in endangered species of which Thailand is a member.

Indonesia, Poland sign MoU on energy, coal mining

JAKARTA, 26 Sept—Indonesia and Poland Monday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on energy and coal mining sectors, a press statement said here. The Polish delegation chaired by Deputy Economic Minister Maciej Kaliski signed the MoU with Indonesia’s Ministry for Energy and Mineral resources.

The MoU contains strategic values as Poland is a country with technology and expertise in the sector while Indonesia is one of the world’s largest coal producers that need increasing energy to support its sustainable economic development. The MoU signing was one of both countries’ agendas during a business meeting on 26-29 Sept to foster economic ties.

The Polish delegation will also visit South Sumatra to directly see investment potentials and opportunities in the province. In the last five years, economic cooperation between Indonesia and Poland has been increasing. However, the cooperation level has not yet represented the real potentials.

Through the business meeting, the Polish delegation’s awareness on Indonesia is expected to be increased, ending up with rising investment.

Korean Air wins 400 mln USD order from US Air Force

SEOUL, 26 Sept—Korean Air, South Korea’s top air carrier, said Monday that it has won an order worth 400 million US dollars from the US Air Force to improve performance of F-15 fighter jets.

Under the deal with the US Air Force, Korean Air will conduct performance improvement processes and aircraft condition inspections on 60 F-15 fighter jets stationed in the Pacific region by 2016. Korean Air has successfully carried out projects for repairing and improving fighter jets and helicopters of the US Army, Navy and Air Force.

It has repaired some 530 F-15 fighter jets of the US Air Force since 1983, serving as a central facility needed for the US Air Force to maintain combat strength in the Pacific region.

Spanish Catalonia bids farewell to bullfighting

BARCELONA, 26 Sept—Matadors drove the killing sword into bulls for the last time Sunday in Spain’s powerful northeastern Region of Catalonia in an emotive farewell fight before a polémical regional ban on the country’s emblematic tradition takes effect.

Three of Spain’s top bullfighters, including No 1 Jose Tomas, starred in the sold-out show at Barcelona’s 20,000-seat Monumental ring. Catalan bullfighter Serail Marin closed the fight killing the last of six bulls to great applause.

Many fans then invaded the ring to grab handfuls of sand to keep as souvenirs. The bullfighters were later carried shoulder high from the ring into the streets outside the bullring while the crowd chanted slogans in favor of freedom and against the prohibition. A brief bout of scuffling broke out as fans confronted about 20 animal welfare activists, but there were no reports of injuries or arrests.

The fight was also preceded by moments of tension as pro- and anti-bullfighting activists exchanged insults. Catalonia’s Parliament banned bullfighting in July 2010 following a signature-collection campaign by animal rights activists. The ban does not take effect until 1 Jan, but Sunday’s fight was the last scheduled this season.
Second regular session of first Pyithu Hluttaw continues for 25th day

Six questions answered, one proposal discussed, one bill approved, one bill submitted

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Tuesday, 27 September, 2011

Second regular session of Pyithu Hluttaw continued for the 25th day at the Pyithu Hluttaw hall of Hluttaw Building here today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 381 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives.

Six questions were answered, one proposal was discussed, one bill was approved and one bill was submitted at today’s meeting.

U Ba Hto of Yanbye Township Constituency asked whether there was a plan to construct a bridge over the Kin Creek which was 750 ft wide and 35 ft deep located in Kinnyaut Village-tract in Kyaukpyu Township and Lay tangent region in Yanbye Township and Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win replied that Kin Creek bridge would link Yanbye island road and Zinchaung-Kinmyaut road in Kyaukpyu Township and Kin Creek was located at the border of Kyaukpyu and Yanbye townships and the bridge would provide smooth transportation in Kyaukpyu, Yanbye and Mannaung townships and bridge would benefit a population of 22630 from 4500 households in 56 townships and bridge would benefit a population of 22630 from 4500 households in 56 townships.

He continued to say that plans had been made to make field trips to the area to carry out survey tasks in the opening season. While the departments concerned were working together to establish the forest in the Kyauk Pann Mountain as the wildlife reserve, local people should cooperate with them to emerge the reserve as soon as possible and should conserve the wildlife and local flora and fauna to be able to pass them to their generations as a heritage, he said.

U Aung Myint of Gangaw Constituency asked whether the government had a plan to allow farmers to work in the farm in forest reserves legally, getting guarantee that the farmland would not be confiscated, without paying high tax on the farmland.

The Union Minister replied that the Forest Department had been protecting the forests and forest reserves in accordance with the rules and regulations of the forest law. When the forest reserves were established, farmland of the villages were included in the reserves and only forest areas were established as the reserves under the permission of the Union Government, he added. Reclamation of farmland was not allowed in a forest reserve in accordance with the Section 40 of the Forest Law. The farmland in a forest reserve should be the ones which had been allowed for farming since the establishment of the forest reserve.

A land survey officer was appointed to assess farmland in a forest reserve and farmers were allowed to work in the farmland in the forest reserve not to cause loss of them as the land possess good fertility.

When forest reserves were established, local people were allowed to graze their cattle, to cultivate and to collect fire wood in the reserves after their demands were scrutinized by the land survey officer. The forest reserves were established in accordance with the rules and regulations as the work was related to the interests of the State and the people. He continued to say that designating the illegal farmland in forest reserves as the legal farmland did not comply with the existing rules and regulations of the Forest Law and that could lead to deforestation and environmental degradation. Apart from the state-owned forest, the Ministry had allowed the private sector to establish private-owned forest. The ministry had planned to promulgate the environmental conservation law to be able to conserve the environment.

Therefore, the farmland which had been allowed for cultivation since the establishment of the forest reserves would be considered to be designated as legal farmland, and it was necessary to protect the forests and forest reserves in accordance with the laws and regulations for the sustainable development of forests, he said.

Afterwards, U Se Kyaw of Mongha Constituency asked whether there was a plan to assign an assistant doctor to Mongkhat Hospital as the assistant doctor of the hospital was also appointed as the assistant doctor of Tachilek Hospital concurrently, causing troubles at Mongkhat Hospital to handle emergency cases. For there were one township medical officer and one assistant doctor there.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thein Khin replied that Mongkhat Township medical officer had been transferred to Hpyuang Township People’s Hospital in Yangon Region and other two doctors were taking their duties as assistant doctors at Tachilek Hospital. Arrangements are being made to assign one township medical officer and one assistant doctor to Mongkhat Hospital.

U Maung Maung Soe of Inlapu Township Constituency asked if arrangements were made to assign doctors and to provide an ambulance to Inlapu Town- ship’s 25-bed hospital as there were only one doctor, no dentists, and it needs an ambulance to carry patients to specialists in Hinthada, 27 miles from Inlapu.

The Union Minister replied that Inlapu Township Hospital had one township medical officer and arrangements were being made to post an assistant doctor and one dentist to the hospital. The Ministry of Health had provided central hospitals, regional/state hospitals and some district hospitals with ambulances, however it had not yet provided ambulances to the township hospitals. Some township hospitals were using ambulances donated by wellwishers, he said.

Afterwards, U Sai Khaitya of Monghsat Constituency asked whether the government had a plan to assign one physician, one senior surgeon, senior anaesthetist, five assistant doctors and one dentist to Monghsat Township as the township had only one township medical officer and could not be able to provide sufficient medical services to local population.

The Union Minister replied that one assistant doctor had been assigned to the Monghsat People’s Hospital while one township medical officer was working at the hospital. Besides, arrangements were being made to post one assistant doctor to the hospital to fill vacancies of the specialists and one dentist at the hospital.

Then, three representatives discussed the proposal of U Kyi Myint of Lahta Constituency “to implement national level health care security plan in coordination by separately setting up (a) insurance policy for all national people, (b) fund raised with monthly/yearly premiums of paid employees, further contributed by employers and the government, and (c) temporary fund by the government on behalf of the jobless, farmers who earn seasonally, and hawkers.”

Dr Maung Maung Wint of Bahan Constituency said that the proposal is advisable in principle, but there exist basic needs to be fulfilled and thus calling for assessment and coordination of respective departments and the proposal can be put into practice only when conditions and situations are mature.

Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency said that it is still not time for implementation of health Insurance System and conditions and situations are not mature.

U Than Win of Taungdwingyi Constituency said that the proposal would be a shot in the arm for the basic strata but the government will have to take time to prepare necessary.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thein Khin said that national economic condition, proficiency and management skills, amount of available tax for the project, domestic workforce and income, and health care infrastructures are to be evaluated in setting a national level health care security plan; firstly, the national economy must be developing health can not be established, in addition, the plan is not a simple task and requires proficiency and management skills, which in turn need spending; the fund for the plan is basically

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raised with the premiums of employers/employees; it is difficult to collect the full amount from the employers in times of low salary; employers may also limit the number of workforce in order to reduce the rate, which deters job opportunity; if most of the employers are government staff, the government has to act as the main contributor to the primary financial source of burdening itself with increased spending.

He went on that in developing countries, most of the population are engaged in informal industries and agriculture, and have no normal income and thus have difficulty in paying fixed dues, the same is true for the hawkers; it is needed to provide desired workfare Act and thus only one per cent of the population of the nation can enjoy the programme, his ministry has planned to do feasibility study in two townships in 2011 in order to launch township health care insurance system for the poor and based on the study, township-based health care insurance system compatible with Myanmar will be run on trial; as to insurance policy for all national people, a private insurance system can be set up for well-off persons.

He went on that regarding the fund raised with monthly/yearly premiums of regular paid employers, further contributed by the employers and the government, the current social welfare programme being implemented by Social Welfare Association under the Ministry of Labour can be expanded to cover government staff and their families; as to temporary fund raised by the government on behalf of the farmers who earn seasonally and hawkers, public health insurance system can be set up either with the contributions of the government, wellwishers and social organizations or full contribution of the government for the poor.

He went on that there will be different health care insurance systems covering well-off persons, staff and paid workers, and those who do not have regular work and income if implemented in accordance with above mentions, the employees/employees will be able to set up health care insurance system of their own; the Ministry of Labour can also benefit from the social insurance system.

State will take full responsibility for the poor; setting up national-level healthy care security plan calls for collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Health, private health care providers, insurance, banks, social welfare department, Union Attorney-General’s Office, and social organizations, and it should be long-term system agreeable with all rural development and poverty alleviation schemes; so, the proposal is aimed in principle but currently primary needs are to be fulfilled and conditions not mature, concluded the Union Minister.

U Kyi Myint, proposer of national health care security plan, said that he would respect the decision of the Hluttaw which agreed that the proposal is advisable in principle but to be recorded first for implementation in the future as it needs comprehensive preparation.

In passing the bill, the chairman of the Bill Committee submitted “Private School Bill”, which was approved by the Amonytha Hluttaw and sent to Pyithu Hluttaw on 9 September, to the Hluttaw. As of 14 September, no representatives made any amendment to the bill and the Hluttaw discussed the amendment of the committee to the bill paragraph by paragraph. On behalf of the government, Union Minister for Home Affairs Lt-Gen Ko Ko submited bill on “Peaceful gathering and demonstration” and U Ngum Maung, member of the Bill Committee, read the analysis report of the committee.

Date for discussion of the bill will be announced later and Hluttaw representatives wishing to amend the bill may register, clearly describing paragraph, sub-paragraph, and topic by 29 September.

The 25th day of the second regular session of the first Pyithu Hluttaw ended at 2.50 pm and the 26th meeting continues tomorrow.

Union Agriculture and Irrigation Minister views use of modern farming equipment

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Sept—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing this morning inspected harvesting, threshing and winnowing of 500-acre farmer educative paddy plantations with the use of 200-HP Hurricane TSY brand combined harvester and 70-HP Hurricane harvester in Nyaungbin-gyu of Pobbathiri Township, here, this morning.

The Union Minister conducted a 50-acre farmer led by Manager U Aung Myo Oo of Myanmar Industrial Developsment Enterprise of Kachin State round 10 acres of sugarcane plantation farm that can produce 60 tons of sugarcane per acre. At five acres quality sugarcane plantation that can produce 60 tons of sugarcane near Thabyebin Village-tract in Zeyathiri Township, the excursion group members viewed cultivation of sugarcane and use of fertilizer.

At 20-hectare modern mechanized farm in Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, they viewed 25-day thriving paddy plantation, 100-day high yield paddy plantation on 40 acres of farmland, ripening paddy plantations. They also looked into sugarcane special yield plantation that can produce 60 tons of sugarcane near Kyin Village of Pyinmana Township.

At 20-hectare modern mechanized farm in Chaing Village of Dekkhinathiri Township, they viewed 25-day thriving paddy plantation, 100-day high yield paddy plantation on 40 acres of farmland, ripening paddy plantations. They also looked into sugarcane special yield plantation that can produce 60 tons of sugarcane near Kyin Village of Pyinmana Township.

Training of selected yachting teams inspected

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Sept—Chairman of Myanmar National Sports Committee Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan visited the training camp of Myanmar Yachting Federation at Ngwehsaung beach in Ayeyawady Region yesterday morning.

The Union Minister cordially met selected Myanmar yachting athletes and viewed participation of athletes in training.

Next, he inspected the water surface area for yachting contests in XXVII SEA Games to be hosted by Myanmar and sites for construction of buildings.
Second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw continues for 25th day

Seven questions replied, one of two bills decided to rehear, one bill approved, one proposal discussed, approved, three proposals submitted

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The second regular session of the first Amyotha Hluttaw (Parliament) continued for the 25th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Building, here, 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 204 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

U Zon Hla Htang of Chin State Constituency No. 2 said that in the second term of Pyithu Hluttaw of Myanmar Socialist Programme Party, the single chromites reserve in Myanmar was found at Mwe Hill region of Chin State. The government declared that there would be 8000 million tons of chromites and 100 million tons of nickel at the reserve, and he asked how about prospects of mining works there are. Union Minister for Mines U Thein Htaik replied that the Mineral Exploration Corporation of the Ministry of Mines conducted tests for chromites at Mwe Hill region of Tiddim Township in Chin State in 1963-66 and the Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration Department in 1973, 1982 and 1999. Despite finding nickel at Mwe Hill region on a small scale, chromites were found in blocks. No. 3 Mining Enterprise and Kingbao Mining Ltd signed an agreement for conducting feasibility studies on nickel at Mwe Hill region. They found 44.89 million tons of nickel ore at the region. The commercial-scale deposit comprises about 36 million tons of nickel with the content of 1.48 per cent of nickel on average.

Despite signing the production sharing contract (draft) on the Mwe Hill nickel deposit to produce nickel signed by No 3 Mining Enterprise and Kingbao Mining Ltd, the work could not be operated, and the contract was cancelled.

With regard to the deposit, New Top Hong Kong Group Ltd of the People’s Republic of China held a meeting at the Ministry of Mines on 24-31 July. They made a field trip as preliminary observation to Mwe Hill region on 7 and 8 July and then held discussions with departments and enterprises concerned of the Ministry of Mines on production of nickel from Mwe Hill.

Nord Mining Investment Co Ltd of China, China Nonferrous Metal Industry’s Foreign Engineering & Construction Co Ltd and Guling Research Institute of Geology for Mineral Resources held discussions on exploration and production of the deposit. Four nickel deposit areas in Mwe Hill, Webula Hill, Hakhalay and Nat Hill and four chromites areas in Mwe Hill, Webula Hill, Hakhalay, Nat Hill, Bo'p'bu'n, Mu'we'lu, Maungtaw-Hmamawt and Falam were found. The record states that there would be 110.57 million tons of nickel ore and 38,100 tons of chromites ore in Chin State.

According to the information given by the Chin State government, two field groups of Geological Survey and Mineral Exploration Department launched the exploration and test of chromites at Webula-Pamonhaung region, west of Mwe Hill beginning 30 July. If there is electricity sufficiency in exploration of nickel ore at Mwe Hill in Chin State, there would be good prospects with foreign investment. Moreover, if chromites is explored on a small scale, good prospects can be found, he replied.

U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeyawady Region Constituency No. 6 asked whether there is a plan to open one Technical High School or one Government Technical Institute in Ayeyawady Township and if it is true, when the institution will be opened in fiscal year or academic year. Union Minister for Science and Technology U Aye Myint replied that the Ministry of Science and Technology opened the Technological University (Pathein), Technological University (Maubin), Technological University (Hinthada) and AGTI (Wakema) to turn out engineers and technicians. Moreover, six THSs are opened in Pathein, Amin, Pyinoo, Chaungwa, Hinthada and Maubin Townships in providing basic engineering and mechanical courses to the trainees.

Technological universities and GTIs in Ayeyawady Region have produced 3372 BTech graduates, and 8229 AGTI diploma holders, totaling 12960. In 2010-2011 academic year, 1962 first year AGTI students, 1109 second year AGTI students, 856 first year BTech students, 511 second year BTech students and 612 BE students totaling 5050 are attending the universities and GTIs. Six THSs in Ayeyawady Region have turned out 614 technicans. These schools admit 261 first year students and 286 second year students totaling 529 students in academic year, 1997, the authority of Register Collector Officer prescribed in the Myanmar Stamp Act, its rules and orders have been entrusted to respective heads of Township Revenue Department on 1 August 1997. Therefore, the head of respective Township Revenue Department has authority in accord with the property, the representatives from Township Revenue Department, Development Affairs Committee/Development Affairs Department, Township General Administration Department, Myanmar Police Force, Township Planning Department and Township Land Records and Settlement Department are formed as a current value assessment group to assess the value of property. It is necessary to pay stamp duty for the contract in line with the value assessed by the group. Therefore, customers concerned are to pay tax including stamp duty to the government.

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Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwayin Han Aung replied to questions raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Dr Myat Nyu Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 4 said that buses and trucks running across the nation are facing degradation of strength. He asked whether there is a plan to manufacture adequate number of modern buses and trucks at home and whether there is a plan to allow import of vehicles from foreign countries.

The Deputy Minister replied that the Ministry of Industry-2 and industrial zones across the nation are manufacturing buses, but the production of left steering manufactured last seven years.

With regard to levying tax answered by the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, 20 per cent of commercial tax and 3 per cent of custom duty are levied on buses, over 10-person capacity vehicles and trucks. If the vehicle is manufactured by ASEAN countries with evidence, custom duty will be free.

U Min Myo Tin Lwin of Kayin State Constituency No. 3 said the Phayathonhsu is located at Thai-Myanmar border. Phayathonhsu Town of Myanmar and Phayathonhsu Village of Thailand are insurable area. Therefore, he asked whether there is a plan to open a border trade camp at Thai-Myanmar border and if it is true, when it will be opened.

The Deputy Minister replied that State has been opening 12 border trade camps beginning 1988 for trading. In so doing, basic reasons for opening individual camps are different, so these camps were opened in different time.

In opening a border trade camp, the local security and transport are needed between two countries. Moreover, opening of the camps is based on friendly ties between two countries, agreement for opening border trade camp, facilities of trade, custom-baking and immigration tasks at the border gates, reasonable volume for fairly trading between two countries beyond the ordinary trade volume, and trade situation for linking other regions and states.

There is no plan to open a border trade camp at Thai-Myanmar border in Phayathonhsu of Kayin State.

Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye replied to educational questions raised by two Hluttaw representatives.

Regarding the question raised by Dr Myat Nyu Soe of Yangon Region Constituency No. 4 about promulgation of a law to provide assistance to monastic education schools based on education system which are under management of the Ministry of Religious Affairs by the government for realization of effective and free primary education system, saying that Myanmar has 65,000 villages and there is one monastic education school in five villages on average, the Union Minister replied that altogether 215,000 students, novices and nuns including 176,000 primary level students are attending 4131 monastic education schools which are being opened in 252 townships for the 2010-2011 academic year. In basic education system, there are more than three basic education schools in five villages on average and more than eight million students are pursuing their education yearly. Starting from the 2011-2012 academic year, free primary education system is expanded nationwide. The government spent K 2807.2 million on providing more than five million students including students in monastic education schools with school text books free of charge. Stationery and notebooks will be provided in equal terms.

Since monastic education schools were opened, school textbooks are being distributed yearly to students of those schools in coordination with the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Under State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, supervisory committees and 30 affiliated education (central) was formed and annual meetings are held with the participation of members of central supervisory committee chairman sayadaws of Region/State supervisory committees and the Ministry of Education. Proposals for monastic education schools submitted by respective chairman sayadaws are under discussions.

As students of monastic education schools are being provided with school textbooks free of charge under free primary education system and coordination meetings of central supervisory committee are held yearly in cooperation with the Ministry of Religious Affairs and the Ministry of Education, it is not necessary to enact a law to provide assistance to monastic education schools.

Regarding the question raised by U Khin Maung Yi of Ayeawady Region Constituency No. 6 who asked how the Ministry of Education manage to upgrade 6000 post primary schools and 300 affiliated middle schools across the Union to middle schools (branch) under four-year plan starting from 2012-2013 academic year, the Union Minister replied that 41,272 schools including 6767 post primary schools and 338 affiliated middle schools have been opened up to July 2011. There are 5799 post primary schools that can accept Grade VIII students, 609 that can accept Grade VII students and 339 that can accept Grade VI students. All affiliated middle school can accept Grade IX students.

Of primary schools with a lot of middle school students and are far from middle and high schools, some schools which are subject to be upgraded to post primary schools or middle schools. Temporary teachers are allowed to be appointed with the assistance of the local community in affiliated middle schools. Post primary schools are being allowed to accept Grade VI students starting from academic year the school was opened and permissions have been granted to them to accept Grade VI, VII and VIII students year after year. More teachers were appointed at school with high ratio of students and teachers and affiliated middle schools and post primary schools were upgraded to middle schools (branch) with the appointment of four more JATs. During the 2011-12 academic year, 84 affiliated middle schools and 45 post primary schools totaling 129 schools were upgraded to middle schools (branch) with the appointment of four more JATs.

Of 7105 affiliated middle schools and post primary schools and 300 affiliated middle schools, some schools were upgraded to middle schools (branch) depending on condition of students, transport and number of middle school students. Arrangements are being made to report the Union government in advance the appointment of more JATs.

Regarding the Pyithu Hluttaw approved Bill to amend Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law, U Sai Thant Zin of Shan State Constituency No. 4 expressed that in accordance with the Constitution, a new clause should be placed in Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law Section 49(a) stated in paragraph 2, subparagraph (a) of the Bill.

Regarding the proposal of U Sai Thant Zin to place original clauses in Section 49(a), the Hluttaw decided that the proposal shall be part of the Bill as it is in conformity with the approval of Pyithu Hluttaw and the report of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee.

Next, the Hluttaw decided that paragraph 1 and 2 of the Bill shall be amended in accordance with the Bill, U Hla Soe, U Swe Aung and U Sai Win Naung seconded the proposal, saying that micro credit scheme is aimed for enabling the people to start the business with the capital. The act of spending money is gambling. Not including three-digit gambling is that tarnishing the goodwill of the people.

It is necessary to take eradication of gambling into consideration widely. Elimination of gambling calls for effective actions to be taken. Gambling can destroy socio-economic status of the youths and it can be used in illegal activities. It is required to put pressure and to take action against those who commit gambling and to conduct educational talks. Although it is difficult to control, many ways and means are available. It is necessary to designate gambling-free zone, township and village.

Firstly, actions are to be taken in accord with the law. Secondly, measures should be taken to organize the people through mass campaign. Gambling has caused evil consequences to the entire mankind. It is learnt that the incumbent government is taking measures to eradicate various forms of gambling.

Next, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint replied that there are various form of gambling in our country but also in our country. Gambling is a kind of industry and means including mass media are available. It is required to put pressure and means available. It is necessary to designate gambling-free zone.

Next, Deputy Minister continued to say that gambling has been suppressed in successive eras; 1986 gambling law prescribes prison terms (See page 11)
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from six months to five years for gambling offences; Myanmar Police Force prioritizes gambling in its nine crime preventive measures; each Region and State has drafted gambling eradication plans; thanks to the plans followed by strict actions, gambling cases have shrunk and the number of gamblers decreased; corrupted MPF members, regardless of their ranks, who extracted bribes, did misdeeds in connection with gamblers, and failed to detain the gamblers are investigated and actions were brought against them.

As arrests and actions did not eliminate corrupted police members at all, people and other partner departmental institutions are to join hands for eradication of corruption, the drafting of plans is directed in order to tackle gambling issues with broad coverage which could deter the new government’s stride to foster Good Governance and Clean Government, to build up the rule of law, to address security issues, to develop rural regions and to reduce poverty; in response to the directive, the plan was drafted completely and the period between 1 and 30 June, 2011 was designed as educational period; the arrest of gambling cases was to be accelerated as of 1 July in accord with the special plan, central, Region, State, district, and township level gambling elimination supervisory committees, gambling control special squads, gambling educative groups, statistics teams, and audit teams were established to supervise the activity at each level; under the plan, Union Supreme Court, Union Attorney-General’s Office, General Administration Department, Special Investigation Department, Higher Education Department and Basic Education Department are also cooperating in the attempt, said the deputy minister.

He went on that the Ministry of Home Affairs is monitoring the actions against gambling daily and encouraging daily, weekly and monthly progress; as the complaints that any police members is making contacts with gamblers or committing mischievous deeds, immediate investigation is conducted and substantial penalties are imposed.

The deputy minister highlighted the need to work in concert by regional authorities, departments, non-governmental organizations, and the entire people to deal with gambling till their own region is recognized as gambling-free region in realizing the nationwide gambling elimination plan as a national duty.

The Hluttaw approved the proposal. U Aung Nyein of Magway Region Constitution (2) submitted the proposal that “the Union government is urged to handle plethora of unsettled cases regarding farmland/land centralization systematically” which the Hluttaw gave assent to discuss.

Dr Maung Nyunt Soe of Yangon Region Constituency (4) submitted the proposal that “the Union government is urged to prescribe law which defines least salary for labours at reasonable rate”. The Hluttaw decided to change the proposal to “the Union government is urged to set least salary for labours at foreign investment enterprises at reasonable rate” and to pass it to the Peasants and Local/Foreign Workers Committee to review.

U Nyi Nyi Tun of Mon State Constitution (1) submitted the proposal that “the Union government is urged to share alluvial lands to the farmers who actually want to establish farm formed by the change in waterway of rivers and streams”. The Hluttaw decided to change the proposal to question. Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint briefed the attending of 32nd ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly held in Phnom Penh of Cambodia.

The 25th day second regular session of first Amyotha Hluttaw concluded at 2.20 pm and the session continues for 26th day at 10 am on 27 September.

At today’s session, seven questions were raised and answered, one bill out of two was decided to be sent to Bill Committee, another one was approved. One proposal was discussed and approved and three proposals were submitted.

Myanmar Ambassador concurrently appointed to Andorra

NAY PYI TAW, 27 Sept—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed U Kyaw Zwar Minn, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the French Public, concurrently as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the Principality of Andorra.—MNA

Union Defence Minister receives Belarusian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Union Minister for Defence Lt-Gen Hla Min received Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus Dr, Valery Sadokko to Supreme Court U Tun Oo, and Judges of Union Supreme Court U Myint Aung and U Myint Han sat at No (1) Office of Union Supreme Court at 9.30 am today and heard 10 criminal special appeal cases.

After 3 years, Boeing Dreamliner becomes reality

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Defence Minister for Defence Captain Aung San Win at 4 pm today.

They discussed mutual cooperation between the two countries. Also present at the call was Deputy Minister for Defence U Tin Aung Thaw.—MNA

Boeing employees work on a Boeing 787 Dreamliner for United Airlines on 25 Sept, 2011 in Everett, Washington. Boeing delivered its long-awaited and delayed first 787 airliner to All Nippon Airways which it will celebrate before ANA flies the airliner to Japan on 27 Sept, 2011.—XINHUA

Boeing says the revolutionary carbon fiber design will hand 20 percent fuel savings to airlines struggling to avoid a new recession, and give passengers a more comfortable ride with better cabin air and large electronically dimmable windows. The first $200 million aircraft was handed over to Japanese carrier All Nippon Airways three years behind schedule after persistent delays that cost Boeing billions of dollars.

“IT took a lot of hard work to get to this day,” said Scott Fancher, vice president and general manager of the 787 programme, at the outset of two days of celebrations at the plane’s Seattle production plant.

The blue and white-painted long-range aircraft, which boasts a graceful new design with raked wingtips, will leave for Japan on Tuesday and enter service domestically on 26 October. Boeing has taken orders for 821 Dreamliners, which will compete with the future Airbus A350, due in 2013.

Vietnam’s economy grows 5.7 pct in first 9 months

HANOI, 26 Sept—Vietnam’s gross domestic product grew at a slower pace in the first nine months of 2011 compared with the same period a year ago amid high inflation and a trade deficit.

The government’s General Statistics Office said Monday the country’s economy has maintained “reasonable” growth at 5.7 percent. Vietnam’s economic growth in the first nine months of 2010 was 6.5 percent.

Inflation in the first nine months of 2011 surged to 18 percent from 8.6 percent a year earlier. The trade deficit stood at $6.9 billion, down from $8.5 billion a year ago.

The government has introduced a series of measures, including tighter monetary policies and cutting public spending, to try to tame one of Asia’s highest inflation rates.
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (145)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV DIBENA WIN VOY NO (145) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W.1 into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm and cargo will be discharged from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (195)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SUPA BHUM VOY NO (195) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2011 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon. Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the Vessel. No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.
Library lifts 1906 ban on Mark Twain book

Akira Richman

A Mark Twain book with nude illustrations, added to a Massachusetts public library after a century-old ban was lifted, was plucked from the shelf within hours on Thursday.

The cover to Eve’s Diary by Mark Twain is seen in a handout photo.

Trustees of the Charlton Public Library lifted the 1906 ban earlier this week of “Eve’s Diary,” Twain’s satirical version of the Adam and Eve story, said Cheryl Hansen, the library’s director. Two paperback copies were made available at the library in central Massachusetts on Thursday and, within hours, one of them was in a reader’s hands, she said.

“I think there’ll be a lot of interest in taking it out,” Hansen added, saying the unanimous vote to lift the ban came just in time for Banned Books Week, which begins on Saturday.

A library trustee learned about the ban from a local newspaper article and last year tracked down a first edition of the book, which will be on display through next week, she said. The book, published in 1906, was banned when the library’s then-trustees took issue with illustrations by Lester Ralph that showed Eve naked. Adam appears covered up in the pictures, she said.

Prince Jackson appears at charity event

Berlín, 26 Sept—Michael Jackson’s 14-year-old son, Prince, seemed to make a good impression on 28 Aug, 2011 in Los Angeles.

Prince presented the charity with three pictures, she said.

Participants ride a homemade roller cart during the 2nd Red Bull Balineras Race in Bogota on 25 Sept, 2011.

Giant panda found to be male after four years

Mei Lan, a giant panda incorrectly identified as female by staff at Zoo Atlanta, was determined to be male at the Chengdu Research Base in China.

A library trustee learned about the ban from a local newspaper article and last year tracked down a first edition of the book, which will be on display through next week, she said. The book, published in 1906, was banning the library’s then-trustees took issue with illustrations by Lester Ralph that showed Eve naked. Adam appears covered up in the pictures, she said.

Prince presented the charity with three handwritten copies of his father’s hits “Bad,” “Billie Jean” and “Smooth Criminal” to be auctioned.

Bieber takes Gomez on special date

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Pop star Justin Bieber took over Los Angeles’ Staples Centre to watch “Titanic” alone with his girlfriend, actress and singer Selena Gomez.

After a day at the beach and seeing friend Demi Lovato in concert, Bieber, 17, and Gomez, 19, headed to Staples Centre to watch the 1997 film starring Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio in privacy in the 20,000-seat arena. People magazine reported.

Bieber reportedly didn’t have to pay for the privilege. The Staples Centre’s management let the couple use the place for free because Bieber sold out the arena three times. “Romance isn’t dead,” Bieber tweeted Friday. “Treat your lady right fella.”

Diplomats owe $17 million in New York parking fines

New York City is owed nearly $17 million (10 million pounds) in parking tickets issued to diplomats, a hefty amount that may have grown this week as world leaders gathered for the UN General Assembly.

The city’s Department of Finance said unpaid tickets totalled $16.7 million through the end of July, Egypt topped the list with $1.9 million in tickets, followed by Nigeria with about $1 million and Indonesia with about $725,000.

US congressmen Michael Grimm, Peter King and Edolphus Towns have introduced legislation that would impose sanctions on countries with diplomats who fail to pay parking fines in New York City.

“We can only imagine how much is being racked up this week,” Grimm’s spokeswoman, Carol Danks, said of the diplomats and world leaders who met at the United Nations in New York.

Under current law, 110 percent of total unpaid parking fines owed to New York City and Washington will be withheld from the foreign aid and obligations to the offending countries.

Long lost Hitchcock film takes a bow in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept—Suspense master Alfred Hitchcock died in 1980 but that hasn’t stopped him from adding a new title to his filmography. “The White Shadow,” produced in 1924, is the earliest known film bearing his creative touch.

The long lost film was unveiled to audiences on Thursday night at the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills with a screening attended by the stars of two Hitchcock classics, Eva Marie Saint (“North by Northwest”) and Norman Lloyd (“Saboteur”).

Also on hand were experts from the New Zealand Film Archive where the print was uncovered by Leslie Anne Lewis of the National Film Preservation Foundation.

The movie had no credits, requiring Lewis to match documentation from various sources to the movie. “She’s worked through inter-titles, identifying actors or locations,” said Frank Stark, Chief Executive of the New Zealand Film Archive. “So it came into focus exactly what this film might be and we had a consultation internationally to confirm things. Ultimately we got to that moment where it’s inescapable—we do have a film that Hitchcock worked on.”

A lush melodrama, “The White Shadow” stars Betty Compson as twin sisters, Georgia (pure of heart), and Nancy, (black as Hades). Clive Brook plays an American art student who meets Nancy in transit to Europe and ultimately falls in love. But Nancy disappears, leaving her father grief stricken and wandering the land looking for her.

Singers Selena Gomez, (L) and Justin Bieber mingle backstage at the MTV Video Music Awards in Los Angeles on 28 Aug, 2011 in Los Angeles. Internet

Aldred Hitchcock
Diana Nyad: Ending swim was ‘huge disappointment’

MIAMI, 26 Sept — Marathon swimmer Diana Nyad spent more than 40 hours in the shark-filled waters between Cuba and the Florida Keys, climbing into a boat only to be treated for stinging welts left by Portuguese man o’ war stings. Left swollen and red, Nyad had no choice but to end her trek early when medicals warned another sting could be deadly.

The 62-year-old soldiered on for a time, cutting eye and mouth holes into a cup she wore over her face to protect against future stings. She surpassed 100,000 strokes, but the stings — which team members said left what looked like branding marks from the jellyfish-like creatures’ tentacles — were too much of a risk.

“I trained this hard for this big dream I had for so many years, and to think to think these stupid little Portuguese man o’ war take it down,” Nyad told The Associated Press, just hours after getting out of the water.— Internet

In this photo released by the Florida Keys News Bureau, endurance swimmer Diana Nyad shows Portuguese Man o’ War jellyfish stings after she arrived in Key West, Fla, on 25 Sept. 2011.— Internet

Wenger: Van Persie growing into captain’s role

LONDON, 26 Sept — Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger is encouraged at how Robin van Persie has taken on his responsibilities as captain. The Dutchman became the 17th Arsenal player to score 100 goals for the club in Saturday’s 3-0 win over Bolton Wanderers, writes Stewart Coggin.

After struggling to find their rhythm in the first-half, van Persie put the Gunners ahead with a low near post finish and the Gunners eased to victory after David Wheater was sent-off for a professional foul on Theo Walcott shortly afterwards.

Van Persie added a second and Alex Song curled in a superb third late on as Arsenal returned to winning ways in the league after last week’s 4-3 defeat at Blackburn Rovers. Striker Van Persie took over the captancy after Cesc Fabregas joined Barcelona in August and Wenger is pleased with how he has adapted.— Internet

Barcelona’s Messi closing in on Kubala 194-goal record

BARCELONA, 26 Sept — Lionel Messi is determined to keep breaking goal-scoring records at Barcelona after his 12th career hat-trick for the European and Spanish champions took him to 192 in the club. The 24-year-old Argentine ma-

Sneijder amongst Inter absentees in Moscow

MILAN, 26 Sept — Playmaker Wesley Sneijder was amongst the Inter Milan named their squad for Tuesday’s Champions League clash with CSKA Moscow. Brazil full-

Woods to hire Dustin Johnson’s caddie

ATLANTA, 26 Sept — Tiger Woods has hired Joe LaCava to be his third full-

SPORTS

Tennis star Wozniacki says it’s ‘at the top’

TOKYO, 26 Sept — Caroline Wozniacki Sunday admitted she found it tough trying to stay at the top after nearly a year as world number one, as she prepared to defend her Pan Pacific Open title in To-

Martinez Sanchez wins tennis Hansol Korea Open

SEOUL, 26 Sept— Spaniard Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez beat Kazakhstan’s Galina Voskoboeva in the final of the $220,000 Hansol Korea Open on Sunday to win her fifth WTA title. The 29-year-old Martinez Sanchez defeated Voskoboeva, a first-time WTA finalist, 7-6 7-6 to win her first hardcourt tournament on the WTA, and $37,000 in prize money.— Internet

Playmaker Wesley Sneijder

ATLANTA, 26 Sept — Dustin Johnson’s caddie, to go work for the former world No 1 who hasn’t won in the last two years. According to a story posted on Woods’ website Sunday night, LaCava approached Woods and his agent, Mark Steinberg, about the job. “This was an important decision, and I wanted to think about it carefully,” Woods said in the story. “Also, out of deference for the FedEx Cup Playoffs, I decided to wait until they were concluding to have conversations with the person who spoke to Joe and came to an agreement.”
Sammir wants to redeem himself in Lyon

MADRID, 26 Sept—Dinamo Zagreb’s Brazilian-born midfielder Sammir is hoping for a better performance in the Champions League against Lyon on Tuesday than he gave at home to Real Madrid earlier this month.

“I admit, it was not the real me against Real. If I was at my usual level, maybe we would remain undefeated. I still regret it,” said the 24-year-old of the 1-0 loss to the Spanish giants in Zagreb.

Although it was not an easy win for Real Madrid, Sammir, considered Dinamo Zagreb’s key player, was not at his top level.

“The rest of the team played very well and I’m convinced that we can repeat that in Lyon. I believe that we can earn a point, although we are going for a victory,” he said.

“I believe I will redeem myself in Lyon, that I will be much better. Lyon are a big team, but Real’s defence is much better.

“I feel much better than against Real.


dinamo zagreb’s brazilian-born midfielder sammir, seen here in 2010, is hoping for a better performance in the champions league against lyon on tuesday than he gave at home to real madrid earlier this month.—internet

I feel that I will play a good match in Lyon. Not only me but the whole team,” the former Brazil under-19 player added.

Sammir joined Dinamo Zagreb in 2006 and a procedure to grant him Croatian citizenship is underway. If he gets it, Sammir will become the second Brazilian, after former Arsenal striker Eduardo, to play for Croatia.

With Dinamo Zagreb, has Sammir won five national championships and four national cups.

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Tuesday, 27 September, 2011

President U Thein Sein accepts credentials of Belarusian Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Dr. Valery Sadokho, the newly-accredited Ambassador of the Republic of Belarus to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar presented his credentials to U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar at President Office, here, at 11 am today.

Also present on the occasion were Union Minister at the President Office U Thein Nyunt, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs U Maung Myint and Director-General U Kyaw Kyaw of the Protocol Department under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MNA

Final round over case concerning delimitation of Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Oral pleadings for the final round over the case concerning the delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and Myanmar in the Bay of Bengal is concluded on 24 September 2011 before the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

Prof Alain Pellet, Sir Michael Wood, Prof Mathias Forteau, Mr Daniel Muller, and Mr Coalter Lathrop, legal counsels for Myanmar side had pleaded on behalf of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in order to achieve equitable results for both States.

Dr Tun Shin, Attorney-General of the Union and the Agent of Myanmar for the case Concerning Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and Myanmar in the Bay of Bengal made a concluding statement by expressing his gratitude towards all those who had worked so hard over the last few weeks on this case, the President and all distinguished Judges of the Tribunal, the Registrar and the members of the Registry.

The Republic of the Union of Myanmar is confident that the judgment will resolve the dispute between Myanmar and Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal on the basis of the modern law of maritime delimitation, thus making an important contribution to friendly relations between the two countries.

It is learnt that the Judgement on this case will be awarded on March 2012.—MNA

Haase hits stride in opening Bangkok tennis win

DRAWARDS Andy Murray and Gael Monfils arrived in Bangkok from Europe as the Thailand Open got under way with a victory for Dutchman Robin Haase, seen here on 2 Sept, over a plucky local wildcard.—INTERNET

BANGKOK, 26 Sept—Drawcards Andy Murray and Gael Monfils arrived in Bangkok from Europe on Monday as the Thailand Open got under way with a victory for Dutchman Robin Haase over a plucky local wildcard.

Top-seed Murray and number two Monfils have first-round byes on the hard courts at the Impact Arena in the Thai capital.

World number four Murray, the losing finalist to Roger Federer seven years ago, will be starting little more than a week after leading Britain to victory in the Davis Cup. He has complained bitterly about the busy schedule.

Monfils will test the knee injury which kept him from Davis Cup duties as France went down to Spain in the World Group semi-final.

Haase made a successful debut in Thailand with a 6-3, 7-6 (7-1) defeat of Kittiphong Wachiramanowong.

The Thai, ranked a lowly 523 in the world, has yet to win any of his three Thailand Open appearances but put up a brave fight in the second set before succumbing to Haase’s superior class and experience.

“When I was a break up in the second set I thought it was looking like an easy win,” said Haase, the world-ranked 42 who won his first career title in August on clay in Kitzbuehel, Austria.

“I was playing better than in the first set. On the big points and the break points especially I was doing well. But he also played better when he was down,” he said.

“I knew I didn’t have to worry even if we got into a tiebreaker as I have so much more experience than him. I think that was a big advantage for me today.”

Haase will next line up against 2010 losing finalist Jarkko Nieminen of Finland or wildcard Dominic Thiem of Austria.

Only four main draw matches were scheduled on the opening day, with Croatian fifth seed Ivan Dodig playing Grigor Dimitrov of Bulgaria, Italian Fabio Fognini facing Thai Danai Udomchoke and Dudi Sela of Israel taking on Colombian Santiago Giraldo.—Internet

Water level of Sittoung River in Madauk has exceeded above its danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—According to the (12.30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Sittoung River at Madauk (1107) cm has exceeded by (37) cm (about 1.2 ft) above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (1070) cm during the next (72) hours commencing noon today, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

Union Auditor-General receives Vietnamese guests

Dining as a family may create happier, healthier teens

Forecast signals late-week launch of Tiangong-1

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