Flourishing of democracy system needs to have socio-economic development of the people

President U Thein Sein

Economic development of Myanmar needs the removal of economic sanctions against Myanmar

French Senator and Chairman of South Asia Committee Mr Gerard Midquel

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein receives French Senator and Chairman of South Asia Committee Mr Gerard Midquel at Credentials Hall of Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw. —MNA

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Notification No. 63/2012
4th Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME
(5th September, 2012)

Merger of Ministry

With consent of fourth regular session of First Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Ministry of Electric Power No (1) and Ministry of Electric Power No (2) have been merged as Ministry of Electric Power.

Sd/ Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
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Dissolution of Ministry

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President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives Deputy Chief of General Staff of PLA

Union Energy Minister U Than Htay speaking at 2nd Myanmar Oil, Gas & Power Summit.—MNA

2nd Myanmar Oil, Gas & Power Summit held

Energy

The Ministry of Energy has carried out the plans to promote energy sector, one of the fundamental points to move forward our country, under the political and economic reform strategies. The companies wishing to invest in Myanmar’s energy sector would gain knowledge concerning prospects in cooperation and work procedures after attending the meeting, said Union Energy Minister U Than Htay.

The 2nd Myanmar Oil, Gas & Power Summit, jointly organized by Energy Planning Department under the Ministry of Energy, Central for Management Technology of Singapore and Machinery and Solution Co., was held at Sedona Hotel, from 3 to 5 September, made speech by Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay. Not only the scholars from 23 countries who had gained a lot of experience in exploration of oil and natural gas but also responsible persons from the Ministry of Energy, entrepreneurs, BP, Chevron, Shell, Haliburton, Conoco companies participated in the discussion. The local scholars explained necessity of works in offshore blocks, facts about do’s and don’t concerning foreign investment laws, geographical system of Myanmar, expected necessity of oil and gas, laws and labour affairs, taxes and banking system. The foreign scholars read out the letters on their work experiences, exploration of deep sea and technology.

The responsible persons from Central for Management Technology Co., and Machinery and Solution Co., donated US$ 4000 to flood victims in Myanmar through the Union Minister. The Union Minister looked around technological booths.

SME development key to economic performance

“Financial assistance to small and medium enterprises take a crucial part in economic performance and jobs creation of each and every country. As Myanmar is an agrarian economy, agriculture accounts for most percentage of the GDP. Now, objectives have been defined for development of agro-based industries and increased exportation of industrial development. The Union government has been undertaking sector-wise reforms step by step also relaxing the grip over financial services. The Central Bank of Myanmar is providing capacity building training to financial organizations enabling them offer modern banking service according to ASEAN Financial Integration,” said Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar U Nay Aye at SME Banking Sharing Experiences with East Asian Countries Seminar at Amara Hotel here today.

The meeting is the second in its series jointly held by the Central Bank of Myanmar and Myanmar Economic Research Institute.—MNA

Mekong-Ganga Cooperation holds meetings in India

A Myanmar delegation led by U Maung Myint, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, attended the 6th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministerial Meeting and Senior Officials Meeting which were held in New Delhi of India on 3 and 4 September 2012.

At that meeting, six MGC member countries discussed and exchanged views on the areas of cooperation such as tourism, culture, education and transportation. India, one of the MGC member, informed the meeting of its annual contribution of one million US dollar to the project to be established for Cambodia, the Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) and the meeting agreed that the future meetings of the MGC would be chaired in an alphabetical order.—MNA
Chinese, Indian defence ministers reach many consensus in New Delhi

**New Delhi, 5 Sept** Visiting Chinese Defence Minister Liang Guangjie and his Indian counterpart AK Antony on Tuesday reached many consensus in their talks during which they exchanged in-depth views on many issues including China-India relations, relations between the armed forces of the two countries, and regional and international security.

Liang said that China and India, as two big neighbours of Asia, can only benefit from a peaceful relationship between them. Over the past few years, China-India strategic cooperation partnership has seen a momentum of healthy and steady development. The two countries have also seen a continuous expansion of the fields of exchanges and cooperation, which has brought substantial benefits to their people.

As an important part of China-India relations, the ties between the armed forces of the two countries have been promoted further as they have maintained high-level exchange of visits and contacts, and friendly cooperation in the fields of defence conspti, joint training programmes, personnel trainings, interchanges between the border troops, exchanges in military academies and special fields and anti-piracy operations in the Gulf of Aden, said Liang.

He said China always holds a positive attitude towards promoting exchanges and cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries and is willing to work with India to increase mutual trust, and push forward the healthy and steady development of the military relationship.

Opportunity of development

Liang said that China is willing to maintain close exchanges and strengthen cooperation with India and to contribute to the comprehensive development of relations between the two countries and the two armed forces as well as the maintenance of regional peace and stability. Liang arrived in India on Sunday for a friendly visit at the invitation of Antony.

Colombian president to start peace talks with FARC

**BOGOTA, 5 Sept** — Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos announced on Tuesday peace negotiations with the rebel Armed Revolutionary Forces of Colombia (FARC) will begin in October in Oslo, Norway, with the aim of putting an end to the country’s armed conflict.

Santos said the talks with the FARC, the country’s largest armed guerrilla group, will start in Oslo in the first half of October and then continue in Havana, Cuba’s capital city.

Santos said the peace talks will be the result of signed agreement between the two sides that outlines where the talks will be held, what issues will be discussed and what obligations each side must fulfill. The issues to be negotiated with the FARC included rural development, guarantees that the rebellion movement will be able to transit into a political opposition force, an end to armed conflict, rebel ties to drug trafficking and the rights of victims of the armed conflict, said Santos.

Santos said these issues need to be addressed “to attain a definitive end to the conflict and to progress in the construction of a stable and lasting peace,” he added.

“This agreement does not mean we already have peace or a final agreement, it is a roadmap that precisely defines the terms of the talks for reaching that final accord,” said Santos. He said that unlike previous attempts at ending armed conflict, there will be no ceasefire this time, with Colombian military continuing to target rebel strongholds. Also, the talks will be held in Oslo, where Santos added, “If there is no progress, we will simply not continue.”

The FARC entered peace talks with the government before, most recently in 1999 with then President Andres Pastrana. Soon after those talks began, Pastrana unveiled in 2000 the UN-led Plan Colombia, securing 1 billion US dollars in mostly military aid to fight rebels and drug traffickers. Talks that began part of those years before ending in 2002 with no agreement.

**Iranian spy scandal complicates already strained Ankara-Teheran ties**

**ANKARA, 6 Sept** — An Iranian spy network in Turkey, exposing in the wake of a court case on Friday in Turkey’s northeastern province of Erzurum, has sunk the relations between Ankara and Teheran to a new low.

The leak of the case, kept from the public for over a year, has dealt a new blow on the strained ties between the two neighbours. On Monday night, Turkish TV’s aired a video footage of what seems to be a covert surveillance shots by the police, showing that three Iranian intelligence agencies working with an infiltrator over sensitive military information.

The suspects were arrested in Turkey’s northeastern province of Igdir, following a year-long investigation by the Turkish police at the border with Iran. The leak of the case, kept from the public for over a year, has dealt a new blow on the strained ties between the two neighbours. On Monday night, Turkish TV’s aired a video footage of what seems to be a covert surveillance shots by the police, showing that three Iranian intelligence agencies working with an infiltrator over sensitive military information.

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Apple sets 12 September event, latest iPhone expected

SAN FRANCISCO, 5 Sept.—Apple Inc distributed invitations to an event in San Francisco on 12 September, setting the stage for what is widely expected to be the release of the iPhone 5.

The typically cryptic invitation said “It’s almost here,” stated a number 12 — corresponding to the date of the event — and cast a large shadow of the number 5, a clue that the fifth version of the popular smartphone could be in the pipeline.

Apple’s iPhone launches are among the most-watched events on the tech industry calendar. The latest version of the company’s main product — generating more than half its revenue — may sport a larger, higher-end screen, sources have said.

The new screen could measure 4 inches from corner to corner, one source has said, an increase from the 3.5-inch display that has been held constant since the smartphone began selling in 2007 and revolutionized the mobile industry. Some analysts say the larger screen may be a response to rival Samsung Electronics, whose larger, Google Android phones have helped it become the world’s biggest smartphone maker.

Speculation has also arisen in past months that the company might offer details about a smaller version of its iPad, but the emailed invitation offered no hint of that on Tuesday.

Microsoft, Nokia pin hopes on new Lumia as mobile war escalates

HELSINKI, 5 Sept.—Nokia and Microsoft Corp will take the wraps off the struggling European company’s most powerful smartphone on Wednesday, in what may be their last major shot at winning back a market lost to Apple, Samsung and Google.

The world’s largest software maker and the Finnish company that once dominated the cellphone market will showcase the device in New York on Wednesday morning and demo it for industry insiders about the same time in Helsinki.

Microsoft and Nokia hope the new Lumia will become a potent weapon in an escalating global mobile industry war.

Google’s Motorola Mobility intends to show off its latest smartphone Wednesday, Amazon.com Inc will unwrap new Kindle Fire tablets the day after, and Apple is expected to unveil the latest version of its seminal iPhone on 12 September.

Although Nokia has been struggling for years, it is the latest in a long line of companies to try to capture a slice of the trillion-dollar mobile industry.

Microsoft hopes its new smartphone will rival Apple’s iOS and Google’s Android platforms, which have become the dominant mobile platforms in the past three years. The new phones do not appeal to consumers, it could spell the end for loss-making Nokia and deal a serious blow to Microsoft’s attempts to regain its footing in the market.

Leaked pictures of the two devices show a similar look to Nokia’s previous Windows phones, but analysts say these alone will not be enough to turn the corner.

“There have to be more details, and their features have to stand out more. There has to be a ‘wow’ device,” said Anouk Rathi, analyst at Pohjola Bank, who cut his recommendation on Nokia’s shares to “reduce” on Monday. “The stakes are high for both Nokia and Microsoft.”

The Finnish handset maker has logged more than 3 billion euros ($3.8 billion) in operating losses in the past 18 months, forcing it to cut 10,000 jobs and pursue asset sales.

In share of the global smartphone market has plunged to less than 10 percent from 50 percent during its heyday, before the iPhone was launched in 2007.

UK paraplegic woman first to take robotic suit home

LONDON, 5 Sept.—A British woman paralyzed from the chest down by a horse riding accident has become the first person to take home a robotic exoskeleton that enables her to walk. Although bionic exoskeletons have been used in hospitals and rehabilitation centres, Claire Lomas is the first to take the ReWalk suit home for everyday use.

Lomas earlier this year used the suit to complete the London Marathon in 17 days, raising about 200,000 pounds ($317,900) for research into spinal damage, and she was recently given the job of lighting the Paralympics cauldron in Trafalgar Square.

But she said more routine activities are equally gratifying. “One of the best experiences was standing at a bar,” she said. “To be stood up in this means everything to me.” Larry Jasinski, chief executive of Argo Medical Technologies, the company that developed the suit, told Reuters he was initially nervous about backing the marathon bid because the suit was still being tested but Lomas said it held up well.

Oracle to continue Itanium server support for HP

SAN FRANCISCO, 5 Sept.—Oracle Corp said it would continue to support Hewlett-Packard Co’s Itanium-based servers after it lost a bitter lawsuit in which it had argued that it was not obliged to make new versions of database software compatible with the servers.

Oracle spokeswoman Deborah Hellinger declined comment when asked if the company still intended to appeal the court’s ruling. Oracle said on 1 August, the day of the ruling, that it planned to appeal.

The high-stakes dispute between the two companies, which have been partners for the past 30 years and have about 140,000 common customers, came after the former friends became intense rivals following Oracle’s purchase of Sun Microsystems.

Oracle’s purchase meant that the company was now into the server hardware field, in which it previously partnered with HP. Oracle had argued that there had been no contract with HP that required it to continue to support HP’s servers based on Intel Corp’s Itanium chips and that it had made the decision as Itanium was approaching the end of its life.

But Santa Clara Superior Court Judge James Kleinberg ruled that there had been a contract.

Oracle software on HP’s Itanium computers will be released about the same time as Oracle software on IBM’s Power systems, Oracle said in a statement.

Asus launches ultrabooks, notebook in India

NEW DELHI, 5 Sept—Announcing its association with Intel and Microsoft, Asus today launched Intel’s 3rd generation core processor-based S series ultrabooks and the F series notebook.

Asus S Series offers a range of ultrabooks which is enabled with in-built optical drive. Engineered with Intel’s Ivy Bridge processor and weighing 2.4 kgs, the S Series is claimed to have a longer battery life. The S Series is claimed to offer up to 13 days of standby.

It features a 15.6-inch HD LED Backlight Glare display with HD 0.92 megapixel, 1280X720 resolution camera. The S series comes with a hybrid storage which comprises 24GB SSD storage and a 500GB/750GB HDD. It comes with Windows 7 Home Basic.

On the other hand, the Asus F50A-XX187R (F-series) notebook, which comes equipped with Core i3 processor, has a 15.6-inch HD Glare display.

The notebook is said to offer up to 14-day standby. It includes Windows 7 Home Basic. Other features include HDMI, USB 3.0 and a 0.3 megapixel webcam.

The Asus S56CA-XX030R is priced at Rs 46,999, while the Asus S56CA-XX056R is priced at Rs 52,999. The Asus F50A-XX187R is priced at Rs 35,999.

Windows 7 Home Basic comes with on year on-site warranty.

Science

NASA announces asteroid naming contest for students worldwide

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept—Students worldwide now have an opportunity to name an asteroid from which an upcoming NASA mission will bring back the first samples to Earth, the US space agency NASA announced on Tuesday.

Scheduled for launch in 2016, the mission is called the Origins-Spectral Interpretation-Resource Identification-Security-Regolith Explorer (OSIRIS-REx). Samples returned from the primitive surface of the near-Earth asteroid, currently called (101955) 1999 RQ36, could hold clues to the origin of the solar system and organic molecules that may have seeded life on Earth.

NASA also is planning a crewed mission to an asteroid by 2025. A closer scientific study of asteroids will provide context and help inform such a mission.

“Because the samples returned by the mission will be available for study for future generations, it is possible the person who names the asteroid will grow up to study the asteroid, and will return to Earth,” said Jason Dworkin, OSIRIS-REx project scientist at NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Centre. The naming competition is open to students under age 18 from anywhere in the world. Each contestant can submit one name, up to 16 characters long. Entries must include a short explanation and rationale for the name. Submissions must be made by an adult on behalf of the student.—Xinhua
Facebook rules out sale share to cover tax bill

The Facebook logo is seen on a screen inside at the Nasdaq MarketSite in New York on 18 May, 2012. — Reuters

TORONTO, 5 Sept—Desire2Learn Inc, a Canadian technology company that develops online learning systems, said on Tuesday that it would not consider selling its publicly traded shares at the IPO price of $38. JP Morgan, which also underwrote the IPO, cut its price target to $30 to $45 on Tuesday.

Shares of Facebook set a new low of $17.55 on Tuesday, before closing at $17.73 on Nasdaq.

Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg will not sell any shares in Facebook for at least 12 months, said on Tuesday.

Andreessen Horowitz has no plans to sell any shares held by them personally.

Facebook said it has waived “a market stand-off provision” that prohibited employees from selling their shares until 14 November. As a result, employees will now be able to sell their vested shares on 29 October - four trading days after it reports third-quarter financial results on 23 October. — Reuters

Desire2Learn raises $80 million in venture funding

Desire2Learn said the backing comes from US venture capital firm New Enterprise Associates and OMERS Ventures — the venture capital arm of Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System, one of Canada’s largest pension fund managers.

Desire2Learn Chief Executive John Baker said in an interview that the deal would give the venture investors a minority interest.

“The fact that they are using cash is a good thing. It feels like a mini buyback in a way because you’re in essence reducing your share count by 101 million shares,” said Susquehanna Financial Group analyst Herman Leung.

Facebook has suffered a painful debut on the public markets, as investors have fretted about its slowing revenue growth and a large pool of additional shares that hit the market as “lock-up” restrictions on employees selling shares expire.

“Coming out and showing that they’re being a little more active in supporting the stock is good for investors,” said Baird & Co analyst Colin Seuphurd.

“Their are the kinds of things they can do until the figure out how to better monetize the sites, to help alleviate some of the pressure on the stock,” he said.

While Facebook, with 955 million users, is challenging entrenched Web companies such as Google Inc for consumers’ online time, Wall Street has become increasingly skeptical about its long-term money-making potential.

Earlier on Tuesday, Scott Devitt of Susquehanna Financial Group, which acted as the lead underwriter for Facebook’s IPO, cut his price target for Facebook to $32 a share from the IPO price of $38. JP Morgan, which also underwrote the IPO, cut its price target to $30 to $45 on Tuesday.

Businesses call for govt explanation

TOKYO, 5 Sept—A Japanese business leader says the government has a responsibility to explain that zero reliance on nuclear power would not affect Japan’s economy or the lives of its people.

The chairman of the Japan Association of Executive Directors, Yasuchika Hasegawa, spoke on Tuesday about the government’s plan to possibly scrap all nuclear reactors in the future.

Hasegawa stressed that many businesses are opposed to abolishing nuclear power out of concern that it would render the economy and people’s lives unsustainable.

He said that if the government decides to abandon nuclear power, it should outline a line with public opinion, it must explain that there’s no downside to its decision.

NIK

FDA approves Pfizer leukemia drug

A view of the Belgian headquarters of US pharmaceutical giant Pfizer.

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept—Health regulators on Tuesday approved a Pfizer Inc pill for a rare type of leukemia, another step in the company’s effort to expand its oncology business.

The medicine, called Bosulif, treats chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML), a blood and bone marrow disease that usually affects older adults. About 26,000 Americans live with the disease, and 5,430 people in the United States are expected to be diagnosed with it annually, the US Food and Drug Administration said.

Most people with CML have a specific type of genetic mutation called the Philadelphia chromosome. This mutation causes bone marrow to make an enzyme that triggers the abnormal growth of white blood cells. Bosulif, known genically as bosutinib, blocks the enzyme’s signal that causes the white blood cells to grow.

“We are seeing improvements in the treatment of CML based on a better understanding of the molecular basis of the disease,” said Dr Richard Pazdur, head of the FDA’s cancer drugs division.

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Not all doctors want hand-washing reminders

New York, 5 Sept—Doctors and nurses don’t like the idea of patients reminding them to clean their hands, a new study from Switzerland suggests. So-called hand hygiene has become a major goal of health care facilities around the world, and patients are often encouraged to become involved in system-wide changes to promote hand washing, researchers said.

"Hand hygiene is the primary measure to prevent infections and cross-transmission (of bacteria and viruses) at the point of contact," Dr Didier Pittet, the senior researcher on the new study from the University of Geneva Hospitals and Faculty of Medicine.

The findings didn’t discourage patients from bringing up the topic, he added.

"Patients should know and ideally should remind their health care workers about the importance of hand hygiene, especially right before they are going to touch them," said Pittet, who also leads a hand hygiene campaign at the World Health Organization. Previous research has shown doctors and nurses are much more likely to wash up when video monitors monitor their compliance and send them feedback.

Switching from soap and water to an alcohol-based hand rub also makes regular hand-washing much more feasible, as long as hand-sanitizing stations are located in patient rooms and not only in the hallway, Pittet said.

For the new study, he and his colleagues sent surveys to 700 doctors and nurses at the University of Geneva Hospitals — and got responses back from 227 of them. Just under one-third of the health care workers said they didn’t like the idea of being reminded to wash their hands by patients, because they thought it could be upsetting or humiliating. At 37 percent said they wouldn’t consent to wearing a badge encouraging patients to ask them about hand hygiene. — Reuters

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US officials sound worldwide alert for Yosemite hantavirus risk

San Francisco, 5 Sept—US health officials have sent warnings to 39 other countries that their citizens who stayed in Yosemite National Park tent cabins this summer may have been exposed to a deadly mouse-borne hantavirus, a park service epidemiologist said on Tuesday.

Of the 10,000 people thought to be at risk of contracting hantavirus in Yosemite last year, only 250 live outside the United States, Dr David Wong told Reuters in an interview.

US Department of Health and Human Services officials notified 39 countries over the weekend of the threat of hantavirus in Europe, that their residents may have been exposed to the deadly virus.

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Union level crossword... (from page 16) groups of the population and programmes popular among the audience are broadcast more. Though the Information Ministry has no plan to produce historical movies, it would assist if the private producers would like to. Programe depicting Myanmar traditional culture is broadcast on a rotating basis. The prize-winning performances of the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition are aired weekly about 10 months a year. Therefore, there is no plan to organize other art competitions to broadcast.

National song, prize-winning performances of the Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition, and Union level definition “by Special Cases Assessment Programmes. There is no plan to produce programmes. Traditional Myanmar songs of the Myanmar traditional music are broadcast on a rotating basis. The writing has misguidedly been done in line with Section 112 (3) of the Constitution.

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Hla Tun of Yinmabin Constituency asks question.—SNA

Fingerlings released to integrated farms in Mawgyun

Mawlamyine/Gyin Yinmabin, 5 Sept.—With the aim of preventing depletion of fish resources and ensuring sufficiency of fish consumption, Mawlamyine Township Fisheries Department organized the ceremony to release fingerlings to the integrated farms in Natmyin Village of Teikham Village-tract in Mawlamyine Township on 29 August morning.

Deputy Head of Township General Administration Department U Hsan Lin Oo, Head of Township Fisheries Department U Myint Aye and staff, departmental personnel and representatives from the possible 7 000 fingerlings to 130 acres of farmland of U Tun Myint of Natmyin Village.

Moreover, they set over 30 000 fingerlings into 22 fish breeding ponds of 16 fish breeders.—Myunna Alin

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Hla Tun of Yinmabin Constituency asks question.—SNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Representative and Minister of the Union’s remonstration in its press release No. 2/2012 against chairman of investigation committee U Thein Swe and members cited 301 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives who had signed petitions could not join the committee. U Mahn Maung Maung Nyan, member of the commission, answered that the Section 556 of the Constitution has been cited in the remonstration is only valid for cases in which the judge or the court is indeed improper and was turned down, but Chairman-then U Nanda Kyaw Swa was replaced by U Thein Swe, showing mercy on the accused.

The defenants again failed to make presentations at the hearing in person or in letter on 4-9-2012. Their gesture is the contempt of the Pyithu Hluttaw on Pyithu Hluttaw representatives or the impeachment which is discharging duties in accord with the constitution.

If they again fail to attend hearing or make investigation under directive No. 1/2012 shall be deemed to be complete, except for some procedures of investigation. The report on findings will be submitted to the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker for seeking decision of the Pyithu Hluttaw.

The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker said now is certain time that not only the lawmakers but the entire people should be informed of the answers at the Hluttaw. The Ministry of Information is urged to bring up questions of the Hluttaw and answers of the respective commission and investigation committee completely, being fuelled at the very moment.

The proposal of U Aung Myint, representative of “designation of lands which are not used by the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry anymore as farmlands” was accepted by the Pyithu Hluttaw to discuss.

U Thein Nyunt of Thinyangon Constituency cancelled his proposal to discuss Anti-Corruption law at the Pyithu Hluttaw as the Amyotha Hluttaw Financial Management and Commission has submitted Anti-Bribery Bill. The withdrawal was approved. The Anti-Bribery Bill approved and sent by the Amyotha Hluttaw was approved by the Bill Committee, the Hluttaw. The Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Min Myint for Home Affairs Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint.

The meeting concluded at 3:40 pm and the 40th session continues tomorrow.
Universities become independent...

(from page 16)

The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry distributed elephant yam seeds to Natmaung National Garden and related areas in 2010. Project model villages Okpo, Makaukka, Zawauang and Yelangmyan are putting 50 acres under elephant yam plantation. The manual for cultivation of the elephant yam will be distributed in Chin language. The agricultural loan cannot be still granted for the elephant yam cultivation as all the loans go to major crops paddy, cultivation as all the loans go to major crops paddy, cotton, maize, and beans, cotton, maize, the Pyithu Hluttaw. The Hluttaw decided to approve the bill as amended by the committee and to table the matters where the two Hluttaws disagreed at the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

Two Hluttaw representatives discussed the report of the ASEAN Political and Security Community Committee. The Hluttaw Speaker passed a decision to continue the undertakings of the committee, taking discussions of the representatives into consideration.

Five Hluttaw representatives discussed the proposal on education development submitted by Dr Myint Kyi of Yangon Region Constituency (R). Deputy Minister for Education U Ba Shwe discussed the Higher Education Department is allowing universities to manage academic, and courts at various levels presented, the Foreign Investment Bill decided to put forward to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, one report discussed and one proposal discussed and approved.—MNA

News in Brief

Performing Arts

Competitions held in Gangaw

GANGAW, 5 Sept—The 19th Myanmare Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions at district level was held at Myitha Hall in Gangaw on 31 August morning. Chairman of the Leading Committee for Organizing the Competitions Deputy Commissioner U Hla Min Htut of District General Administration Department cut the ribbon to open the competitions. Contestants from Gangaw, Htilin, Saw and Kyauktada townships in the district participated in the competitions. At 7pm, Deputy Commissioner U Hla Min Htut, Chairman of the Organizing Work Committee Police Lt-Col Paw Tin, Chairperson of District Women’s Affairs Organization Daw San San Oo and officials awarded the winners.

Public health workers course kicks off

SAYEON, 5 Sept—Under the arrangements of Shwewgy Township Health Development Programme of Kachin State, the public health workers (New) training course was opened at the hall of the Township Health Department on 3 September morning.

At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nyi Nyi made a speech. National Level Technical Consultant Dr San Shwe Win of World Health Organization explained the purpose of conducting the training course. Head of Township Health Department Dr Thura Zaw explained matters related to the training. Altogether 30 trainees from villages of the township are attending the four-week course.

Nourishment week, breastfeeding week launched

PAYA, 5 Sept—Jointly organized by Paya District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee of Bago Region and Health Department, the model mother contest in commemoration of the nourishment week and the breastfeeding week was held at the meeting hall of the District Health Department in Paya on 14 August afternoon. Chairperson of District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Bauk Nan viewed participation in the contest and then presented prizes to model mothers.—Myauna Alin

Deputy Education Minister U Ba Shwe makes clarification.

Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win holds talks with Deputy Chief of General Staff General Ma Xiaotian of the People’s Liberation Army of China.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win had a cordial discussion between two armed forces of the two countries with Deputy Chief of General Staff General Ma Xiaotian of the People’s Liberation Army of China at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this morning.

Present at the meeting together with the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services were General Hla Htay Win of the Office of the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services, senior military officers of the Office of Commander-in-Chief and the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command.

Deputy Chief of Staff General Ma Xiaotian of the People’s Liberation Army was accompanied by Rear Admiral Li Ji of the People’s Liberation Army Office of the Defence Ministry, Sr Col Song Yachao and officials of the Deputy Chief of Asia Bureau of Foreign Affairs Office, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Jianhua and Military Attaché Sr Col Xiong Shaowei.

Soe Win had a cordial discussion between two armed forces of the two countries, cooperation in control of border regions, continuous cooperation in security in international sector, stability of border regions, prevalence of law and order in two countries at Mekong Basin and political, economic and social matters of Myanmar and China.

After the meeting, a ceremony to sign the agreement on cooperation between Chinese and Myanmar armed forces followed. It was attended by the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the Deputy Chief of General Staff of PLA exchanged views on exchange of visits at respective levels between two armed forces of the two countries, cooperation in control of border regions, continuous cooperation in security in international sector, stability of border regions, prevalence of law and order in two countries at Mekong Basin and political, economic and social matters of Myanmar and China.

After the meeting, a ceremony to sign the agreement on cooperation between Chinese and Myanmar armed forces followed. It was attended by the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the Deputy Chief of General Staff of PLA.

General Soe Win, General Ma Xiaotian focus on cooperation between Myanmar, Chinese armed forces

Myanmar mini-saloons available freely

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—Myanmar mini-saloons, manufactured by Ministry of Industry, with least fuel consumption are sold at K 7.5 million for ensuring smooth transport of the people as of September. Added with tax of Directorate of Road Transport and commercial tax, the price of mini-saloon will be cost K 8.1 million. At present, dwellers in Nay Pyi Taw and Yangon use taxis for their trips. Anybody may purchase mini-saloon freely, according to the Ministry of Industry.—Kyemon
Flourishing of democracy...

*from page 1*

process with armed national races groups. Efforts are being made for all inclusiveness of political groups in the process of Myanmar’s politics. Peace pacts have been inked with ten of 11 armed national races groups. Government is making attempts to make peace with one armed group in the north of country. The second point is that flourishing of democracy system needs to have socio-economic development of the people. The new government is giving priority to these points. The first important point for socio-economic development of the people needs to establish workshops and factories that can create more job opportunities. Myanmar has less investments and human resources. So, more investments are being invited. Making investments in garment factories and slipper factories that do not need high technologies can create more job opportunities for the people.

He continued to say that raw materials have to be sold although Myanmar has natural products. Establishments of factories that can produce value-added products would be more beneficial to both countries, thereby contributing to the emergence of SMEs. Products can be exported easily to nearby markets when heavy industries are set up. Myanmar is at a strategic geographical location. Myanmar has opportunities for selling of products not only at home but also abroad if investments in heavy industries, IT industries and telecommunication are made. So, French entrepreneurs are invited to make investments in Myanmar. Foreign Investment Law that is in conformity with all countries can be passed soon. Economic sanction is a major hindrance for foreign investors. Now, US and EU have lifted almost all economic sanctions against Myanmar. Myanmar has yet to enjoy GSP rights till now. The new government wants amiable relations between France and Myanmar and expects multi-sector cooperation. He wished may French President, heads of Government and French people be physical and spiritual wellbeing.

After that, Mr Gerard Midquel said that he will report to French government on full support of French firms against all economic sanctions against Myanmar and urge EU countries. He assumed that economic development of Myanmar needs the removal of economic sanctions against Myanmar.—MNA

**Corrigendum**

Please read Myanmar embassy is opened in Ottawa of Canada instead of Plans are under way to open Myanmar embassy in Ottawa of Canada in 3 line of first paragraph in second column on Page 1 of this daily issued on 4-9-2012.—NLM

**Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw receives**

**Chairman of South-Asia Committee of French Senate**

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**Mawlamine BEHS-6 holds**

**PTA meeting, prize presentation**

**NAY PYI TAW, 5 Sept—**Chairman of South-Asia Committee of French Senator Mr Gerard Midquel and party at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw complex, here, this evening.

Present at the call together with the Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw were chairman of Amyotha Hluttaw Committees, responsible persons from Hluttaw Office and the French Ambassador to Myanmar.

At the call, the speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw explained drawing approval of constitution, holding election successfully, participating national races without considering black or white in both Hluttwas, carrying out Hluttaw working procedures, holding Hluttaw meeting and implementing democracy system as well as political and economic reforms strategies. He expressed his sincere thanks to France and EU countries which lifted economic sanctions imported to Myanmar. He invited EU countries and France to help Myanmar’s education system as well as development. He had a cordial discussion on mutual cooperation of Hluttaw affairs, investment in Myanmar, aviation, technology, communications and agriculture between the two countries and sending Hluttaw representatives to France for excursion tour.—MNA

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**Headmistress of Mawlamine BEHS-6**

**No. 6**

Daw Kin Kin Wai presents price to an outstanding student.—NLM
For over 66 years UNESCO has worked to ensure that literacy remains a priority on national and international agendas. Through its formal and non-formal literacy programmes worldwide, the Organization works to realize the vision of a literate world for all. UNESCO’s literacy programmes aim to create a literate world and promote literacy for all. On International Literacy Day each year, UNESCO reminds the international community of the status of literacy and adult learning globally. Despite many and varied efforts, literacy remains an elusive target: some 793 million adults lack minimum literacy skills which means that about one in six adults is still not literate and about two-thirds of them are women; 67.4 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out. The first half of the United Nations Literacy Decade (UNLD 2003-2012) saw positive and encouraging progress in raising the profile of literacy. Strengthened action in many countries made literacy rates raise and there is a stronger awareness that literacy needs everywhere are changing and must be addressed in innovative ways.

Literacy is the common thread that runs through the six goals of EFA. Indeed, the acquisition of stable and sustainable literacy skills by all will ensure that people can actively participate in a range of learning opportunities throughout life. In view of the world in flux in the 21st century, lifelong learning has become more important to face changes and adapt ourselves for sustainable society and individual empowerment. Literacy for all is the foundation for lifelong learning for all and a tool for empowering individuals and growing and achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy. There are sufficient reasons why literacy is at the core of Education for All (EFA). A good quality basic education equips people with literacy skills for life and further learning; literate parents are more likely to send their children to school; literate people are better able to access continuing educational opportunities; and literate societies are better geared to meet pressing development.

Literacy is crucial to the acquisition of essential life skills that enables us to face in life. It’s fully essential to social and human development in its ability to transform lives. For individuals, families, and societies alike, it is an instrument of empowerment to improve one’s health, one’s income, and one’s relationship with the world. Ensuring literacy skills for all people will pave the way for every member of the society to participate in a range of learning opportunities throughout life. Creation of literate environments and societies is the foundation for “Lifelong learning for all” and a tool for empowering individuals and their communities.

The uses of literacy for the learning of knowledge are constantly evolving alongside advances in technology. A literate community is a dynamic community, one that exchanges ideas and engages in debate. Illiteracy, however, is an obstacle to a better quality of life, and can even breed exclusion and violence. Hence literacy is considered as an effective way to enlighten a society and arm it to face the challenges of life in a stronger and efficient way, raise the level of personal living, create and assist change the society.

General Soe Win warmly welcomes Deputy Chief of General Staff of PLA

YAMETHIN, 5 Sept.—A plan is underway to generate hydropower on a small scale from YeU waterfalls near YeU Hill, 12 miles southeast of Yamethin. On 27 August, officials inspected potentials to generate hydropower at the waterfalls. The waterfalls flow down from the hilly areas the whole year despite lesser volume of water in the summer. With the aim of using water from the waterfalls to be used for the people, feasibility studies have been conducted. The findings of the study shows the hydropower to be generated from the waterfalls is expected to supply electricity to 1000 households in the region. —Myanma Alin

Fingerlings released into dams in Nyaungdon Township

NYAUNGDON, 5 Sept.—Nyaungdon Township Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries set fingerlings on free into water at Panhaing Sluice Gate in Hsamalauk Village of Nyaung-don Township on 29 August morning with the aim of ensuring sufficiency of fish consumption, increasing fish resources, alleviating poverty and developing rural areas.
On the occasion, Acting Township Administrator U Zaw Min Naing of Nyaungdon Township General Administration Department and party, Head of Nyaungdon Township Fisheries Department U Myint Naing and staff, members of the Agricultural Promotion Department and departmental personnel released 150,000 fingerlings into Panhaing Sluice Gate. Moreover, the departmental officials released 350,000 fingerlings into Mezali Sluice Gate in Mezali Village in Nyaungdon Township. —Myanma Alin
Euro

European bankers told to expect tougher regulation

FRANKFURT, 5 Sept — European policymakers warned bankers on Tuesday to expect tougher regulation after a series of scandals had demonstrated the industry was incapable of policing itself. Nearly four years after bank dealings in subprime mortgages caused a global financial crisis, the sector’s image is again in tatters due to an interest-rate rigging scandal and massive losses from bad trades including at UBS and Societe Generale.

Joerg Asmussen, a member of the European Central Bank’s executive board, said efforts within the G20 group of leading economies to address problems in the sector had lost momentum and he urged a new drive to clean up banking. “The cumulation of misconduct by individuals at big financial institutions shows that tougher regulations are needed,” he told an audience of bankers at a conference in Frankfurt. “Neither internal controls nor external oversight is working.”

Asmussen said that if allegations in the Libor interest rate rigging affair proved true, the consequences for the industry were “unforeseeable”. British bank Barclays was fined a record $450 million after it admitted manipulating its submissions used to calculate Libor. Regulators believe rigging went far beyond the Barclays and are investigating most of the world’s largest banks. In Germany, which holds federal elections next year, all the major parties including Chancellor Angela Merkel’s Christian Democrats are preparing proposals to rein in banks. Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble said on Monday he was looking into expanding the options for taking legal action against bank managers.—Reuters

French judges investigating Arafat’s death seek exhumation

PARIS, 5 Sept — Three French judges are preparing to travel to Ramallah to seek the exhumation Yasser Arafat’s body as part of an investigation into whether he was murdered by poison, a judicial source told Reuters on Wednesday.

The investigating magistrates will need approval from both Israel and the Palestinian Authority, but Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas has already expressed his government’s willingness to exhume the body from a limestone sepulchre in Ramallah. Arafat’s widow, Suha, said in a statement sent to Reuters that the judges told her lawyer they had begun the necessary steps to travel to Ramallah, where police experts would carry out tests under their authority.

“I respectfully ask the Palestinian Authority and the Arab League to suspend all initiatives while the French justice system is looking into the case, other than to act together with them,” Suha Arafat wrote. The French murder investigation “should take precedence over all other procedures, because it is the incontestable guarantee of independence and neutrality”, she added.

The court launched the murder inquiry last month into the 2004 death of Arafat in a Paris military hospital after his widow said he may have been poisoned. No autopsy was carried out after Arafat died, aged 75, a month after being flown to France, seriously ill, from his headquarters in Ramallah. Allegations of foul play spread quickly after French doctors said they could not establish a cause of death. Suha Arafat’s allegations of poisoning followed a Swiss institute’s discovery of high levels of the radioactive element polonium-210 on Arafat’s clothing.

The Institute of Radiation Physics in Lausanne said last week it was willing to help conduct a scientific investigation into whether Arafat was poisoned, but that time was of the essence in order to detect traces of the radioactive substance.—Reuters

China urges early dialogue between IAEA, Iran

BEIJING, 5 Sept — China has urged the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Iran to solve the outstanding problems regarding the Iranian nuclear issue through dialogue at an early date. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hong Lei made the comments in his news briefing on Monday when asked about the disagreement between IAEA and Iran.

As a supporter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, Iran has the right to peaceful use of nuclear energy but should also comply with the relevant obligations, Hong said. China has always maintained that dialogue and cooperation is the only correct solution to the Iranian nuclear issue. Therefore, China has actively taken part in the dialogue process between Iran and six world powers, and supported the IAEA to strengthen cooperation with Iran, Hong said.

“Relevant parties should give priority to the diplomatic solution in a flexible and pragmatic manner, seeking common ground while shelving differences,” he said. “We also hope the new round of talks on the issue can be launched at an early date and promote the dialogue to achieve progress, exploring a comprehensive, long-term and proper solution to the issue step by step.” Hong said.—Xinhua

Top political advisor calls for efforts to promote cross-Strait peaceful development

BEIJING, 5 Sept — Top political advisor Jia Qinglin on Tuesday called for efforts to promote the peaceful development of cross-Strait relations between China and Taiwan. Jia, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, put forward four proposals to consolidate and strengthen cross-Strait relations when meeting with Taipei representatives of grassroots public opinion.

First, Jia urged both sides to proceed with confidence and adhere to a path of peaceful development in cross-Strait relations. The mainland’s fundamental policies (towards Taipei) will remain unchanged and it will continue to implement policies and guidelines to promote peaceful development of cross-Strait relations, he said. Second, Jia urged both sides to keep to the “right track” of cross-Strait relations. He asked both sides to deepen political trust, seeking common ground while reserving differences, and take more practical actions to create favourable conditions in addressing deep-rooted problems of cross-Strait relations. Third, Jia called on both sides to expand exchanges and strengthen cooperation in all sectors. The mainland will support and encourage more people from both sides to carry out all forms of exchanges, he said.—Xinhua

“Queen of cocaine” killed in Medellín, Colombia

BOGOTA, 5 Sept — Griselda Blanco, a Colombian drug trafficker known as the “Queen of cocaine,” was killed by gunmen in the north-central city of Medellín, authorities said on Tuesday.

Police said Blanco was shot in the head by two armed men riding a motorcycle in front of a butcher shop. She died on her way to hospital.

The identity of the suspects and their motives were still under investigation, police said. Blanco, 69, also known as “The Godmother,” became a powerful drug smuggler in the 1970s by starting a massive drug trade to the United States. Blanco returned to Colombia in 2004 after spending almost 20 years in a U.S. prison for drug trafficking and three drug-related killings. And she was the mentor of Pablo Escobar, Colombia’s number one drug dealer who later took over her position.

Two dead, one injured in Oklahoma bar shooting

HOUSTON, 5 Sept — Two people were killed and another one injured in a shooting on Tuesday morning in a bar in the US state of Oklahoma, authorities said.

The shooting was reported shortly after 2 am on Tuesday at a saloon in the US state of Oklahoma, police said. The investigators are still looking into the case, other than to act together with them,” Suha Arafat wrote. The French murder investigation “should take precedence over all other procedures, because it is the incontestable guarantee of independence and neutrality”, she added.

The court launched the murder inquiry last month into the 2004 death of Arafat in a Paris military hospital after his widow said he may have been poisoned. No autopsy was carried out after Arafat died, aged 75, a month after being flown to France, seriously ill, from his headquarters in Ramallah. Allegations of foul play spread quickly after French doctors said they could not establish a cause of death. Suha Arafat’s allegations of poisoning followed a Swiss institute’s discovery of high levels of the radioactive element polonium-210 on Arafat’s clothing.

The Institute of Radiation Physics in Lausanne said last week it was willing to help conduct a scientific investigation into whether Arafat was poisoned, but that time was of the essence in order to detect traces of the radioactive substance.—Reuters

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Two shot inside venue where Quebec separatist leader speaking

Montreal, 15 Sept — A gunman shot and badly injured two people inside the Montreal theater where separatist leader Pauline Marois was giving a speech in the wake of a narrow victory in Sunday's Quebec elections, police said early Wednesday. Bodyguards rushed Marois from the stage in the wake of the shooting. She later returned to the podium to finish her speech. Police spokesman Danny Riether said a man of around 50 had been arrested. The suspect also set fire to the back of the building and reporters, gun crime are relatively low and many politicians move around without bodyguards.

RDI television showed pictures of police subduing a large man with a t-shirt who was dressed in a black cape. He appeared to shout in French the phrase “The English are waking up.” Marois heads the separatist Parti Quebecois, which wants independence for the French-speaking province of Quebec.

She is also promising to strengthen laws designed to ensure the dominance of the French language, which has worried some in the minority English-speaking community.

Parti Quebecois won a minority government in a provincial election held on Tuesday, returning to power after nine years in the opposition. — Reuters

Workplace injuries in Singapore increase in 1st half

Singapore, 5 Sept — Singapore saw an annual 10.4 percent increase in the overall number of workplace injuries during the first half of the year, according to a report released by the state’s Workplace Safety and Health Institute on Tuesday. On the other hand, there were 26 fatal injuries resulting from workplace accidents, down from that of 31 cases during the same period last year.

The number of major injuries marginally decreased from 253 cases in first half last year to 246 from this January to June, while minor injury cases, which formed the bulk of the workplace injuries, saw an annual increase of 11 percent, from 4,494 to 5,001 cases during the same period, the report said in a statement.

For occupational diseases, the number of cases confirmed was 603, up from 360 in the same period last year, mainly due to an increase in the number of noise induced deafness cases.

“While the first half of the year saw a fall in the number of fatalities caused by workplace injuries, there have been a number of serious accidents recently in July and August. We are gravely concerned as similar issues are surfacing and workers are hurt in these accidents despite there being many lessons in the past,” local media channel NewsAsia quoted Ho Siong Hin, the Manpower Ministry’s WSH Commissioner as saying.

Singapore has recently seen increasing number of workplace injuries over the past couple of months, including 6 serious construction-related accidents which have resulted in 5 fatalities and several others injured, including the fire at East Village Hotel and the collapse of the formwork structure at the Bugis Downtown Line station, etc. — Xinhua

Foreigners buy S Korean stocks for 1st time in 5 months

Seoul, 5 Sept — Foreigners bought South Korean stocks for the first time in five months last month as expectations spread over additional stimulus measures in the United States and Europe, the financial watchdog said on Wednesday. Offshore investors bought a net 6.6 trillion won (5.82 billion US dollars) worth of local listed stocks in August, the first purchase in five months and breaking the previous record monthly high of 6.2 trillion won set in January, according to the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS).

The record-high purchase was mainly attributed to spreading expectations that the US Federal Reserve will take additional stimulus measures and the European Central Bank (ECB) will resume bond purchases in the bond markets of the eurozone. The watchdog noted that demand for stock futures strengthened amid easing appetite for safe assets, leading to a surge in programme-linked buying. European investors turned to net buyers by purchasing a net 4.4 trillion won worth of local stocks, but US investors remained net sellers for six straight months by offloading shares worth 2.26 trillion won.

British and French investors shifted to net buyers by purchasing shares worth 3.04 trillion won and 1.6 trillion won respectively, and Saudi investors kept their buying spree for the sixth consecutive month with 717.7 billion won worth of shares buying. As of the end of August, foreign holdings of South Korean listed stocks reached 383.9 trillion won (338.42 billion US dollars), or 31.4 percent of the total market capitalization, according to the FSS.

The largest owner was US investor who held 153.9 trillion won in local stocks, or 40.1 percent of total foreign ownership, as of end-August. It was followed by the European investors with 118.4 trillion won, British investors with 38.3 trillion won and Luxembourg investors with 25.2 trillion won.

Meanwhile, foreign net investment in local listed bonds, calculated by net bond buying minus the amount of maturing debts, contracted by 2.6 trillion won in August due to demand for profit-taking following a fall in government bond yields, according to the FSS. Net investment by US offshore investors declined 1.1 trillion won in August, keeping its downward trend for four straight months, while the one by European investors declined 1.4 trillion won last month from 1.67 trillion won the previous month due to massive maturing debts.

Norwegian and Chinese investors posted net investment of 0.5 trillion won and 0.2 trillion won each in August, but net investment by Thai and Malaysian investors contracted for three months in a row. — Xinhua

People gather at the building collapsed site in northwest Pakistan’s Peshawar on 4 Sept, 2012. At least five members of the same family were killed when roof of their house collapsed due to heavy rain in Peshawar. — Xinhua

No end yet to US jetliner buying spree

WASHINGTON, 5 Sept — US airlines could place hundreds of new jets on top of their recent wave of purchases — leaving billions of dollars worth of orders for US manufacturer Boeing Co and European rival Airbus still to fight over. After setting a boom in plane orders in the past decade to sort out chronic financial difficulties, carried led by American Airlines plunged into the market last year to take advantage of fuel-saving models offered by Airbus and Boeing.

Senior planemaker officials said in separate interviews the so-called replacement cycle, in which airlines seek to drive operating costs by switching to efficient and newer planes, had some mileage left to run in the near North American market. Barry Eccleston, president and chief executive of US-owned Airbus Americas, saidDelta Air Lines, Alaska Airlines and US Airways had still not decided which new planes to buy. “There are still several major campaigns for airplanes in the hundreds yet to be conducted,” he told Reuters journalists.

Delta Airlines Inc, the second largest US carrier behind United Continental Holdings Inc, has placed an order for Boeing 737-900ER aircraft to replace 757s but is expected to return to the market to update the rest of its narrow-body fleet. As the world’s biggest but most mature market, long-delivered options of older models dominate US purchases. In emerging markets, it is the first line of credit needed to grow up with economic growth that drive orders, contributing to generally upbeat forecasts for passenger plane sales over the next 20 years despite growing concerns over Europe’s financial crisis. — Reuters

1,443 arrested for drug crimes in Saudi Arabia in last eight months

JEDDAH, 5 Sept — Up to 1,443 people were arrested in Saudi Arabia for drug-related crimes in the last eight months, the interior ministry announced on Tuesday. The spokesperson of the interior ministry added that some 1.9 billion riyals (0.51 billion US dollars) worth of narcotics were confiscated in the same period.

A total of 247 out of the 1,443 arrests were Saudi and the rest come from 26 nations. A Pakistani man was executed for trafficking in his home town by Saudi authorities on Tuesday morning. The security personnel died and ten others wounded when confronting armed drug gangs in Jeddah; as many as 18 drug traffickers and dealers were killed and 39 others injured in clashes with security forces, according to the spokesperson. — Xinhua

China, S Korea agree to step up parliamentary exchanges

S. Korea, 5 Sept — China and South Korea on Tuesday pledged to step up their parliamentary exchanges in a bid to facilitate the comprehensive development of bilateral ties. The pledge was made during a meeting between visiting Chinese senior legislator Chen Zhili and Kang Chang-hee, speaker of the South Korean National Assembly.

Noting that parliamentary exchanges constitute an important part in bilateral ties, Chen said the NPC is ready to further strengthen exchanges with the South Korean National Assembly and improve the regular exchange mechanism to develop closer bilateral ties.

Kang said his country highly values relations with China and is willing to work with China to carry out deeper security forces, according to a statement by the spokesperson. — Xinhua

Firemen participate in a drill to handle the explosion of chemicals in Yinchuan, capital of China’s Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, on 4 Sept, 2012. Local fire department held a drill in Yinchuan on Tuesday to examine and improve the response of firemen under emergency situations. — Xinhua

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United Bank of India
Premises Department
Head Office

Tender Notice for inviting offers for premises on lease

YANGON, MYANMAR

Tender No. 25/2012 dated 31-08-2012

United Bank of India, a leading Nationalized Bank of India under Government of India, requires a suitable ready built, RCC roof and well constructed hall type office accommodation having carpet area of around 500-600 sq on lease basis located in prime business locality of Central Place of Yangon, Myanmar. Premises offered should have all legal and administrative clearance certificates from Statutory Authority. Intending and bonafide landlords of such premises in the desired locality may send their offers under TENDER system i.e. eligibility & price bid, in the prescribed format available on Bank’s website www.unitedbankofindia.com under the link “Live Tenders”. The offer, completed in all respects should reach on or before 10th September, 2012, 14:00 hrs (IST) at the above mentioned address.

Aast. General Manager
(Premises, Br. Exp & Monitoring)

9th Floor Premises Department, United Bank of India, Head Office, UNITED TOWER 11, Hernatta Bata Sarai, KOLKATA (INDIA)- 700 001 Phone & Fax No (033) 4022 2999
E-mail: thesiers@unitedbank.co.in, mahesh@unitedbank.co.in

No brokerage will be entertained. Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers at its sole discretion without assigning any reason thereof.

More theoretical research needed, says political advisor

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According to Jia, theoretical innovation has been serving a key role in guiding the development of the political consultative system.

Cave-in at China construction site, casualties unknown

WUHAN, 5 Sept — A furniture market that was being built in central China’s Hubei Province collapsed Wednesday morning, trapping workers in the rubble, witnesses and local authorities said.

It is unknown how many workers are trapped. The market had recently been funded by local and provincial authorities.

Residents said they saw more trucks than usual arriving on 6.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into Port Authority Head Office, No(10), Pansodan Street, FEC at Accounts Department, Ground Floor of Myanma Port Authority Head Office, Not(0), Pansodan Street, Kyanktada Township, Yangon during office hours on 13-9-2012 and 14-9-2012. Detailed information can be inquired at 01-253358, 01-387116 (Ext. 303)

Myanmar Port Authority

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR TENDER

1. Myanmar Port Authority is planning to implement the port and port related development projects at the designated areas. Therefore interested Tenderers are cordially invited to submit complete project proposals for the following project:

Upgrading of the Nantahdar and Pansodan-Dala Passenger jetties as Modernized Passenger terminal development and construction of Modernized Commercial Buildings at back-up area.

2. The Tender Forms together with the Tender terms and conditions will be purchased by the investors, companies or their legal representatives.

3. Tender Form for the item I can be purchased with 200 FEC at Accounts Department, Ground Floor of Myanmar Port Authority Head Office; Not(0), Pansodan Street, Kyanktada Township, Yangon during office hours on 13-9-2012 and 14-9-2012.

Detailed information can be inquired at 01-253358, 01-387116 (Ext. 303)

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOONVAZS VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOONVAZS VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie under the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMAR PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MN SG MARITIME

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Ziggy Stardust struts anew in David Bowie exhibit

LONDON, 5 Sept—Ziggy Stardust’s multi-coloured jumpsuit, a Union Jack coat, more than 50 other original stage costumes, handwritten lyrics and album artwork from British singer David Bowie will go on show in London next year. The “David Bowie Is” exhibition will run from March 23 to 28 July at the Victoria and Albert Museum in central London and aims to explore the singer’s creative process across five decades, featuring more than 300 objects.

“It’s about a person who through their art, design and performance, I think, has affected the way we live now,” co-curator Victoria Brookace told Reuters.

“IT’s not designed as a retrospective. It’s designed in the present tense. So, we do look at themes within his career that come back and forth, but what we want is, when you leave the exhibition, you have a sense of how Bowie has changed your world and the fact that there are elements of what he has done all around you.”

Alongside Ziggy Stardust’s jumpsuit and the stage costumes, such as a Union Jack coat designed by Bowie and Alexander McQueen for his “Earth” album cover and Japanese designer Kansai Yamamoto’s decadent creations for his “Aladdin Sane” tour in 1973.

Visitors will also be able to see Bowie’s handwritten lyrics, photography, films, music videos as well as his set designs, instruments and album artwork.

“What we find at the V&A which is really great, is that despite living in a digital world, where so many things are being published, actually seeing objects up close is still absolutely thrilling” Brookace added. “I think that’s an interesting process, to be able to actually look at the designs and how they created the finished object.”

Much of the collection that will feature in the exhibition will come from the David Bowie Archive, the first time a museum has been granted access to the musician’s private collection.

“We are thrilled to be hosting this exhibition of the world’s most creative artist,” said V&A Director Martin Roth, who defended recent criticism that the show was not in keeping with the museum’s art and design agenda.

“The V&A is uniquely placed to put on this exhibition. We are the world’s number one museum on art and design. We’re also very, very strong on performance and theatre. Theatre and performance came back to the museum in 2007, so David Bowie fits perfectly within that genre.” Roth also dismissed rumors that Bowie was involved in the curation of the show, which were shot down by the artist himself on his Facebook page last week, which stated:

“Contrary to recent reports, I am not a co-curator and did not participate in any decisions relating to the exhibition.”

The exhibition has been in the making for two and half years and will form part of the museum’s shows next year. Tickets cost £14 ($22) and go on sale on 4 September.

Mila Kunis, Ashton Kutcher’s new-found canine lover

MILA KUNIS, Ashton Kutcher’s new-found canine lover has confirmed they will adopt a dog.

The couple—who have yet to officially confirm their romance—want to rescue an abandoned pooch and are particularly keen to provide a “loving home” for a large canine.

A source told Now magazine: “Mila and Ashton have been touring shelters looking for an abandoned dog that needs a loving home. “They have their hearts set on a big dog—either a golden retriever or a Labrador.”

Mila and Ashton first met 14 years ago when they co-starred in hit sitcom That ’70s Show, and the pair have recently rekindled their spark. They are said to be inseparable and “basically living together”, so sharing custody of their new pet shouldn’t be a problem.

Two and a Half Men actor Ashton—who is currently in the middle of divorce proceedings with Demi Moore—whisked Mila off on a luxury five-star holiday on the island of Bali in August. Though they haven’t confirmed their romance, the couple have been spotted holding hands in public and were caught kissing at the wrap party for Ashton’s latest film, a biopic of the late Apple boss, Steve Jobs.

A source said: “Ashton was Mila’s first kiss while on That ’70s Show, so they’ve always had a special bond. “They started dating in the spring, and things have recently become more serious.”

George Harrison jacket from early Beatles years up for sale

LONDON, 5 Sept—A black leather jacket worn by George Harrison in the early Beatles years will go on sale in December with an estimate of between £90,000 and £120,000 pounds (£143,000 and £190,700), auction house Bonhams said on Tuesday.

The jacket was worn by Harrison when the Beatles performed in Hamburg, Germany, and then at the Cavern Club in Liverpool in the early 1960s, before they moved to their signature style of matching suits.

The Bonhams Entertainment Memorabilia sale is held on 12 December in London.

Also going on sale as an orange shirt worn by Harrison during the 1971 benefit Concert for Bangladesh at Madison Square Garden in New York, and a pair of his leather boots from the mid-1960s.

Brutal, beautiful South Korean film jolts Venice

VENICE, 5 Sept—“Pieta,” a new film from South Korea, is so violent it is hard to watch, but the story of a pitiless loan shark and the mysterious woman who claims to be his mother turns into an absorbing thriller and moving love story rolled into one.

Director Kim Ki-duk pulls no punches in his tale of ruthless revenge and redemption, and lead actress Cho Min-soo, whom he describes as his “raven-haired Mary,” is a favorite to take the best actress prize when the festival ends on Saturday.

While audiences in the West may struggle to find a theatre willing to screen Pieta, an award at the Venice Film Festival on Sunday.

The film opens with Kang-do, a lanky, expressionless debt collector terrorizing the dingy metal workshops where impoverished labourers eke out a meagre existence in a sprawling slum.

Setting the plot amid squallid backstreets in the shadow of crumbling downtown skyscrapes, Kim makes Pieta a broader commentary.

Director Kim Ki-duk (L) poses with actors Lee Jung-jin (R) and Jo Min-soo during the photocall of the movie “Pieta” at the 69th Venice Film Festival in Venice on 4 Sept, 2012.—

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Director Kim Ki-duk (L) poses with actors Lee Jung-jin (R) and Jo Min-soo during the photocall of the movie “Pieta” at the 69th Venice Film Festival in Venice on 4 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

on greed, the failings of the financial system and how society as a whole must take some blame for looking the other way.

“I feel that this movie in particular is a movie dedicated to humanity, to our difficult situation in an extreme capitalist crisis,” Kim told reporters after a Press screening of Pieta and ahead of its red carpet world premiere on Tuesday.

“That’s why you may feel there have been changes in my life’s view,” he added of his 18th feature film, speaking through a translator.—REUTERS
**LONDON, 5 Sept.—** Liverpool owner John W Henry has written an open letter to fans asking for their patience after Sunday’s 2-0 home defeat by Arsenal condemned the Anfield club to its worst start to a league season in 50 years.

Henry’s Fenway Sports Group (FSG) came under fire for the decision to loan England striker Andy Carroll to West Ham United without signing a replacement by Friday’s summer transfer window deadline day and the poor start has led to further complaints.

Responding to the criticism, the principal owner said it was “not through any lack of effort” that the club had failed to sharpen their attack in a period which has already seen one point from three league matches.

“I am as disappointed as anyone connected with Liverpool Football Club that we were unable to add further to our strike force in this summer transfer window,” he wrote in the letter published on the club website (www.liverpoolfc.com). “It is understandable that on this occasion we were unable to conclude acceptable deals to bring those targets in. But no one should doubt our commitment to the club.”

“In Brendan Rodgers, we have a talented young manager and we have valued highly his judgement about the make-up of the squad.”

“This is a work in progress. It will take time for Brendan to instil his philosophy into the squad and build exactly what he needs for the upcoming season.”

Henry added that Liverpool were continuing to pay the price for the failings of the previous regime that had brought about an end to the acrimonious reign of fellow Americans Tom Hicks and George Gillett with their Anfield takeover in October 2007.

“We are still in the process of reversing the errors of previous regimes,” he said, “which have taken us to where we are.”

It has been compounded by a poor start to a league campaign which has left Liverpool with zero points from their opening two matches.

“By sanctioning the departure of Andy Carroll and then failing to come up with the money to sign Clint Dempsey, Liverpool’s owners have left manager Brendan Rodgers in the lurch,” Hansen said.

“Liverpool are desperate, but they only have themselves to blame because they got rid of a striker—an £135 million international at that—and failed to replace him.”

Rodgers cut a forlorn figure at Anfield on Sunday after admitting he would not have let Carroll go if he had known there were no reinforcements on the way.

**BERNE, 5 Sept.—** Two Indian athletes are taking part in the 2012 Paralympics which end on 9 September.—**PTI**

**New Delhi, 5 Sept.—** Girisha Hosanagara Nagajuragowda won a silver in the men’s high jump event on Monday at the Paralympic Games in London, bagging India’s first medal at the 2012 Games. The 24-year-old from Karnataka jumped a height of 1.74 metres in the F42 final, finishing behind Fiji’s Iliesa Delana.

Nagajuragowda, who suffers from a leg impairment, jumped a personal best to become the first Indian to win a Paralympic medal in the event. The silver for Nagajuragowda helped India better their performance in Beijing four years ago when they didn’t win a medal. India’s best Paralympic performance was at the Athens Games with a gold and a bronze.

India’s Girisha Hosanagara

**Manchester City draw up stunning offer for Cristiano Ronaldo**

**Manchester, 5 Sept.—** English Premier League champions Manchester City are set to launch an amazing world record bid to sign Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo. The Daily Star says City are working on a four-year contract offer to bring the former Manchester United star back to the Premier League.

The former Portugal international has agreed to a one-year deal with Stoke after failing to re-ignite his career at Old Trafford during three injury-plagued seasons. Stoke announced details of the signing on Twitter. Owen was a free agent and able to sign after the August transfer window closed on Friday. 

The former Liverpool, Real Madrid and Newcastle forward made just four appearances last season for United. He hasn’t played competitively since November because of a thigh injury.—**PTI**

**Chinese tennis boss admits Li Na not well educated**

**Beijing, 5 Sept.—** China’s tennis chief has pointed out that the lack of systematic education has been the root of Li Na’s weak nerves that led to a sudden meltdown during games.

Sun Jianfang, director of China’s tennis administrative centre, told a TV interview on Sunday that education should be more emphasized in the country’s sports training to prevent what happened to Li Na.

“We’ve seen lots of meltdowns on Li in recent months,” she said. “It’s quite normal, in my opinion, to an old-school Chinese sportsman who didn’t get enough education to have a strong mind.”

The 32-year-old pro at 17 years old, China’s tennis superstar Li, like most of the country’s sportmen and women, had devoted all her heart and energy to training since she was a little girl.

Without good education, the sportsmen or women are just like well-designed computers with ill-suited software, impossible to perform their best,” Sun said.

After being crowned at the 2011 French Open, Li Na dropped in rocket speed from top to bottom, losing her following two Grand Slam events in the second and first round, and another in last 16.

In the ongoing US Open in Flushing Meadows of New York, the ninth seeded Li was ousted by British teenager Laura Robson last Friday in the third round, losing 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-2.—*Xinhua*
**Stones to release 50th anniversary hits album**


**Powerful quake hits Costa Rica, tsunami warning issued**

San Jose, Costa Rica, 5 Sept.—A powerful 7.6-magnitude earthquake rocked Costa Rica on Wednesday, rattling buildings, cutting power in areas of the capital and triggering a tsunami warning.

Residents of San Jose said phones went down, electricity poles rattled on the streets and water flowed out of pools during the quake, but the Red Cross said no casualties had been reported so far.

“It was terrible. I was on the third floor, I had never felt anything like it,” said Stephanie Gonzalez, a 25-year-old masters student in the capital.

The quake’s epicenter was in western Costa Rica about 87 miles from San Jose, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) said, and it was felt as far away as Managua, the capital of neighboring Nicaragua.—Reuters

**Huge 7.9 Earthquake Hits Costa Rica**

**New York, 5 Sept.—Victoria Azarenka survived a fiery comeback from defending champion Sam Stosur to reach the US Open semi-finals on Tuesday as the remnants of Hurricane Isaac left tournament organizers scrambling to catch up with the playing schedule.**

The eagerly anti-cipated quarter-final matchup between Maria Sharapova and Marion Bartoli was postponed until Wednesday after just four games were completed. Dozens of junior matches were also held over because of the heavy rain.

Tournament officials are still hoping to complete the four men’s fourth-round matches scheduled for Tuesday but prospects were bleak with more showers forecast in the Big Apple.

Azarenka traded blows with Stosur for nearly two and a half hours on a blustery Arthur Ashe Stadium court to beat the foul weather and her opponent in a 6-1, 4-6, 7-6 thriller.

The world number one will play either Sharapova or Azarenka in Friday’s semi-finals and will remain atop the world rankings regardless of how much further she goes in the tournament.—Reuters

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**Weather forecast for 6th September, 2012**

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Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham receives US congressman Mr. Dana Rohrabacher

Pyithu Hluttaw session continued for 39th day at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex here today, attended by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and 405 MPs.

Five questions were answered, one new proposal put forward, one proposal withdrawn and one bill discussed and confirmed at today’s session.

Regarding the questions of U Kun Lein of Falam Constituency about whether there is any plan to teach local language during school hours and if there is any plan to teach national race language together with English at primary level, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu replied that arrangements are being made to teach local national race language for pre-primary level outside school hours in respective regions. There is no plan to teach combined curriculum of national race language and English considering the perpetuation of the Union.

Regarding the question of U Aung San of Pabedan Constituency about whether there is any plan to extend the time of the programmes depicting Myanmar traditional cultures and traditions through the air, Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut replied that television programmes are designed to meet the different tastes of different age (See page 6)

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