President U Thein Sein attends opening of Myanmar Global Investment Forum

Nay Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Myanmar Global Investment Forum jointly organized by Myanmar Investment Commission and Hong Kong-based Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC) here at 10 am today, attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Union Ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, ambassadors and diplomats from foreign embassies, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, MEC members, chairman of Dawei, Thilawa and Kyaukpyu Special Economic Zones Management Committees and members, the CEO of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd and members and businessmen from companies totaling 861. First, President U Thein Sein cordially greeted CEO Mr Tony Shale of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd (Asia Branch) and businessmen from foreign companies and organizations at the meeting hall of MICC, and elaborated on sector-wise reforms being undertaken in the nation including political and economic sectors.

Next, President U Thein Sein formally opened Myanmar Global Investment Forum.

Afterwards, Myanmar Global Investment Forum continued, and CEO Mr Tony Shale of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd (Asia Branch) and Chairman of Myanmar Investment Commission Union Minister at the President Office U Soe Thein extended greetings.

Next, local and foreign businessmen held discussions on economic prospects of Myanmar and further development, sustainability and pledges. Later, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue extended greetings.

Market competition for agriculture produces and country’s products would be intense

Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspects booth, laboratory and seeds bank displayed at Agriculture Research Department under A&I Ministry in Zeyathiri Township.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspected works at Agriculture Research Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

At the seed bank of Agriculture Research Department, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing reported to the Vice-President on implementation of three main tasks—marketable quality seed production, training and education of good agriculture patterns for farmers and research and development for agriculture development, with the aim of farmer centered-development.

After that, Director-General Dr Thein Lwin of Agriculture Research Department, Rector of Yezin University of Agriculture Dr Tin Htut and Deputy Ministers for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw made clarifications. (See page 7)
**New Light of Myanmar** Thursday, 13 September, 2012

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Member of Indian Parliament

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Member of Indian Parliament Mr Mukut Mithi at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

They held a discussion on promotion of bilateral ties as well as contacts between the two parliaments and between Hluttaw representatives of the two countries.—MNA

Sri Lanka to join jewellery industry in Myanmar

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung received a delegation led by Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr HR Piyasiri at the ministry, here, at 1 am today.

At the call, they focused on participation in production of finished goods in jewellery sector by applying advanced technology.—MNA

Crimes

Fire surveillance CCTV installed on Mann Myanmar Plaza

Mandaly, 12 Sept—A CCTV has been installed on the top of Mann Myanmar Plaza (Zaygyo) in Mandaly to be able to make surveillance for outbreaks of fire as part of efforts of Mandalay Region Fire Services Department to take fire preventive measures.

The CCTV can enlarge the place on outbreak of fire about 200 times through digital zoom and depict the images with the use of infrared ray.

With the use of CCTV, the department can manage putting out of fire in time and sending of fire engine to the scene so as to reduce loss and damage in the fire.

Myanma Alin

Health Ministry pays more attention to vaccination

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Health Ministry is giving priority to health care for rural people, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin said in his speech at opening session of Immunization Year 2012 at the ministry here this morning.

He said immunization could reduce mortality rate of children between one and five. Most townships with under 80 percent immunization coverage are remote ones.

The immunization will be carried out in 118 townships in open season with 61 townships to receive vaccines ahead of open season. He promised all the children with interrupted dosages for various reasons will receive vaccines this year.

Medical Officer of World Health Organization Dr Vinod Kumar Bura and charge of Young Child Survival Development Section of UNICEF Dr Marinus Gotnik gave talks on importance of vaccination in health care.

The WHO medical officer presented medical equipment for intensive care unit worth US$ 1.5 million donated by international donors for region and state hospitals to the Union minister.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint, deputy ministers, National Health Council members, departmental heads, officials, members of social organization and guests.

“More than 70,000 children who did not receive vaccines in previous year will be vaccinated this year,” project manager Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung of extensive immunization division of the Ministry of Health.

MNA

Express bus turns over in Thaton

Yangon, 12 Sept—An express bus running Yangon-Ye route turned over in Thaton at 3.45 am on 9 September.

Aung Thita Express Bus plunged into the opposite way and then turned over between mile posts 151/4 and 151/5 on Yangon-Mawlamyine Highway in Binhlaing Ward of Thaton Township.

In the incident, Sai Khun Thet Oo, 25, was injured at bruise at right calf, U Kyaw Oo, 30, at bruise at right calf and Wai Lin Aung, 26 at bruise at left hand.

Kyemon

Eighth standard girl student died in lightning

Bago, 12 Sept.—A female student was stricken by lightning and heavy rains on 6 September in Bago.

At 7.30 pm on 6 September, the eighth standard student of East Myolay Village in Bago Township set together with her mother on the bench. While going onto the upstairs route turned over in Thaton at 3.45 am on 9 September.

Together with witnesses, SIP Kyi Lwin and party checked the motorboat and found 18 cows without any permission. Myinmu Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against U Sein Hla, son of U Thein Win and Ko Phyo, son of U Khin Maung Soe, Ko Maung Chit, son of U Ba Gyan, Ko Myat Thu, son of U Hla Thaung, Aung Naing Min, son of U Then Win and Ko Maung Naing, son of U Nyunt Shwe of Kyaukgyi Village in Myaung Township under the law.

Myanma Alin

Illegal cows seized at Myinmu Jetty

Myinmu, 12 Sept—At 5.30 pm on 9 September, cows were illegally carried by motorboat without any permission near Khandaw Monastery in Athawka Ward of Myinmu of Sagin Region.

Together with witnesses, SIP Kyi Lwin and party checked the motorboat and found 18 cows without any permission. Myinmu Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against U Sein Hla, son of U Swa, Ko Phyo, son of U Khin Maung Soe, Ko Maung Chit, son of U Ba Gyan, Ko Myat Thu, son of U Hla Thaung, Aung Naing Min, son of U Then Win and Ko Maung Naing, son of U Nyunt Shwe of Kyaukgyi Village in Myaung Township under the law.

Myanma Alin

where her father was worshiping the Buddha by ladder outside the wall of house, he was stricken by lightning. She died on the spot.

Bago Township Police Station No 1 opened the file of lawsuit against her death.—Kyemon

Border Affairs Minister receives Indian delegation

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay received a delegation led by Mr Mukut Mithi of Indian Parliament at his office, here, this afternoon.

They discussed development tasks along border areas between the two countries and coordination in transport, education and health sectors.—MNA

Israeli Ambassador calls on Union L&F Minister

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Department U Ohn Myint received Israeli Ambassador Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar in the Ministry, here, at 2 pm today.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on the training of livestock and fisheries, breeding of milch cow and fisheries.—MNA

Lost motorcycle found in Leikpya Lake

Bago, 12 Sept—U Khin Maung Oo of 3rd Pyidawtha Street in Yongyi Ward of Bago informed Bago Police Station No. 1 that he lost a brown colour motorcycle with number plate 9Ya/…. At 30 am today, a local informed the police station that a handle of motorcycle could be seen in Leikpya Lake. SIP Zaw Moe Lwin and party inspected it.

According to the investigation, it was the lost motorcycle.—Myanma Alin

MNA

YANGON, 12 Sept—An express bus running Yangon-Ye route turned over in Thaton at 3.45 am on 9 September.

Aung Thita Express Bus plunged into the opposite way and then turned over between mile posts 151/4 and 151/5 on Yangon-Mawlamyine Highway in Binhlaing Ward of Thaton Township.

In the incident, Sai Khun Thet Oo, 25, was injured at bruise at right calf, U Kyaw Oo, 30, at bruise at right calf and Wai Lin Aung, 26 at bruise at left hand.

Kyemon

Eighth standard girl student died in lightning

Bago, 12 Sept.—A female student was stricken by lightning and heavy rains on 6 September in Bago.

At 7.30 pm on 6 September, the eighth standard student of East Myolay Village in Bago Township set together with her mother on the bench. While going onto the upstairs route turned over in Thaton at 3.45 am on 9 September.

Together with witnesses, SIP Kyi Lwin and party checked the motorboat and found 18 cows without any permission. Myinmu Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against U Sein Hla, son of U Swa, Ko Phyo, son of U Khin Maung Soe, Ko Maung Chit, son of U Ba Gyan, Ko Myat Thu, son of U Hla Thaung, Aung Naing Min, son of U Then Win and Ko Maung Naing, son of U Nyunt Shwe of Kyaukgyi Village in Myaung Township under the law.

Myanma Alin

where her father was worshiping the Buddha by ladder outside the wall of house, he was stricken by lightning. She died on the spot.

Bago Township Police Station No 1 opened the file of lawsuit against her death.—Kyemon

Border Affairs Minister receives Indian delegation

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay received a delegation led by Mr Mukut Mithi of Indian Parliament at his office, here, this afternoon.

They discussed development tasks along border areas between the two countries and coordination in transport, education and health sectors.—MNA

Israeli Ambassador calls on Union L&F Minister

Nav Pyi Taw, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Department U Ohn Myint received Israeli Ambassador Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar in the Ministry, here, at 2 pm today.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on the training of livestock and fisheries, breeding of milch cow and fisheries.—MNA

Lost motorcycle found in Leikpya Lake

Bago, 12 Sept—U Khin Maung Oo of 3rd Pyidawtha Street in Yongyi Ward of Bago informed Bago Police Station No. 1 that he lost a brown colour motorcycle with number plate 9Ya/…. At 30 am today, a local informed the police station that a handle of motorcycle could be seen in Leikpya Lake. SIP Zaw Moe Lwin and party inspected it.

According to the investigation, it was the lost motorcycle.—Myanma Alin

MNA
frankly and clearly—means enemy No 1 and clearly has Mr Romney considers us “pluses and minuses” to President Vladimir Putin in Europe is sound policy, Russia proves that Romney’s critical stance on Embassy employee in Benghazi told them, “the official in members were killed when ambassador and three staff official said on Wednesday. the city of Benghazi, a Libyan his car in the eastern Libyan killed in a rocket attack on Tuesday night that targeted his car in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, a Libyan official said on Wednesday. “The American ambassador and three staff members were killed when gunmen fired rockets at them,” the official in Benghazi told Reuters. Asked about the deaths, a US Embassy employee in Tripoli said: “We have no to continue their close consultations going forward,” the White House said in a statement. The phone talks called as Netanyahu pointed his finger at Washington over the latter’s refusal to set a clear red line over Iran’s controversial nuclear activity. The Obama administration insisted that there is still “time and space” to pursue the two-track approach of sanctions and diplomacy to pressure Iran to give up its uranium enrichment ambitions. “The world tells Israel ‘wait, there’s still time’. And I say, ‘Wait for what? Wait until the 6 November election’. Those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don’t have a moral right to place a red light before Israel,” Netanyahu said on Tuesday at a joint Press conference with visiting Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borisov. Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders have threatened time and again preemptive air strikes on Iran’s nuclear sites to stop its uranium enrichment activities, though the Islamic republic insists on the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme. Washington, however, is in no mood to see an armed conflict over Iran in an election year as Obama is set to win a second term in November. Xinhua netanyahu vow to prevent Iran from acquiring nuke bombs

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept — US President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated on Tuesday their determination to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. In their one-hour phone conversation that the White House described as part of ongoing consultations, the two leaders discussed the threat posed by Iran’s nuclear programme, and bilateral cooperation on Iran and other security issues. “President Obama and Prime Minister Netanyahu reaffirmed that they are united in their determination to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and agreed to continue their close consultations going forward,” the White House said in a statement. The phone talks called as Netanyahu pointed his finger at Washington over the latter’s refusal to set a clear red line over Iran’s controversial nuclear activity. The Obama administration insisted that there is still “time and space” to pursue the two-track approach of sanctions and diplomacy to pressure Iran to give up its uranium enrichment ambitions. “The world tells Israel ‘wait, there’s still time’. And I say, ‘Wait for what? Wait until the 6 November election’. Those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don’t have a moral right to place a red light before Israel,” Netanyahu said on Tuesday at a joint Press conference with visiting Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borisov. Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders have threatened time and again preemptive air strikes on Iran’s nuclear sites to stop its uranium enrichment activities, though the Islamic republic insists on the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme. Washington, however, is in no mood to see an armed conflict over Iran in an election year as Obama is set to win a second term in November. Xinhua

In power since 2000, Putin began a six-year presidential term under a campaign in which he used anti-American rhetoric as a political tool, according to the United States of stirring up street protests in Russia. Last week, Putin said that Romney’s criticism was in large part electioneering, but that his apparent animosity means Russia’s suspicions about a missile shield the United States is building in Europe would only if he is elected. US plans for missile defence in Europe, which Washington has already started to deploy, have been a major irritant in US-Russia relations. Washington says the Putin says Romney stance shows Russia right about missile shield

In power since 2000, Putin began a six-year presidential term under a campaign in which he used anti-American rhetoric as a political tool, according to the United States of stirring up street protests in Russia. Last week, Putin said that Romney’s criticism was in large part electioneering, but that his apparent animosity means Russia’s suspicions about a missile shield the United States is building in Europe would only if he is elected. US plans for missile defence in Europe, which Washington has already started to deploy, have been a major irritant in US-Russia relations. Washington says the shield is meant to counter a potential threat from Iran and will pose no risk to Russia. Russia says the system’s interceptors will be able to destroy Russian warheads in flight by about 2018, weakening its nuclear arsenal and upsetting the balance of power. Moscow wants a guarantee that the system would never be used against it. Putin elaborated on the idea on Tuesday, saying he was “grateful to Romney because his description of Russia as a foe “has once again confirmed our approach to the issue of missile defence is right one. —Reuters

US ambassador to Libya killed in attack: Libya official

Tripoli, 12 Sept — The US ambassador to Libya and three other embassy staff were killed in a rocket attack on Tuesday night that targeted his car in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, a Libyan official said on Wednesday. “The American ambassador and three staff members were killed when gunmen fired rockets at them,” the official in Benghazi said. Asked about the deaths, a US Embassy employee in Tripoli said: “We have no information regarding this.” The employee said the embassy could confirm the death of one person. The Libyan official said the US ambassador had been on his way to a safer venue after protesters attacked the US Consulate in Benghazi and opened fire, killing a staff member, in protest at a US film that they deemed blasphemous to the Prophet Mohammed. The official said the ambassador and three other staff were killed when protesters destroyed an American flag pulled down from the US embassy in Cairo on 11 Sept, 2012. Reuters

German Chancellor Angela Merkel attends a session of the lower house of parliament Bundestag in Berlin on 11 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

German Chancellor Angela Merkel “remained firmly united over the court’s advice to act as a political process to make democratic rules. But Finance Minister Wolfgang Schaeuble blamed out last week he was “sure” of victory over the 37,000-odd plaintiffs, who include eurocrats from Merkel’s centre-right coalition and Left Party, who opposed to European integration. If the court in Karlsruhe were to defy expectations and uphold the bailout fund in its 10 am (0900 GMT) ruling, it could destabilize bond and currency markets and plunge the euro zone into turmoil by depriving it of key funds to keep debt-laden southern states afloat. But legal experts believe the eight judges in the court’s Second Senate will back the treaties, based on its previous rulings that have allowed integration while insisting on full consultation with the Bundestag (lower house). “The constitutional limits for surrendering sovereignty are not set in stone but open to interpretation, meaning economic, social and political circumstances can be taken into account,” said Tanja Boerzel, a law professor at Berlin’s Free University. “A No from the court on the ESM could have not just fatal consequences for the euro, but could also spark a constitutional crisis as the Bundestag and Bundesrat (upper house) ratified the ESM and fiscal pact with constitutional majorities,” she said.

MIDDLE EAST

MEXICO CITY, 12 Sept — Head of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development on Tuesday urged Mexico’s President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto to support a proposed labour reform put before Congress by outgoing President Felipe Calderon. Calderon’s draft bill to soften antiquated labour regulations and make trade unions more transparent faces opposition from Pena Nieto’s centrist Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which won Mexico continuously between 1929 and 2000. The bill, which intends to make the labour market more competitive, foresees making work contracts in Mexico more flexible, shrinking tripartite periods in law and forcing unions to disclose details of their assets and submit to external audits.” Unions have staunchly defended their rights and have helped sink efforts at labour reform in the past. By the same token, Calderon’s National Action Party (PAN) has set great store by opening the unions up to more scrutiny. Support from organized labor was a keystone of the PRI’s base and despite efforts to forge power bases in more recent years, they remain powerful representatives inside Congress, among them the leader of the oil workers’ union, who has just entered the Senate for the PRI. Reuters

Measles cases in Zambia alarming

LUSAKA, 12 Sept — Cases of measles in Zambia are alarming and the disease has become a major threat to the lives of children, the Zambia health minister told reported on Tuesday. “Children are our future and authorities cannot let us kid by and watch them die of measles and other diseases we can easily prevent,” Minister of Community Development, Mother and Child Health Joseph Katema was quoted as saying by the paper at the launch of a national immunization week set on 16. 15 Sept. According to government statistics, between 2010 and 2011, 37, 582 cases of measles were reported by various health centers countrywide and that 238 children died from measles during the same period. The government, he said, is committed to reducing the child mortality rate by two-thirds by 2015 and that it will try by all means to prevent deaths of children from preventable diseases. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization (WHO) has said the immunization programme offers a unique opportunity to protect Zambia’s children against measles, Daily Mail said. —Xinhua

RUSSIA

Putin says Romney stance shows Russia right about missile shield

In power since 2000, Putin began a six-year presidential term under a campaign in which he used anti-American rhetoric as a political tool, according to the United States of stirring up street protests in Russia. Last week, Putin said that Romney’s criticism was in large part electioneering, but that his apparent animosity means Russia’s suspicions about a missile shield the United States is building in Europe would only if he is elected. US plans for missile defence in Europe, which Washington has already started to deploy, have been a major irritant in US-Russia relations. Washington says the shield is meant to counter a potential threat from Iran and will pose no risk to Russia. Russia says the system’s interceptors will be able to destroy Russian warheads in flight by about 2018, weakening its nuclear arsenal and upsetting the balance of power. Moscow wants a guarantee that the system would never be used against it. Putin elaborated on the idea on Tuesday, saying he was “grateful to Romney because his description of Russia as a foe “has once again confirmed our approach to the issue of missile defence is right one. —Reuters

RUSSIA

Putin says Romney stance shows Russia right about missile shield

In power since 2000, Putin began a six-year presidential term under a campaign in which he used anti-American rhetoric as a political tool, according to the United States of stirring up street protests in Russia. Last week, Putin said that Romney’s criticism was in large part electioneering, but that his apparent animosity means Russia’s suspicions about a missile shield the United States is building in Europe would only if he is elected. US plans for missile defence in Europe, which Washington has already started to deploy, have been a major irritant in US-Russia relations. Washington says the shield is meant to counter a potential threat from Iran and will pose no risk to Russia. Russia says the system’s interceptors will be able to destroy Russian warheads in flight by about 2018, weakening its nuclear arsenal and upsetting the balance of power. Moscow wants a guarantee that the system would never be used against it. Putin elaborated on the idea on Tuesday, saying he was “grateful to Romney because his description of Russia as a foe “has once again confirmed our approach to the issue of missile defence is right one. —Reuters
London, 12 Sept—Scientists have found nature’s way of creating colour that never fades, a technique they say could replace pigments used in industry with natural plant extracts in products from cosmetics to self-defence security features in Banknotes.

Layers of cellulose that reflect specific wavelengths of light—structural colour—found in peacock feathers, scarab beetles and butterflies, may be a particularly intense blue in the Pollia condensata plant, scientists say. In the plant, in fact, plant collections dating back to the 19th century had not lost any shine or intensity, they found.

"By taking inspiration from nature, it is possible to obtain smart multifunctional materials using sustainable routes with abundant and cheap materials like cellulose," said University of Cambridge physicist Silvia Vignolini. "This 10x more intense and bright than any colour achieved with a pigment," said Vignolini, who led the study with plant scientists Beverley Glover. Although the fruit has no nutritional value, birds were attracted by its bright colour, possibly as a decoration for their nests or to impress other birds, helping in seed dispersal.

"This obscure little plant has an amazing ability of making an irresistible, shiny, sparkly, multi-coloured, iridescent signal to every bird in the vicinity, without wasting any of its precious photosynthetic reserves on bird food," said Glover. And, unlike pigments, structural colour does not fade over time as it is not broken down by absorbing light. "Edible, cellulose-based nanostructures with structural colour can be used as substitutes for toxic dyes and colorants in food," said Vignolini. "Structural colour could also be adapted for security labeling or cosmetics, she said."

"Cellulose-based structures are a really strong optical response and are completely inert in the human body," she added. Another advantage of the technique is that the desired colour can be achieved by adding layers in the structure to reflect different wavelengths, rather than using new pigments.

Similar research by Peter Vukusic at Exeter University into the structural colour in butterfly wings has spawned a pigment-free photonic make-up from cosmetics company L’Oreal.

"I saw how brilliant optically some of these structural colours are," Vukusic told Reuters. "Some species collected as far back as the eighteenth century are as bright today as freshly hatched butterflies."

Vukusic said although some car companies, including BMW, have also explored the phenomenon to produce iridescent paint that changes colour when viewed from different angles, "this is nothing compared to what you see in nature..."

He said that if production challenges can be overcome, the abundance of cellulose—the basis of most green plant material—makes it a material with great potential.
FDA warns L'Oreal about claims for anti-aging creams

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept.—Regulators warned L'Oreal or its US subsidiary, the world’s biggest cosmetics group, to stop advertising skin-care products using language that makes them sound like drugs.

The US Food and Drug Administration said Lancome USA, a L'Oreal unit, claimed some of its skin creams could boost the activity of genes or “stimulate cell regeneration” to reduce signs of aging.

Any product that is intended to affect the structure or function of the human body is classified as a drug, the FDA said, according to a warning letter posted on its website on Tuesday. Companies are not allowed to sell drugs in the United States without demonstrating to the FDA that their products are safe and effective.

L’Oréal, French company, said it was committed to complying with US laws and regulatory standards.

“We are aware of FDA’s letter to Lancome and will respond to their regulatory concerns in a timely manner,” a company spokeswoman said.

Some of the products mentioned in the letter, dated 7 September, include Genifique Repair Youth Activating Night Cream and Absolute Eye Precious Cells Advanced Regenerating and Reconstructing Eye Cream.

A woman walks past an Aeropostale store in Times Square in New York on 27 July, 2012.—Reuters

Holiday retail sales seen up 3.3 percent: ShopperTrak

LOS ANGELES, 12 Sept.—US retail sales rose 3.3 percent this holiday season, on what is expected to be the first increase in shopper traffic since 2007, according to a forecast from research firm ShopperTrak released on Wednesday.

ShopperTrak, a data firm that makes sales projections based on shopper visits to more than 50,000 retail locations around the United States, expects foot traffic to increase 2.8 percent during the peak holiday shopping months of November and December.

The holiday season can make or break a company’s annual results, accounting for one-third of annual sales in many categories.

Monthly retail sales have been up versus a year ago for the last 34 of 35 months, as consumers gain confidence in the US economy’s slow but fitful recovery.

Traffic trends have been improving since the US Presidents’ Day holiday in February, ShopperTrak founder Bill Martin said.

In recent years, shoppers had been going to stores with lists of what they intended to buy and did not spend a lot of time browsing stores.

That behavior seems to be changing, Martin said.

This year, shoppers are “a little more relaxed about walking around and seeing what’s available in stores” and that presents opportunities to ring up additional sales, he said.

For health, fish oil pills not the answer

NEW YORK, 12 Sept.—Omega-3 fatty acids, found in oily fish such as sardines and salmon and once touted as a way of staving off heart disease and stroke, don’t help after all, according to a Greek study. Based on a review and analysis of previous clinical trials including more than 68,000 participants, Greek researchers whose report appeared in the journal Circulation found that taking omega-3s, including the acids known as EPA and DHA, with a typical Mediterranean diet had no impact on overall death rates, deaths from heart disease, or strokes and heart attacks.

This was true whether they were obtained from supplements such as pills, or from fish in the diet, said the researchers, led by Mosel Elifel at the University Hospital of Ioannina. “Overall, omega-3 supplementation was not associated with a lower risk of all-cause mortality, cardiac death, sudden death, myocardial infarction, or stroke based on relative and absolute measures of association,” Elifel and his team wrote.

A decade ago, medical evidence suggested that boosting omega-3s, including the acids known as EPA and DHA, with food or supplements had a strong protective effect even though the mechanism wasn’t understood.

Scientists cited improvements in levels of triglycerides - a type of fat in the blood—as well as blood pressure levels and heart rhythm as reasons to push the point. But since then, the picture has grown clouded. Earlier this year, a group of Korean researchers found that omega-3 supplements had no effect on heart disease or death based on 20,000 participants in previous trials.

The current study pooled results of 18 clinical trials that assigned participants randomly to take either omega-3 supplements, or not. It also includes two trials in which people got dietary counseling to increase their consumption of omega-3 rich foods. Because the trials in the Greek analysis went as far back as 1989, researchers also considered whether growing use of statins and other medications could explain why later studies failed to support the earlier findings.

But Elifel and his team said that wasn’t the case. —Reuters

Asian shares rise before German ruling.

Fed meeting

Tokyo, 12 Sept.—Asian shares rose to three-week highs and the euro hit a four-month peak against the dollar on optimism that a German court will approve the legality of the euro zone’s bailout fund later on Wednesday and the US Federal Reserve may ease this Wednesday.

European equities were seen narrowly mixed, with a 0.3 percent rise in US stock futures suggesting a firm Wall Street start. Financial spreadsbetters called London’s FTSE 100, Paris’ CAC-40, FCHI and Frankfurt’s DAX100 open between a 0.1 percent drop and a 0.2 percent rise. L EU N Risk momentum was also supported by comments from Premier Wen Jiabao on Tuesday that China is on track to meet this year’s target for economic growth and if needed, the government could use a 100 billion yuan ($15.8 billion) fiscal stimulus fund to boost growth.

The Australian dollar, a typical gauge of risk appetite and highly sensitive to the economic health of Australia’s largest export destination, China, climbed through three-week high of $1.0490. MSC1’s broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan - MAPI 3000US added 1.2 percent.

Fed meeting

Morningstar, adding that it will signal “the market is freeing up a bit.”

Japan’s Nikkei average, N225 rose 1.6 percent as the recovery in risk appetite dampened demand for the safe-haven yen, which eased 0.1 percent to 77.87. The yen rose to a 3-1/2 month high of 77.70 on Tuesday. The euro rose to $1.2483 on Wednesday, its highest since mid-May. Rallies in riskier assets and sentiment in Asian credit markets, narrowing the spread on the iTraxx Asia ex-Japan investment-grade index by 7 basis points to its tightest level since August last year.

A favourable court decision would show European sovereign debt and banking issues “are being addressed in a more robust form and obviously would be positive for banks there and banks here,” said Peter Warnes, head of equities at Morningstar, adding that it would “signal the market is freeing up a bit.”

A woman walks past an Aeropostale store in Times Square in New York on 27 July, 2012.—Reuters

Holiday retail sales seen up 3.3 percent: ShopperTrak

Los Angeles, 12 Sept.—US retail sales rose 3.3 percent this holiday season, on what is expected to be the first increase in shopper traffic since 2007, according to a forecast from research firm ShopperTrak released on Wednesday.

ShopperTrak, a data firm that makes sales projections based on shopper visits to more than 50,000 retail locations around the United States, expects foot traffic to increase 2.8 percent during the peak holiday shopping months of November and December.

The holiday season can make or break a company’s annual results, accounting for one-third of annual sales in many categories.

Monthly retail sales have been up versus a year ago for the last 34 of 35 months, as consumers gain confidence in the US economy’s slow but fitful recovery.

Traffic trends have been improving since the US Presidents’ Day holiday in February, ShopperTrak founder Bill Martin said.

In recent years, shoppers had been going to stores with lists of what they intended to buy and did not spend a lot of time browsing stores.

That behavior seems to be changing, Martin said.

This year, shoppers are “a little more relaxed about walking around and seeing what’s available in stores” and that presents opportunities to ring up additional sales, he said.

For health, fish oil pills not the answer

New York, 12 Sept.—Omega-3 fatty acids, found in oily fish such as sardines and salmon and once touted as a way of staving off heart disease and stroke, don’t help after all, according to a Greek study. Based on a review and analysis of previous clinical trials including more than 68,000 participants, Greek researchers whose report appeared in the journal Circulation found that taking omega-3s, including the acids known as EPA and DHA, with a typical Mediterranean diet had no impact on overall death rates, deaths from heart disease, or strokes and heart attacks.

This was true whether they were obtained from supplements such as pills, or from fish in the diet, said the researchers, led by Mosel Elifel at the University Hospital of Ioannina. “Overall, omega-3 supplementation was not associated with a lower risk of all-cause mortality, cardiac death, sudden death, myocardial infarction, or stroke based on relative and absolute measures of association,” Elifel and his team wrote.

A decade ago, medical evidence suggested that boosting omega-3s, including the acids known as EPA and DHA, with food or supplements had a strong protective effect even though the mechanism wasn’t understood.

Scientists cited improvements in levels of triglycerides - a type of fat in the blood—as well as blood pressure levels and heart rhythm as reasons to push the point. But since then, the picture has grown clouded. Earlier this year, a group of Korean researchers found that omega-3 supplements had no effect on heart disease or death based on 20,000 participants in previous trials.

The current study pooled results of 18 clinical trials that assigned participants randomly to take either omega-3 supplements, or not. It also includes two trials in which people got dietary counseling to increase their consumption of omega-3 rich foods. Because the trials in the Greek analysis went as far back as 1989, researchers also considered whether growing use of statins and other medications could explain why later studies failed to support the earlier findings.

But Elifel and his team said that wasn’t the case. —Reuters
President U Thein Sein attends opening of Myanmar .......

(from page 1)

U Win Shein explained matters on amendment of tax law, revocation of revenue law, enacting of microfinance services law, amendment of interest rate, seeking help of IMF for combination of foreign currency exchange rate, opening of four new private banks, extended opening of banks (branch), opening of foreign currency exchange counters and issuing of foreign currency trading licenses to 14 private banks.

After that, the Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar and local and foreign businessmen discussed matters on banking development and market transparency.

Next, Deputy Minister for Energy U Htin Aung clarified on energy sector of Myanmar including potentials for production of oil and gas and future prospects.

Afterwards, those from local and foreign companies and organizations discussed sustainable development of oil and gas of Myanmar.

This was followed by discussions of those from local and foreign companies and organizations on the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law, robust investment and private investment.

The ceremony came to an end with a general round of discussions in the evening.—MNA

Union Transport Minister meets MD of Merubeni Aerospace

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received Managing Director Mr Hiroshi Ikuno and party of Japan-based Marubeni Aerospace Corporation at the ministry, here, yesterday evening.

They discussed holding of workshop in the second week of October in 2012 so as to exchange views on launching of small-scale earth survey satellite of Myanmar provided by Japanese government to forecast weather, aviation and maritime communications, agriculture, marine administration, forest management, mining and better communications.—MNA

Unknown man dies at archways of Monastery

KYAUKME, 12 Sept—An unknown man died at the archways of Namsalin Monastery in Ward 2 of Kyaukme in Shan State (North) on 11 September.

Novices saw the body before going for ams round, and informed the abbot about it.

Due to information given by the Sayadaw, Township Administrator U Kyaw Naing, the commander of Myoma police station and officials inspected the body and sent it to the People’s Hospital. The dead person was about 40 years old Shan national. There was no injury at the body. The police station is conducting investigation for the dead body.

News in Brief

Victorious sports teams honoured

Victorious sports teams representing Shan State were honoured at the hall of Shan State Sports and Physical Education Department in Taunggyi on 11 September morning. Shan-State Minister for Social Affairs presented cash awards to those teams who secured 14 gold, 12 silver and 19 bronze medals in Region and State Champion Challenge Cup.

International Literacy Day observed in Shan State

A ceremony to mark the 2012 International Literacy Day was held at Basic Education High School No 5 in Taunggyi on 8 September, with an address by the Chief Minister of Shan State.

Basic tailoring course 21 Sept

The basic tailoring course No 4/2012 for women’s wear will be opened on 21 September and it will last two months. The training course will admit only 20 trainees and applications are to be submitted at room-301, building-169, Aungchantha Road in Ward 5 of Kamayut Township, not later than 20 September.

Free health care provided

A medical team from Shwehlay Station Hospital of Thandwe Township gave health care services to over 150 local people in Khamuangdon Village-tract. The team plans to provide similar services to the local people in other village-tracts.

Paper-reading session on 15 Sept

Annual paper-reading session, organized by Myanmar Geosciences Association, will be held at the hall of Myanmar Engineering Society at Hlin University Campus in Yangon, at 9 am on 15 September. Any enthusiasts may attend it.

Action to be taken against phone caller drivers

As of early September, All Private Bus-line Control Committee of Yangon Region gave a directive to bus lines that action will be taken against drivers calling while driving to be able to avoid traffic accidents.
Market competition for agriculture produces...

(from page 1)

In response to the reports, Vice-President U Nyan Tun said that for the State’s agricultural sector development, it needs to make efforts for enabling farmers to extensively use marketable quality seeds across the country. It also needs to share agricultural technologies by establishing model educative plantations in townships and villages in region and states in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in order that agricultural technologies and good agriculture patterns are within the farmers’ reach.

To fulfill the needs of quality seeds and agricultural technologies, agriculturalists are to share their research findings with the farmers, and it needs to seek practical ways for adequate use of fertilizers and inputs, which is a basic requirement for the development of agricultural sector.

Under ASEAN Regional Agreement, there would be free trade in ASEAN countries in 2015. Market competition for agriculture produces and country’s products would be intense. Thus, the agriculturalists on their parts are to implement the needs of all sectors in order that the farmers can enjoy higher income and living standards and get their confidence in their future. He urged the agriculturalists to make efforts for the development of agricultural sector with a sense of patriotism, country’s development, self-confidence and pride after taking the examples of neighbouring countries’ successes of agriculture reforms.

After that, the Vice-President looked into the research booths in Agriculture Research Department, paddy strains grown in Region/State, bio-technological labs and seed bank, and raised questions he went to know. Then, he also inspected 85-day thriving pollinated Plae Thwe hybrid paddy and systematic pollination at research plantation. The agriculturalists explained parent paddy seeds needed for 1,000 acres of F1 Pale Thwe hybrid paddy seed production farm will be produced.

Afterwards, the Vice-President handed over 60 Kg of maize seeds each to respective principals for the research of University of Agriculture (Yezin) of Agriculture Research Department and Institute of Agriculture (Pyinmana) and presented gifts to the agriculturalists.

The Vice-President and party proceeded to the 10-acre farmer educative quality sugarcane plantation near Thabyaybin village in Zeyathiri Township, and there, the deputy director-general of Industrial Crops Development Department reported to the Vice-President on thriving quality sugarcane plantation and extended growing of sugarcane in the coming season.

The Vice-President urged the officials to grow and distribute the high-yield sugarcane strains that can increase the growers’ income.

Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Member of Indian Parliament

Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker Mr Mukut Mithi of Indian Parliament received a delegation led by Mr Makut Mithi and party at Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Present at the call together with the Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyin received a delegation led by Member of Indian Parliament Mr Mukut Mithi and party at Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Heavy rain floods Yesagyo

YESAGYO, 12 Sept—Due to heavy rains, roads, schools and houses are still flooded in Layagya Ward of Region 8 in Yesagyo Township. Thus, the local people are facing difficulties of food, accommodation and transport matters.

A bridge was built across the drain at the junction of the ward. As flood moves the bridge from the drain, the local people are taking care of road accidents at the bridge and drain.

Dam damaged in heavy rains in Taungdwingyi

TAUNGDWINGYI, 12 Sept—The torrential rains in Taungdwingyi Township from 4 to 10 September embanked down at 6 pm on 7 September. The dam with 105 feet long and 54 feet wide was built by over 100 farmers from Talokkon, Lamaing, Hnepetyawdaw, Aungchantha and Aungkhaing villages at a cost of K 10 million in 2007-2008, said Dam Committee Chairman U Myint Sein.

U Tin Myo Latt, Township Administrator and officials inspected the dam and said that they would repair the dam for supplying water to monsoon paddy fields in time.

Relief supplies provided to flood victims in Kawa

YANGON, 12 Sept—Karunaranthi Funeral Service Association of Ward 8 in Thakayta Township of Yangon Region handed over rice, clothes, instant noodle and various kinds of snacks worth K 1.5 million donated by wellwishers of ward dwellers to 385 flood victims of Thakkala, Magebin, Kathitbin, Tartan, Tesa, Hseitse, Leitpankaya, Kathitpin South and Thazi villages of Kawa Township of Bago Region on 5 September.
Curses in Bagan

The American Heritage Dictionary gives the following meanings of the word “curse”:

“curse = an appeal or prayer for evil or injury to befoul someone or something; the evil or injury that comes from or as if from an invocation in words or form; [especially] a vulgar, coarse, or profane oath; a profane or obscene word, a censure, ban, anathema. To invoke evil, calamity or injury upon, damn, afflict.”

All these meanings perfectly fit curses found in Bagan stone inscriptions. In the last period of our society, Bagan stone inscriptions’ curses are most common, very fearsome and frightening. Blessings, curses, swearing and abusive language are inherent intangible aspects of human culture since Hom Sapien was fully evolved and developed. They are found in all cultures and civilizations of any date and period across the world. Here it is pertinent to cite two outstanding stories of frightening curses the writer had learnt in his study of archaeology and ancient history.

The first was the curse of a world renown Egyptian Pharaoh “Tutankhamun”, an 18-year old boy king whose body was mumified and preserved in a hidden pyramid in the valley of the Nile River. A British research team led by Professor Howard Carter and his financial patron Lord Carnavan discovered the pyramid after they nearly gave up in the post First World War. The second entrance which they reached through a secret underground tunnel bore a curse in ancient Egyptian pictorial letters which Egyptologists deciphered:

“Whosoever disturbs me lying in peace in this eternal world, shall meet with a violent death by one of four elements of Nature (1) Water (2) Fire (3) Earth and (4) Wind.”

At the entrance of the third chamber, they found some human skeletons with some treasures in their hands prepared summarily the grave robbers who could not escape with their loot. After the party had emptied the great Pyramid by transporting, including the Pharaoh’s mummy with a gold mask of one ton weight covering its face, to London Museum by ships, the team was celebrating their success on board their home bound ship from the port of Alexandria. Egypt at that time was a British Protectorate. They were toasting joyfully. One of them raised his big beer mug and poured beer into his mouth. But beer went into his nostrils and he died as if drowned in the water — a very strange happening, accident? Curse? Death by the element of water?

Three months after everyone of the research team was back home, another strange thing took place. The Egyptologists were discussing their plan for their loot and the mummy. Two of them were intensely absorbed in their project. One of them with long and thick beard struck a match to light the pipe held in his mouth. Strange enough instead of his pipe, unknowingly he had lit his beard and the fire that caught his beard consumed his body to death instantly! Death by Fire! This incredible tragedy shocked the team. But they ruled out as an unfortunate accident, with the excuse that after thousands of years the spell of the curse must have gone.

During summer, one British researcher of the team was holidaying in his country house. He used to gather dry fallen leaves and dump them into a pit for making natural fertilizer. One early evening, with a big basketful of dry leaves he tumbled into the pit and was sinking in the pit as he was a heavy weight. He yelled for help but neighbours were absent from home. When at last a girl heard his last yell and people rushed to the spot he was already dead, deep in the pit. Death by Earth!

In the winter of the same year, the youngest of the Team strong and healthy died of cold stroke. When his obituary appeared in the newspapers, all his colleagues were shocked and frightened. Death by Wind? He was perfectly healthy and no complaint of any disease. Suddenly his breathing stopped for no apparent reason. Members of the Team felt released because all four curses were now over.

It would be too long to narrate strange happenings that took place in London. When mummy was about to go on cultural trips to foreign museums. The writer was in London at that time and he made press-cuttings of news of mummy’s curses revived. The writer had seen the mummy at the British Museum a number of times. Later in 1987, during his official visit to Egypt, he saw the mummy in the special room of Cairo Museum. An old curator told me that he had been hearing whispers of the mummy to restore it to its pyramid and not exhibit in the museum. Was he joking or was he serious?

The second story was the cursed Hope Blue Diamond which is today on display at the Smithsonian Institute Museum in the US. There is a factionalized history book of “The Hope Blue Diamond”, which Indian Jones would have loved to make a hit movie. A blue diamond of a big size and extraordinary quality which French Sun King Louis XIV bought at exorbitant price from a French jeweller-adventurer Tavanier who managed to rob that jewel from a jade Rama-Sita combined statue kept in an Hindu Temple in Bagan. After many adventurous stratagems, Tavanier escaped with the blue diamond which he sold to the French King. Devotees and worshippers held many congregations and performed pujas and religious rites to invoke Rama and Sita to inflict terrible curses upon whosoever owned it or wore it because the blue diamond was worn by Sita. The said book describes a series of curses befalling its owners and wearers.

The first to be struck by the curse were Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette. The Queen wore the Blue Diamond as her favourite necklace. In 1789, the French Revolutions broke out. The people held the king and the Queen solely responsible for their woes, distresses and poverty. After public trial Louis and Marie were beheaded by a machine “Guillotine”. The diamond mysteriously disappeared. It changed many hands among European monarchs — Kaisers, Tzars, Caesars and Kings, inflicting inexplicable tragedies and deaths upon owners and wearers. To cut the long story short, finally it emerged at the auction shop in Hard Street, London. Are American Billionner Mr Hope got the Blue Diamond as he was the highest bidder.

Hope turned the Blue Diamond into a pendant to give as birthday present to his wife. They arranged a sumptuous party and the wife made a special blue colour dress to match with the present. Two days ahead they brought the Blue Diamond from their bank and kept it in the safe in their bedroom. One late night, the wife was awaken by whispers. She saw blue rays of light from the safe whispering, “My dear, do not wear me. I am cursed.” She told her husband that strange happening and persistently refused to wear it saying that it was cursed. But it changed many hands among European monarchs — Kings, Kaisers, Tzars, Caesars and Kings, inflicting inexplicable tragedies and deaths upon owners and wearers. To cut the long story short, finally it emerged at the auction shop in Hard Street, London. Are American Billionner Mr Hope got the Blue Diamond as he was the highest bidder.

In his lecture on Underwater Archaeology given to the PhD students, the writer gives reference to the recently salvaged Titanic which some researchers are saying it was cursed. The invincible and unsinkable highly modernized and technologically built great ship met its tragedy due to a trifle cause. It was not a big rock but an outcrop of an iceberg that broke and sank it. Inspite of warnings, S.O.S messages for rescue, Titanic met its ill fate. Why? two curse stories emerged.

The RMS Titanic of 46,328 tons on its maiden voyage secretly carried as cargo an Egyptian mummy. When it was salvaged, the mummy was still not retrieved. Was it the curse of the mummy that caused the unbelievable tragic fate of Titanic hit by a mere iceberg and delay in SOS message and arrival of rescue team, claiming 1517 lives— the deadliest peace time maritime disaster in history.

The other story was that Titanic was not christened. Built in Belfast, Ireland launched on 31 May 1911, began its maiden voyage on 10 April 1912 on the route from Southampton to New York with innumerable numbers when converted to letter read “No Hope”. A 23-year-old crew master John Coffey stowed away because he held a superstition about travelling on the Titanic.

In the year 1911, during the maiden voyage, when Titanic was about to be in New York, the writer had done cursory research on them. Stone inscription pillars in situ, at the museums, in the sheds at old Myanmar capitals and major towns, and border areas are plenty.
Curses in Bagan Stone…

(from page 8)

Archaeology Department made facsimile copies in ink rubbings and U Min Swe, a re-
search officer had compiled and published 41 inscriptions in a small booklet. In this
article eleven are cited as samples.

Bagan monuments and all other tangible objects were donated by people from all
walks of life—monarchy to the grassroots, both clergy and laity. Blessings, wishes, prayers
and curses in the inscriptions reflect their social status, characters and mentality. The two
most outstanding stone inscriptions are (1) YaYa Kumar Inscription and (2) Monk envoy
Shin Dihapamaukha’s Inscription which have curses. In the former the curse was in one
line

“This who molest or persecute three villages of farm labourers dedicated to the
Pagoda shall never see Metey, the next Buddha.”

In the same vein, the curse in the latter rung:

“This who molest or destroy my dedications shall never see the next Buddha,
Metey.”

For Buddhists, to miss Buddha means to miss his teachings without which you can
never improve your present life and life hereafter and you have no chance to attain Nirvana
which is the ultimate goal. Therefore that kind of curse is the most fearsome of
all.

The eleven samplings are as follows:

(1) Thingyi Saya Inscription originally located in the compound of Maha Bodhi Temple
now in the museum. It was dated 1188 A.D. The donor dedicated 23 pagoda slaves
(servicemen) to the Temple. His curse runs:-

“if anyone destroys my dedication, he, his wife, his children, his grandchildren,
his siblings, his relatives shall be cast into Awizi, the lowest hell of all hells.
Though as many as the grains of sand of Buddhas appeared they shall miss them.”

(2) Nantangmyo Ngintyi Inscription. This king donated many farms. It was dated 1223
A.D. His curse runs:-

“He who destroys my dedications shall be born hairless and skinless creatures.
If he was born human he shall be forever socially outcast and forever miss all
Buddhas.”

(3) Saw Min Lat Phaya Inscription. He built a stupa and a meditation cave, monasteries
and farms and fields to support it. It was dated 1231 A.D. His curse are:-

“He who destroys my dedications shall meet with eight kinds of punish-
ments. When he dies he shall be cast into big different levels of hell. He shall
suffer manifold more than Devadatta has been suffering. Any man or woman who
robs my glebe lands, upon death shall go under a big stone slab of enormous
dimensions. He or she shall be half buried, no water to drink, no food to eat, with
the tongue coming out and forever starving.”

(4) Manaha Phaya Inscription. King Manha of Thanot sold his manawmaya ruby ring
to the wealthy man of Myingabar at 6 cartloads of pure silvers. With these silver he
built a pagoda on the hillock named Sri Jeyabhumi. He set a stone inscription in
the compound of an old brick monastery near Myinkaba village. Now in the museum. He
donated pagoda, slaves, farmlands and farm cattle to the Na Taung Htat pagoda. She
left the following curses in the inscription:

“He who destroys my dedications shall be cast in the period with no Buddha.
No Buddha could teach him dhamma. He shall forever be cast in hell”

(5) Na Taung Htat Phaya Inscription in the museum. Dated 1185 A.D. Weiluwaddy, the
queen of King Sithu donated many glebe lands, farm, labourers and cattle to the
Na Taung Htat pagoda. She left the following curses in the inscription:

“He who destroys my dedications shall be inflicted with all dangers. Down to the
seven generations of his descendents shall also be inflicted with all dangers.
They all shall be cast into all hells forever. No Buddha could give them dhamma
to redeem them from hells or the whirlpool of Samsara [The Cycle of Births
and Rebirths and sufferings].”

(6) Nga Myin Thin Inscription dated 1294 A.D. Located in the compound of Phaungdaw
Oo Pagoda in Thawdaw-Wundwin, Meiktila Township. Many pagodas, slaves [serv-
icemen] were donated. The curse in the inscription runs:-

“He who molest my dedications shall be cast into Awizi, the deepest of all hells.
His food and his dresses shall be poisonous and he shall die of poison.”

(7) Min Saya Dhamma Yazu Kawi Inscription dated 1268 A.D. Originally found in the
compound of an old brick monastery near Myinkaba village. Now in the museum. He
donated pagoda, slaves, farmlands and farm cattle to the pagoda he built. The follow-
ing is his curse:

“He who loots my glebe lands, molests my pagoda slaves and takes the donated
farm cattle shall be shortlived; shall never prosper; shall never meet the Buddha.
He shall forever be cast into the deepest hell Awizi.”

(8) Thanamanta-pate couple’s Inscription dated 1271 A.D. Located in an old brick build-
ing to the north of Amana monastery at Min Nan Thu village. The curse is as follows:-

“If my relative or a monk or anyone who loots my glebe lands, he shall be
shortlived. He shall never prosper. King’s punishments shall befall him. He shall
be killed by fire, water, thunder, weapons, tiger, leopard, wolf. He shall be imme-
diately killed by incurable diseases. He shall be forever cast into Awizi hell. He
shall never see the Buddha”

(9) Min Ein Kyi Inscription dated 1284 A.D. Located in the shed. Registered No.10 at
Lay Myet Hna Pagoda at Min Nan Thu village. This king built a monastery and
donated farmlands and pagoda slave. The curse in the inscription are:-

“If he who destroys my dedications shall suffer all kinds of diseases, ex-
treme poverty, meet all dangers, shall be cast into hells several times, shall suffer
much more than Devadatta has been suffering, shall never see the Buddha.”

(10) Commander Toyin Kapo Inscription dated 1308 A.D. Located in the compound of
Sweyin Phyu pagoda at Badat Hlaung village, Myin Mya Town. This commander and
his father donated many glebe lands to the pagoda. Their curses are:-

“He who loots or destroys my dedications shall be burnt to death by fire caused
by a cart load of cotton. If he were born human, he shall be inflicted with leprosy,
he shall forever be starving, no water to drink, no food to eat. When he dies, he
shall be cast into the deepest hell. No Buddha shall given him the teaching of
Dhamma.”

(11) Khin Mun Taw Inscription dated 1315 A.D. Located at Kin Mun village, Chaung
U Town, Monywa District. He dedicated 3 pagoda slaves for the upkeep of the pa-
goda he built. The curses in the inscription are:-

“He who molests my dedications shall be inflicted with all diseases, he shall be
shortlived, all dangers shall befall him. When he dies, he shall be cast into hells.
He shall suffer much more than Devadatta. He shall be cast into hells countless
times.”

Readers, we have two big alloy Buddha Images and one bronze bell that were sent
back to Myanmar. They are known as Pyitaw payn phayus and Pyitaw payn Khaung
Laung—meaning home returned Buddha Images and home returned bell. They are one
big alloy Buddha Image in the temple in the compound of Botahaung Pagoda, Yangon,
and one Buddha Image of alloy in the temple in Zau Lun Town. The home returned bell is now
restored at the north-west corner of Shwe Hsan Daw Pagoda at Pyay Town. How and why
these sacred objects were returned to the country of their origin were recorded in the
contemporary archives.

Myanmar traditional boxing challenge 16 Sept

YANGON, 12 Sept—
Organized by Myanmar Traditional Sports Federation
of the Ministry of Sports, the
Myanmar traditional boxing challenge, with the
sponsorship of Victory
Myanmar Group Co Ltd and
T&T Group, will be held at
TheinbyuBoxingGymnasium
in Yangon on 16 September.
In the challenges, Myanmar boxer golden belt
champion Tway Ma Shaung
(Naga Mahn) will meet with
East African boxing
champion Umar (Uganda)
who had won 60 wins, 13 loss and
two draws in 75 matches.
Myanmar boxer golden belt
champion Lone Chaw
(Nyayungdon) will play against
New Zealander
Boxing champion Erua Druce.
The foreigner is expected
to draw and two losses in 30 matches.

On the opening day, six
five-round matches and two
four-round matches including two foreigner
challenges will be held.

The fixtures on six local
challenge boxing will be Ye
Yint (Naga Mahn) vs Kyel
Sin Phyo (Aphyuyang Thway Thit);
Ahman (T&T) vs. Kyel Lay (Shwe Phyu) in
the four-round matches; and
Shwe Phala (Naga Mahn) vs.
Hlyit Hlyit Lay (Aphyuyang Thway Thit);
Lay Hnyo Shin (Thazi) vs.
Nay Ruby (Aphyuyang Thway Thit);
Saw Gas Muto (T&T) vs. Htet Aung Oo
(Taunggale); Thar Thar
(T&T) vs. Saw Ohn Myin
(Alinyaung) in the five round
matches.

The tickets for the
ordinary stand are fixed at K
7000 per head, grand stand K
26 of Mandalay City

MANDALAY, 12 Sept—
Buses from Mandalay-
PyinOoLwin bus lines stop
on 27th and 35th streets in
Chanayethazan Township,
Kyeinseikyunt, those of
Kyaikkyauk Phyu bus line
90420128717. These
showdowns may be
satisfactory for the boxing
fans.—Myanma Alin

Mandalay-PyinOoLwin, Mandalay-Yangon bus lines are
not allowed to enter the north of 35th Street. If not, action
will be taken against traffic rules brokers under Section
26 of Mandalay City DevelopmentCommitteeLaw.
Two killed, eight injured in Istanbul bomb blast

Eyewitnesses told Istanbul on Tuesday.
injured in a bomb blast in
Turkish policeman and a
Huseyin Capkin has
bomber.
information about the
was dead is 25 years old. But
Istanbul bomb blast
Two killed, eight injured in

Police check the site of a blast in Istanbul, Turkey, on 11 Sept, 2012.—Xinhua

Photo taken on 11 Sept, 2012 shows the police station
where a bomb blast took place in the Saltangazi district of Istanbul, Turkey.—Xinhua

Xinhua

Australia

SYDNEY, 12 Sept.—An

Australians judge rejected

a request on Wednesday for

mediation between Asia’s

richest woman and her three

children in a dispute over a

$10 billion iron ore mine.

The case, which started

removal of the CEO.

The case, which started

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.

removal of the CEO.
India to back Palestine’s bid for full UN membership

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—India on Tuesday said it would back Palestine’s bid for equal and full membership of the United Nations.

“India has played an active role in supporting the efforts of the state of Palestine to secure full membership status at UNESCO. We will continue to support Palestine’s bid for full and equal membership of the United Nations,” Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in a statement.

The Prime Minister issued the statement after a meeting with visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the national capital.

Singh pledged $10 million US dollars to Palestine to help meet the Middle East nation’s budgetary needs and said that New Delhi would continue to help the country in development and nation building.

Abbas also met Indian Prime Minister Pranab Mukherjee and inspected a guard of honour at the latter’s official residence at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

12 parties ineligible for Indonesia’s 2014 polls

JAKARTA, 12 Sept—An official at Indonesian General Elections Commission (KPU) said Tuesday that 12 out of 46 registered political parties had failed to meet basic administrative requirements and are therefore ineligible to take part in the 2014 general election, local media reported on Wednesday.

“The 12 parties have failed to fulfil all 17 items of administration requirements, hence the eliminations,” KPU chairman Husni Kamal Manik said on Tuesday.

KPU commissioner Ida Budhiati said the remaining 34 registered political parties would undergo a series of verification processes before being declared as participants in the 2014 general election.

“At the first stage, the 34 parties are required to complete further administration requirements before 29 Sept,” she said as quoted by the Jakarta Post.

All nine parties in the parliament have also registered with the KPU and all passed the first administration checks.

The 2014 elections will select eligible candidates to sit in the parliament, elect new president replacing Bambang Yudhoyono who has served in two maximum presidential terms allowed by the existing law.

Pakistan factory fires kill 125 workers

KARACHI, 12 Sept—Fires swept through two factories in Pakistan, one in the city of Karachi and the other in Lahore, killing at least 125 people, police and government officials said on Wednesday.

The death toll from the late Tuesday fires is likely to raise further questions about industrial safety in the nuclear-armed South Asian nation and dent more criticism of the deeply unpopular government.

In the deadliest incident, flames raced through a garment factory in the teeming commercial capital of Karachi, killing at least 100 people.

“People started screaming for their lives,” said Mohammad Asif, 20. “Everyone came to the window. I jumped from the third floor.”

In Lahore, a fire raging in a shoe factory, killing at least 25 people. Critics say Pakistan’s government is too corrupt and ineffective to focus on the welfare of workers and a dizzying array of other problems, from crippling power cuts, to widespread poverty to a Taliban insurgency.

“At the first stage, the 34 parties are required to complete further administration requirements before 29 Sept,” she said as quoted by the Jakarta Post.

All nine parties in the parliament have also registered with the KPU and all passed the first administration checks.

The 2014 elections will select eligible candidates to sit in the parliament, elect new president replacing Bambang Yudhoyono who has served in two maximum presidential terms allowed by the existing law.

Residents gather while firefighters try to extinguish a fire at a shoe factory in Lahore on 11 Sept, 2012.— Reuters

Pakistan were injured in the garment factory fire and bodies were still being recovered from the facility which employed about 450 people.

The latest death toll in Karachi was more than 100 people, said Farooqi.

Smoke was still rising from the factory as rescue workers pulled out charred corpses and covered them in white sheets. Relatives of workers stood around in the street awaiting word of their fate. Several wept. The cause of the garment factory fire was not clear.

“Within two minutes there was fire in the entire factory,” said factory worker Liaqat Hussain, 29, from his hospital bed where he was being treated for burns all over his body. “The gate was closed. There was no access to get out, we were trapped inside.”—Reuters

India’s Supreme Court refuses to frame guidelines on media reporting

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—India’s highest judiciary, the Supreme Court, has declined to frame guidelines for media reporting of court trials but said that a temporary ban on media coverage could be imposed by a higher court only in cases where the accused may not get a fair trial, the local media reported.

“They (orders of postponement) should be passed only when necessary to prevent real and substantial risk to the fair trial of a case (court proceedings), if reasonable alternative measures such as change of venue or postponement of trial will not prevent the said risk and when the salutary effects of such orders outweigh the deleterious effects to free expression,” the newspaper The Times of India quoted a five-judge bench, comprising the Chief Justice of India, SH Kapadia, as saying.

However, the apex court has said that the postponement of publication of trial court proceedings could be ordered by the Supreme Court or any high court only for a short duration “on the basis of twin tests of necessity and proportionality.”

“Orders of postponement should be ordered for a limited duration and without disturbing the content of the publication. The order of postponement will only be appropriate in cases where the balancing test otherwise favours non-publication for a limited period,” said Justice Kapadia.

India quoted a five-judge bench, comprising the Chief Justice of India, SH Kapadia as saying.

However, the apex court has said that the postponement of publication of trial court proceedings could be ordered by the Supreme Court or any high court only for a short duration “on the basis of twin tests of necessity and proportionality.”

“Orders of postponement should be ordered for a limited duration and without disturbing the content of the publication. The order of postponement will only be appropriate in cases where the balancing test otherwise favours non-publication for a limited period,” said Justice Kapadia.

Residents gather while firefighters try to extinguish a fire at a shoe factory in Lahore on 11 Sept, 2012.— Reuters

Pakistan were injured in the garment factory fire and bodies were still being recovered from the facility which employed about 450 people.

The latest death toll in Karachi was more than 100 people, said Farooqi.

Smoke was still rising from the factory as rescue workers pulled out charred corpses and covered them in white sheets. Relatives of workers stood around in the street awaiting word of their fate. Several wept. The cause of the garment factory fire was not clear.

“Within two minutes there was fire in the entire factory,” said factory worker Liaqat Hussain, 29, from his hospital bed where he was being treated for burns all over his body. “The gate was closed. There was no access to get out, we were trapped inside.”—Reuters

India’s Supreme Court refuses to frame guidelines on media reporting

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—India’s highest judiciary, the Supreme Court, has declined to frame guidelines for media reporting of court trials but said that a temporary ban on media coverage could be imposed by a higher court only in cases where the accused may not get a fair trial, the local media reported.

“They (orders of postponement) should be passed only when necessary to prevent real and substantial risk to the fair trial of a case (court proceedings), if reasonable alternative measures such as change of venue or postponement of trial will not prevent the said risk and when the salutary effects of such orders outweigh the deleterious effects to free expression,” the newspaper The Times of India quoted a five-judge bench, comprising the Chief Justice of India, SH Kapadia as saying.

However, the apex court has said that the postponement of publication of trial court proceedings could be ordered by the Supreme Court or any high court only for a short duration “on the basis of twin tests of necessity and proportionality.”

“Orders of postponement should be ordered for a limited duration and without disturbing the content of the publication. The order of postponement will only be appropriate in cases where the balancing test otherwise favours non-publication for a limited period,” said Justice Kapadia.

Residents gather while firefighters try to extinguish a fire at a shoe factory in Lahore on 11 Sept, 2012.— Reuters

Pakistan were injured in the garment factory fire and bodies were still being recovered from the facility which employed about 450 people.

The latest death toll in Karachi was more than 100 people, said Farooqi.

Smoke was still rising from the factory as rescue workers pulled out charred corpses and covered them in white sheets. Relatives of workers stood around in the street awaiting word of their fate. Several wept. The cause of the garment factory fire was not clear.

“Within two minutes there was fire in the entire factory,” said factory worker Liaqat Hussain, 29, from his hospital bed where he was being treated for burns all over his body. “The gate was closed. There was no access to get out, we were trapped inside.”—Reuters
The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA), Ministry of Transport, intends to develop Mandalay International Airport as a major logistic hub with private sector participation. Accordingly, DCA will accept submissions for prequalification from interested local firms and foreign firms in joint venture or consortium under the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law.

1. The DCA intends to prequalify firms for private sector participation in the operation, management and maintenance of the following service/work sectors of Mandalay International Airport:
   a. Development of an airport master plan
   b. Passenger Terminal Operations
   c. Aiside and Landside Operations
   d. Ground Handling Facilities and Services
   e. Catering Facilities and Services
   f. Cargo Facilities and Services
   g. Maintenance Services for pavement, visual aids, electrical systems and navigational aids and other facilities
   h. Upgrading and expansion of the airport terminal and related facilities including expansion of the aircraft parking apron, according to the master plan

3. The DCA will implement the above development arrangements as a whole with a form of public-private partnership with all of the following service/work sectors of Mandalay International Airport.

4. The successful prequalified firms may expect that the invitation for bids will be made in November, 2012.

5. The prequalification documents may be obtained by interested firms upon submission of evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 1000 to DCA. The method of payment shall be to Current Account No. MD 010019, Myanmar Economic Bank by means of bank transfer through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.

6. To obtain further information, interested firms should contact the address indicated below:
   Deputy Director General,
   Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
   Telephone: 951 533001, 951 533013 Fax: 951 533016
   Email: dydg@dca.gov.mm, ddassd@dca.gov.mm

7. Place and deadline for submission of Prequalification documents:
   Dead line for application submission: 15th October, 2012 at 1500 Hrs Myanmar Standard Time.
   Director General,
   Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
   Telephone: 951 533015 Fax: 951 533016
   Email: dedeca@dca.gov.mm

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (314)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (314) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.L.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: MN REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES
Phone No: 256098/378316/376797

Russian garment factory fire kills 14 Vietnamese workers

MOSCOW, 12 Sept.—A fire swept through a garment factory outside Moscow on Tuesday, killing at least 14 Vietnamese migrant workers, Russian emergency officials said.

Firefighters sent to put out the blaze found 14 bodies in the factory in the town of Yegoryevsk, southeast of Moscow, and four victims were hospitalized with burns, the Moscow region emergencies department said.

All those killed were Vietnamese citizens, the Federal Emergency Situations Ministry said. The Interfax news agency said the garment factory was illegal.

Many migrant workers from Asian countries work in Russian factories in cramped conditions that are often at risk from fires. Death rates from fires are far higher in Russia than in Western countries such as Britain and the United States.

US, German space agencies sign civil aviation agreements

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept.—US space agency NASA and the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) have signed two cooperative agreements to advance air traffic management benefiting airline passengers and citizens of both countries.

The agreements were signed on Tuesday at a Berlin Air Show ceremony by NASA’s Associate Administrator for Aeronautics Research Jarwon Shin and DLR’s Executive Board Member for Aeronautics Research Rolf Henke.

“NASA has enjoyed a long history of successful cooperation with DLR,” Shin said in a statement. “Our ability to work closely together will benefit each nation by increasing air traffic capacity and reducing aviation’s impact to the environment.”

One agreement sets the terms and conditions on a range of activities relating to coordinated aircraft arrival, departure and surface operations research.—Xinhua
Kim Kardashian is urging young Americans to be politically informed

New Delhi, 12 Sept—The Keeping Up With The Kardashians star is encouraging young people to vote in the United States and generally be interested in the electoral process.

Eager to make her point, the 31-year-old star caught a flight to Charlotte, North Carolina to host the official Democratic National Convention’s after-party on Thursday, (6 September).

She boarded a private jet with her publicist Jonathan Cheban and designer Rachel Roy following an appearance at Fashion’s Night Out in New York City.

After launching her new fragrance exclusively at Lord & Taylor she tweeted a picture of the passengers seated and eating from a fast food chain.

She posted on the micro-blogging website: “This is how we do... Private plane & Wendy’s! DNC party here we come.”

Before her journey, Kanye West’s girlfriend expressed her interest in American politics.

She told E! News: “I always think it’s like really important to help others get informed.”

Her rapper partner famously encouraged fans to “vote or die” in 2008.

She added: “Voting is such a personal decision. No matter what [party] you are. I think it’s just important to be informed to vote.”

PTI
England get reality check from impressive Ukraine

**London, 12 Sept—** England were handed a reality check after their thumping 5-0 win over Moldova when they snatched a 1-1 draw with Ukraine through a late Frank Lampard penalty against a vibrant and technically gifted side in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday.

England, who had skipper Steven Gerrard sent off in the 88th minute for a second yellow card, looked to be heading to a first defeat under coach Roy Hodgson until Lampard’s 87th-minute penalty rescued a Group H point.

Lampard, who scored twice against Moldova, took his England tally to 26 when he slammed his spot-kick home after Evhen Khacheridi was adjudged to have handled substitute Danny Welbeck’s shot.

Ukraine had taken the lead with a brilliantly executed goal by Evhen Konoplianka after 39 minutes, curling home a stunning right-foot shot that gave goalkeeper Joe Hart no chance of saving. It looked like that was going to exact Ukraine’s revenge over Euro 2012 1-0 defeat by England at Euro 2012 but the hosts’ late spell of pressure finally paid off.

England manager Roy Hodgson dismissed suggestions that his side were largely second best but the visitors pressed England back for long periods and were certainly the better team for the first hour of the game.

“We started poorly in the first 10 minutes but once we got into our stride I thought we had quite good control over the game,” Hodgson told reporters. “We went 1-0 down to a wonder-strike but against a good Ukraine team, I was very impressed with Ukraine’s resilience after they kept probing and playing our football and kept taking the game to them and kept creating chances.

“So in the end we fully deserved our equalizer and I am pleased with the way the players went about their task.”

Ukraine manager Oleg Blokhin said he was disappointed not to win.

“We made a great start and deserved to be leading at halftime because we caused them problems they could not solve,” he said. —Reuters

Ribery shines as France beat Belarus 3-1

**Paris, 12 Sept—** Franck Ribery scored one goal and set up another as France beat Belarus 3-1 at the Stade de France to maintain their perfect start in World Cup qualifying Group I on Tuesday.

Ribery set up Etienne Capoue for the opener before wrapping it up with a fine chip 10 minutes from time in a one-sided encounter that came to life after the interval.

Christophe Jallet scored France’s second goal before Belarus reduced the arrears through Anton Putilo 18 minutes from time.

Les Bleus snatched their second win in as many games four days after a 1-0 victory in Finland but they failed to impress.

Didier Deschamps’ side lacked inspiration and were lucky not to trail the visitors early in the second half.

They will need to improve dramatically to stand a chance against world champions Spain in their qualifier in Madrid next month.

—Reuters

Italy beat Malta 2-0 in World Cup qualifier

**Rome, 12 Sept—** Italy wrenched a less convincing 2-0 win from Malta at home on Tuesday to push their first win in 2014 World Cup qualifiers. Mattia Destro opened the scoring, then the hosts wasted a pack of chances and also fended off some attacks from the visitors, before Federico sealed the win with a last-gasp goal.

With the win, Italy are tied with Bulgaria on four points at the top of the standings. Italy head coach Cesare Prandelli was looking for an improved performance on their opening qualifier and the players looked hopeful when the Azzurri took the lead after just five minutes. Claudio Marchisio’s pass from the right landed at the feet of Destro, who smashed a shot into the bottom right corner from 18 yards.

Then they just could not put the ball into Malta’s goal again with Alessandro Diamanti, Pablo Osvaldo and Andrea Pirlo noticeably wasted of chances. They eventually made the breakthrough in stoppage time when Pirlo’s corner was neatly headed home by Peluso.

“We know September isn’t our best month and we’re very sharp, but we have to rediscovers our enthusiasm, pace and style of play,” said Pandelli. “We were a bit more organized in the second half, showing greater verve and creating more space,” he said. —Xinhua

Sleep-deprived Murray basks in US Open success

**New York, 12 Sept—** Andy Murray was the toast of New York City on Tuesday, basking in the glory of his first grand slam title that ended Britain’s 76-year wait for a male singles champion on the biggest stage.

The Scotman celebrated his stunning five-set win over world number two Novak Djokovic in the US Open final at a Manhattan restaurant late on Monday with family and friends but there were no wild celebrations.

Although Murray struggled to get a wink of sleep while he contemplated his achievement, the 25-year-old was tucked up in bed by 3 am (0700 GMT) in preparation for his first day as a member of the grand slam winner’s club.

“We had a nice dinner,” he told NBC’s “Today” show. “A few of them went out to a club afterward, but I was back in my hotel room by 2.45 and couldn’t get myself to sleep.”

During a whirlwind tour of America’s morning television talk shows, he revealed that he did not even celebrate his win with a glass of champagne, sticking only to sodas.

“I had to get up early this morning to do all this stuff,” he explained.

Clutching the US Open trophy, he then headed to Central Park, meeting up with his mother Judy and his girlfriend Kim Sears and a chunk of the world’s media, for a photoshoot.

Then it was off to the British Consulate for a reception in his honor where he was welcomed by a Scottish piper. After losing his first four grand slam finals, Murray was still coming to grips with his breakthrough but was already looking ahead. —Reuters

Cavani strike saves Uruguay from second defeat in row

**Montevideo, 12 Sept—** Striker Edinson Cavani hit a 67th minute equalizer to give South American champions Uruguay a 1-1 draw with Ecuador at the Centenario on Tuesday and save them from a second successive defeat in the World Cup qualifiers.

Uruguay, World Cup semi-finalists two years ago, fell behind to an eight-minute penalty converted by burly striker Felipe Caicedo after he had been brought down by central defender Diego Lugano.

The Uruguayans, whose 18-match unbeaten run came to an end with a 4-0 loss in Colombia on Friday, have dropped down to the South American standings and are one point behind Colombia, Ecuador and leaders Argentina, who faced Peru later on Tuesday. Cavani secured a point for Uruguay when the ball was poorly cleared from an attack down the left and ran loose to the striker on the right, from where he shot left-footed low into the bottom of the far corner.

“They goal woke us up, we began to put more intensity into our game and it was like that right to the end, that’s why we managed to draw,” Cavani told reporters. —Reuters

**Results/standings of Asian zone World Cup qualifying**

**Beirut, 12 Sept—** Following are the results and standings from Asian zone World Cup qualifying after Tuesday games.

**Group A**

- Uzbekistan 2
- South Korea 2
- Lebanon 1
- Iraq 0

Standing (tabulated under games played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group B**

- Jordan 2
- Australia 1
- Japan 1
- Iraq 0

Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group C**

- Qatar 3
- Lebanon 2
- Uzbekistan 1
- Iraq 1

Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group D**

- Iran 3
- Vietnam 2
- Jordan 2
- India 1

Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group E**

- South Korea 3
- Uzbekistan 2
- Iran 2
- Iraq 1

Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uzbekistan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group F**

- Australia 3
- Korea 3
- Vietnam 2
- Thailand 1

Standing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Played</th>
<th>Won</th>
<th>Drawn</th>
<th>Lost</th>
<th>Goals For</th>
<th>Goals Against</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Standings (tabulated under games played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points)**
**Neethaane En Ponvasantham** music hit, sold one lakh copies

**CURRENT** 12 Sept—The soundtrack of upcoming Tamil movie Neethaane En Ponvasantham ("NEP") is selling like hot cakes with its release on 1 September. Neethaane En Ponvasantham ("NEP") also had a ticketed launch concert where we bundled concert tickets along with CDs and sold close to 7,000 copies within a span of 48 hours,” Ashok Parwani, head south, Sony music entertainment told IANS in an e-mail interaction. Composed by maestro Ilayaraja, Neethaane En Ponvasantham is a perfect blend of melody and trance. The album consists of eight tracks, which are sung by singers like Yuvan Shankar Raja, Ramya, Karthik and Santhini Chauhan, among others. Directed by Gautham Menon, Neethaane En Ponvasantham is a romantic film starring actors Jiiva and Nani. It will be released in Tamil and Telugu. However, the release date has not been decided yet.—**PIT**

**Colombia arrests 14 drug traffickers wanted by US**

**BOGOTA, 12 Sept**—Colombian Police have captured 14 members of a notorious drug-trafficking ring, all wanted by the United States, Deputy Attorney General Jorge Perdomo said on Tuesday. The suspects were charged by the US Attorney General’s Office of the Southern District of Florida with drug trafficking and money laundering, said Perdomo. Local press report quoted Perdomo as saying that the traffickers were arrested in several operations in the capital Bogota and the cities of Villavicencio, Medellin, Ocana and Cucuta, but Perdomo did not mention the time of those actions. The drug-trafficking ring, led by Victor Navarro Serrano, processed cocaine at illegal laboratories, which were located in the area of Catatumbo, in northeast Norte de Santander. The members of the ring also smuggled drugs into the United States through routes they had built through Central America and the Caribbean, and with the help of contacts in the United States and the Netherlands, said officials. For the past two years, the US Drug Enforcement Agency and Colombia’s Attorney General’s Office have undertaken a joint investigation of Navarro’s organized crime network. They have frozen more than 10 million US dollars, and seized filmed materials and computers with information of the group and its activities, while Navarro is still at large.

**"Gossip Girl" Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds tie the knot**

**LOS ANGELES, 12 Sept**—Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively, who co-starred in last summer’s “Green Lantern” film, married quietly on Sunday in South Carolina. People.com reported, sealing their low-profile romance of about a year. The celebrity magazine website said the 25-year-old “Gossip Girl” television star married Reynolds just outside of Charleston at Boone Hall Plantation in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. British singer Florence Welch of Florence and the Machine, performed at the reception. People quoted an unidentified source as saying. Representatives for the actors did not return calls for comments. Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively have been dating for about a year, although the private and low-key couple never talked publicly about their relationship. Canadian-born Reynolds, 35, was previously married to Scarlett Johansson for two years. The couple split in late 2010 and their divorce was finalized in 2011. Prior to that, Reynolds was engaged to Alaina Morrisette. This is the first marriage for 25-year-old Lively, who most recently starred on-screen in Oliver Stone’s “Savages.”

**Alabama professor pleads guilty to gunning down three co-workers**

**BRINGHAM, 12 Sept**—A former biology professor at the University of Alabama at Huntsville avoided the death penalty by pleading guilty on Tuesday to murder and attempted murder charges for fatally shooting three co-workers on campus in 2010, court officials said. Amy Bishop, 47, last year had pleaded not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect. She was accused of shooting dead three colleagues and wounding three others during a biology department staff meeting in February 2010. Colleagues believed the Harvard-trained biologist and mother of four, who also had been charged in Massachusetts with the 1996 shooting death of her teenage brother, was angry that the school had denied her tenure. Bishop now will face up to life in prison for her guilty plea on one count of capital murder, which in Alabama can cover the deaths of two or more people, and three counts of attempted murder, according to the district attorney’s office. A hearing is now scheduled for 24 September, the day her murder trial had been due to begin. A jury must decide the punishment for a capital murder charge in Alabama, and attorneys in the case will likely ask jurors to confirm that life in prison without parole is the appropriate sentence, according to Richard Jaffe, a defense attorney not connected to the case. Details on what prompted the plea agreement were unclear on Tuesday, with the defense and prosecutors instructed by the judge not to discuss the case. After Bishop’s arrest in the university shooting, authorities instructed by the judge not to discuss the case.

---

**Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region and isolated rain or thundershowers (100%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Mandalay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Shan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Mandalay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ayeyawady</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Shan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kachin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas**

---

**Tanyingyi 29/84 23/73** Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH) (100%)

**Magway 33/91 25/77** Isolated rain or thundershowers (100%)

**Kayah 29/84 21/70** Scattered rain or thundershowers (100%)

**Kachin 29/84 24/75** Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH) (100%)

**Myanmar**

---

**TV Programme**

- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
- Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012
NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received International Conference for Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Hon. Jose de Venecia and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.30 am today.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw was accompanied by chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and officials of the Hluttaw Office. At the call, they focused on undertakings of the Union government and the Hluttaw on political, economic and social reforms of Myanmar, and legislation and check and balance system of the Hluttaw.

The guests expressed that ICAPP Standing Committee members knew the losses of farmers, breeders and those from industry sector due to economic sanctions against Myanmar and they also expressed their wishes to lift the economic sanctions.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received International Conference for Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Hon. Jose de Venecia and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.30 am today.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw was accompanied by chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and officials of the Hluttaw Office. At the call, they focused on undertakings of the Union government and the Hluttaw on political, economic and social reforms of Myanmar, and legislation and check and balance system of the Hluttaw.

The guests expressed that ICAPP Standing Committee members knew the losses of farmers, breeders and those from industry sector due to economic sanctions against Myanmar and they also expressed their wishes to lift the economic sanctions.—MNA

Chairman of Standing Committee of NPC arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—At the invitation of Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thura U Shwe Mann, a delegation led by Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China Mr Wu Bangguo and wife arrived here by special flight at 5.20 pm today to pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar.

They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swe and wife, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees U Thein Swe and wife, U Hla Myint Oo and wife, Thura U Aung Ko, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials from the embassy.

Likewise, they received a warm welcome extended by young Myanmar men and women of the Fine Arts Department offering a flower basket, the Guard of Honour and students waving miniature flags of the two countries.—MNA

Aerobics course concludes

YANGON, 12 Sept—Jointly organized by Sports Ministry and Myanmar Women’s Sports Federation, the women’s aerobics training technique and coaching and referee course concluded at National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna in Yangon Region at 2 pm on 11 September.

Vice-President of the federation Prof Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint made a speech.

General Secretary Daw L Khin Yi of the federation presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Patrons of the federation and the vice-president awarded the first, second and third prize winners.

MNA

Malaysian Expo, Health Seminar 20-22 Sept

YANGON, 12 Sept—The Malaysian Expo and Health Seminar will be held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon from 20 to 22 September, inclusive of free medical checkup.

At the expo, experienced technicians of Malaysia will explain health services and fair cost for services.

The first-ever expo will comprise about 20 international level hospitals of Malaysia. They will introduce economic opportunities for mutual interest. During three days expo, free medical checkup will be provided to the visitors, gifts and lucky draw given to the visitors.—Kyemon

Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (12-9-2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount (inches)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Launglon</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaungtu</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ye</td>
<td>3.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hmawby</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myeik</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manaung</td>
<td>2.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thayawady</td>
<td>2.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>2.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

India to back Palestine’s bid for full UN membership

The opening ceremony of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2012, is held in Tianjin, China, on 11 Sept. 2012.