President U Thein Sein leaves for New York to attend 67th UN General Assembly

NAY PYI TAW, 24 Sept—President of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here for New York, the United States of America, today by special flight to attend the 67th UN General Assembly.

The delegation led by the President was seen off at Nay Pyi Taw Airporby Vice-Presidents Dr Sai Mauk Kham and U Nyan Tun, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Commander-in-Chief (Army) General Soe Win, Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko, U Thein Nyunt, U Kyaw Hla, U Ohn Myint, U Thein Tun, U Khin Maung Soe and U Tint Hsan, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Deputy Minister Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun, departmental officials, Mrs Virginia Murray, Charge d’Affaires of the US Embassy, and Mr Ashok Nigam.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint arrived back here by air this evening after attending International Day of Peace of the People’s Republic of China.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker and party were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swe, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, chairmen, secretaries and members from Amyotha Hluttaw committees and commissions and Charge d’Affaires Mr Lu Zhi of Chinese Embassy.

Together with Pyidaungsu Hluttaw speaker, delegation members Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Member Dr Nyi Nyi Tun, responsible personnel from Hluttaw Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrived back on the same flight.—MNA

Over 3000 telephones installed at PACs

MANDALAY, 24 Sept—Public telephone-boxes installed with 3627 phones have been opened in 1427 village-tracts in seven districts of Mandalay Region. A plan is under way to install more GSMS and CDMS in populous villages for coverage of communication systems. If the number of user increases, the small-scale communication stations will be built for taking voice of data.

The multi-play services are built in the main points and 12 public access centres in urban and rural areas. Myanma Posts and Telecommunications will install Internet at the GSM system service available areas. Moreover, Multi-play Service Centre will be established in the villages to enjoy Skynet and TV programmes.

Kyemon

UN chief warns Iran’s Ahmadinejad on fiery rhetoric

Electric Power Ministry lures investors

Twitter CEO promises interactive tweets, defends curbs

Captured Taliban militants stand beside their ammunitions in Baghlan province, north Afghanistan, on 23 Sept, 2012.
**Electric Power Ministry lures investors**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 24 Sept—Ministry of Electric Power wooed local and foreign investors at the electricity development seminar at the ministry on 21 September.

The seminar aimed at inviting domestic and foreign investments was attended by Union Ministers U Tin Naing Than, U Khin Maung Soe and U Than Htay, deputy ministers U Aung Than Oo, U Myint Zaw and U Set Aung, representatives from local and foreign companies and officials.

The ministry has already organized regional seminars in each region and state and the national seminar in third week of August.

Union Minister U Than Htay said energy deposits in Myanmar should be tapped as soon as possible as energy exploration has to be done in limited time, pointing out that the hesitation could delay the country’s development.

Union Minister U Khin Maung Soe highlighted the environmentally friendliness of investments and the need of comprehensive legislation for privatization.

The meeting focused on electricity sufficiency, incorporation of public companies and privatization.

The government has adopted policy to set schedules of projects sector-wise at Planning Commission meeting and international aids management central committee meeting on 19 and June.

Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay speaking at seminar to invite investors.—MNA

**Myanmar to host Asian youth weightlifting championship**

**YANGON**, 24 Sept—Myanmar hosts Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships at Theinbyu Gymnasium from 5 to 12 November.

The annual event is organized by Asian Weightlifting Federation.

Sports U Thaung Hluik said in his address at the meeting that the championship would contribute to the thriving of the weightlifting sports in Myanmar. He called for collecting experiences at the event which could be turned into victory in upcoming SEA Games.

Myanmar Weightlifting Federation President U Thein Chin elaborated on preparations for the event.

MNA

**Corrigendum**

Please read U Khin Maung Win, Country Project Coordinator, Australian Aid instead of Ambassador U Khin Maung Win (Retd) in first line of third paragraph in second column on page 2 of this newspaper issued on 24-9-2012.—NLM

**5-Up train collides with express bus at Toungoo Station**

**TOOINGO**, 24 Sept—Locomotive DF 1352 of 5-up Train running from Yangon to Mandalay and Shwe Yazar express bus carrying 42 passenger from Lokaw of Kayah State to Yangon bumped at the level crossing near Toungoo All Bus Line Terminal between mile post 176/11 and 167/12 at the exit of Toungoo Station at 10 am on 22 September.

The locomotive hit the trunk of express bus and pushed it to a 400 feet distance. In the incident, seven passengers onboard the express bus were injured.

A coach behind the locomotive derailed and blocked the railroad. In consequence, up and down trains suspended their runs for nine hours.

Root cause of collision was not blocking the level crossing. In the past, a similar collision between a bus and a train had occurred at the level crossing.

In the collision, car body and five double seats and front part of the locomotive were damaged. The up-trains stopped over at Toungoo Station and the down-trains at Yedsade Station. At 7 am on 23 September, the up-train route was reopened and at 11 am, all the trains run along the railroad regularly. The departments concerned conducted the investigation for the incident and performed regular runs of the trains.

Myanma Alin

**Crime reduction discussed in Htantabin Township**

**HTANTABIN**, 24 Sept—The educative talks on crime reduction was held at the hall of Htantabin Township General Administration Department on 14 September.

The Acting Commander of Township Police Force gave talks on crime reduction and prevention against crimes in the township. It was attended by ward and village administrators and local people.

Myanma Alin

**District News**

**TE truck collided with motorcycle on Pathein-Monywa Road**

**PADANG**, 24 Sept—A TE Hino carrying bags of cement driven from Kyangin on Pathein-Monywa Road bumped with a motorcycle driven by U Nyet Maung, 46, son of U Aung Shwe of Nyaungbin Village in Padaung Township, at Ledi Village in Yegyaw Village-tract in Padaung Township of Pyay District at 6.30 pm on 18 September.

The motorcycle was damaged in the incident. The motorcyclist jumped down from the motorcycle and was injured at his knee.

Myanma Alin

**Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project to generate 454 kwh million on completion**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 24 Sept—Union Minister for Electric Power U Khin Maung Soe together with Deputy Minister U Myint Zaw arrived at the gravel production site of the Upper Paunglaung Hydropower Project being implemented by No. 1 Hydropower Implementation Department on Paunglaung River 26 miles east Pymnya and inspected work being carried with the use of roller compacted concrete (RCC).

The Union Minister looked into installation of machinery, urban works carried out at the plant and progress of concrete walls, concrete works of RCC-stage 5B-1 and 6A, concrete works of conduit and samples for making concrete by RCC.

At the briefing hall, the Union minister gave instructions on meeting the set standards, timely completion of work, prevention of natural disasters and worksite safety.

The main embankment of the hydropower project is of RCC(Roller Compacted Concrete), and on completion, it will be complete with two 7-megawatt turbines capable of generating 454 kwh million.—MNA

**Special civil appeal cases heard**

**NAY PYI TAW**, 24 Sept—a special appellate bench comprising Chief Justice of the the Union U Tan Tun Oo and judges of Union Supreme Court U Soe Nyunt and U Myint Han passed verdicts on seven special civil appeal cases at Room No. 1 of Supreme Court of the Union at 9.30 am today. They also heard six special civil appeal cases.—MNA

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The motorcycle was damaged in the incident. The motorcyclist jumped down from the motorcycle and was injured at his knee.

Myanma Alin
UN chief warns Iran’s Ahmadinejad on fiery rhetoric

Iran says World War III may erupt if attacked by Israel

Analysis - For Romney, some troubling signs among older voters

Two still missing in Russian shipwreck

Euro zone to boost bailout fund firepower to 2 trillion euros

Two men met in New York on Sunday before this week’s annual gathering of world leaders at the UN General Assembly.

“The secretariat generally drew attention to the potentially harmful consequences of inflammatory rhetoric, counter-rhetoric and threats from various countries in the Middle East,” Ban’s press office said in a statement.

Amir Ali Hajizadeh, a brigadier general in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, was quoted as saying on Sunday that Iran could launch a pre-emptive strike on Israel if it was sure the Jewish state was preparing to attack it.

Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has hinted that Iran could strike Iran’s nuclear sites and criticized US President Barack Obama’s position that sanctions and diplomacy should be given more time to stop Iran getting the atomic bomb.

Iran denies that it is seeking nuclear arms and says its atomic work is peaceful, aimed at generating electricity.

The UN statement said Ban told Ahmadinejad that Iran should “take the measures necessary to build international confidence in the exclusively peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.”

The two men also discussed Syria. Iran has been accused of using civilian aircraft to fly military personnel and large quantities of weapons across airspace to Iraq to aid President Bashar al-Assad in his attempt to crush an 18-month uprising against him, according to a Western intelligence report.

“The secretariat generally stressed the grave regional implications of the worsening situation in Syria and the destabilizing humanitarian impact,” the statement said.

Speaking to reporters in New York, German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle said that “to increase pressure and to increase the isolation of the regime of Assad is one of the goals this week.”

Romney’s selection of Wisconsin congressman Paul Ryan as his vice presidential running mate put the federal budget and Medicare at centre stage in the campaign. But the debate over spending and entitlement programmes that Romney seemed to be seeking has not unfolded the way Republicans wanted.

At the Democratic convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, on 5 September, former President Bill Clinton gave afolkly but blistering critique of Ryan’s plan to revamp Medicare, warning that it could leave seniors unprotected from escalating healthcare costs.

The Obama administration, Democrats’ efforts to portray Romney as a wealthy former private equity executive with little sympathy for the less fortunate got a boost last week, from Romney himself. On a secretly recorded video released by the liberal magazine Mother Jones, Romney was shown telling supporters at a $50,000-a-person fundraiser that 47 percent of Americans would never vote for him because they do not pay federal income taxes, feel they are “victims,” and depend on government benefits.

Early reports from the Emergency Situations Ministry said that all eight crew members on board were rescued, but latest information showed there were actually 10 people on the ship.

“Eight sailors were picked up from life rafts. The fate of two other crew members is unknown...A search operation is underway,” the ministry said. According to that ministry, one of the missing sailors, born in 1969, was believed to have “remained on the sunken ship.” Two fishing boats and an Mi-8 helicopter were involved in the rescue operation.
Twitter CEO promises interactive tweets, defends curbs

Iranian hackers target Bank of America, JPMorgan, Citi

New York, 24 Sept—Iranian hackers have repeatedly attacked Bank of America Corp, JPMorgan Chase & Co and Cิงigroup Inc over the past year as part of a broad cyber campaign targeting the United States, according to people familiar with the situation.

The attacks, which began in late 2011 and escalated this year, have primarily been “denial of service” campaigns that disrupted the banks’ websites and corporate networks by overwhelming their servers with incoming web traffic, said the sources.

They said there was evidence suggesting the hackers targeted the three banks in retaliation for their enforcement of Western economic sanctions against Iran. Whether the hackers have been able to inflict more serious damage on computer networks or steal critical data is not yet known.

Iran has beefed up its cyber capabilities after its nuclear program was damaged in 2010 by the Stuxnet virus, widely believed to have been developed by the United States. Tehran has publicly advertised its intentions to build a cyber army and encouraged private citizens to hack against Western countries.

The attacks on the three largest US banks originated in Iran, but it is not clear if they were launched by the state, groups working on behalf of the government, or “patriotic” citizens, according to the sources, who requested anonymity as they were not authorized to discuss the matter.

The hackers also targeted other US companies, the sources said, without giving specifics. They said the attacks shut new light on the potential for Iran to launch out at Western nations’ information networks.

Boost for carbon capture from new non-toxic absorber

London, 24 Sept—Researchers have discovered a new material that could solve some of the problems holding back projects to combat global warming by capturing and burying carbon emitted from power stations.

The material, made from aluminum nitrate salt, cheap organic materials and water, is non-toxic and requires less energy to strip out the carbon when it becomes saturated, the scientists said.

Carbon capture has not yet been proven on a commercial scale and pilot projects have been hindered by concerns that the ammonia-based materials, or amines, used to absorb carbon can themselves produce toxic emissions. They are also expensive and need large amounts of heat to boil out the carbon so it can be taken away and stored.

The researchers say their new absorber, dubbed NOTT-300, could overcome all these problems.

“I feel this can be viewed as a revolution to a certain degree,” Shiht Yang from Nottingham University, who worked on the project, told Reuters. “It is non-toxic, and zero heating input is required. The shared experience is that there is promising potential to overcome the traditional amines material on both environmental and economic grounds.”

Timmy Ramirez-Cuesta, who worked on the project at the ISIS research center at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in Oxfordshire, said the new material could simplify carbon capture by using interchangeable filters.

“When the material is used, the exhaust gases are diverted to the second container where the process continues,” he said.

US judge finds Rambus destroyed evidence in Hynix case

Los Angeles, 24 Sept—Technology licensing company Rambus Inc destroyed records that could have been evidence in its patent dispute with South Korea’s Hynix Semiconductor Inc, a US judge ruled, but the court has not yet decided on a penalty for the American firm.

Hynix said it believes the ruling will “substantially limit” the royalties it will be required to pay Rambus for infringing on the company’s patents. Judge Ronald Whyte of the US District Court for the Northern District of California said in his ruling, which was dated on 21 September, that Rambus’ “patents should still be seen as valid. Still, Rambus’ destruction of evidence ‘should preclude it from entitlement to a royalty that places Hynix at a competitive disadvantage’,” Judge Whyte wrote in his ruling. Both companies have been ordered to submit briefs to the court on what they believe would be a reasonable royalty rate for the patents.

Twitter’s CEO Dick Costolo gestures during a conference at the Cannes Lions in Cannes on 20 June, 2012. Cannes Lions is the International Festival of Creativity

Foxconn closes China plant after 40 injured in brawl

Taipei, China, 24 Sept—Taipei’s Foxconn Technology Group closed its Taiyuan plant in northern China on Monday after a personal dispute spiraled into a brawl involving 2,000 workers in a dormitory late on Sunday night, injuring 40.

The Taiyuan plant, which employs about 79,000 workers, makes automobile electronic components, consumer electronic components and precision moldings. An employee told Reuters the plant also makes parts and assembles Apple’s iPhone 5.

In a statement, Foxconn cited police as saying about 40 people were taken to hospital for medical attention and a number were arrested.

The company said the incident escalated from what it called a personal dispute between several employees at around 11 pm on Sunday in a privately managed dormitory, and was brought under control by local police at around 3 am.

“The cause of this dispute is under investigation by local authorities and we are working closely with them in this process, but it appears not to have been work-related,” Foxconn said in a statement.

China’s first aircraft carrier is delivered to the Chinese Navy at the port of Dalian on 23 Sept, 2012. Reuters

China’s first aircraft carrier was built at China State Shipbuilding Corporation shipyards in Dalian in northeast China. The 360-meter-long vessel will be used by the Chinese Navy for research and training purposes and does not carry missiles.

A Bank of America customer uses an ATM in Charlotte, North Carolina on 18 April, 2012.—Reuters

The decision to tighten public security bureau, Agency

Taipei, China, 24 Sept—Foxconn confirmed late on Sunday an incident involving about 10 people at its factory in Chengdu, Sichuan province on 4 July, 2012.

Convention

SAN FRANCISCO, 24 Sept—Twitter will soon roll out a free tool for users to handpick and publish selections of tweets, reflecting the company’s commitment to remain a neutral, interactive platform rather than become a media company, CEO Dick Costolo said on Friday.

The new tool will allow users, including journalists, to manually curate and display tweets to accompany breaking news events.

“We’ve known for a long time that for events in the real world, the shared experience is on Twitter,” Costolo said at the Online News Association conference in San Francisco. “We want to create an ability to curate those events.”

Costolo dismissed speculation that Twitter has plans to operate like a traditional media company, following a recent move to restrict access to tweets only through its website or official app. Previously, many users could read tweets through third-party applications with extra features.

Observers had widely predicted that Twitter, founded in 2006, is intent on treating its stream of published tweets much like a traditional media product that it has full control over, and which it can charge for advertising.

“It’s not about being a destination,” Costolo said. “I’m a huge believer in the notion that the world is going to produce an infinite amount of content. But people are always going to want to sift, sort, find their way to consume.”

“We were spending all this money to eliminate fake accounts and improve the experience,” Costolo said, but users still had a “choice” of “experiences.” Fake accounts may be created money off of it without adding “accretive value,” Costolo said.

“We were spending all this money to eliminate fake accounts and improve the experience,” Costolo said, but users still had a “choice” of “experiences.” Fake accounts may be created by spammers or impersonators.

But the company has promised to unlock Twitter’s full interactive potential once it has regained control over how users access Twitter across desktop computers and mobile devices.

reported that about 10 people were hurt in the fight and around 5,000 police were sent to the scene, bringing it under control as of 9 am.

“The plant is closed today for investigation,” said Foxconn spokesman Louis Woo.

Foxconn, the trading name of Hon Hai Precision Industry Co and the world’s largest contract maker of electronic goods, has seen a few violent disputes at its sprawling plants in China, where it employs a total of about 1 million workers.

By late morning Hon Hai shares were down 0.13 percent, lagging the broader market’s rise of 0.01 percent.

In June, about 100 workers went on a rampage at a Chengdu plant in southwestern China. The company has faced allegations of poor conditions and mistreatment of workers at its China operations, and has been spending heavily in recent months to improve the work environment and to raise wages...—Reuters

China’s first aircraft carrier is delivered to the Chinese Navy at the port of Dalian on 23 Sept, 2012. Reuters

China’s first aircraft carrier was built at China State Shipbuilding Corporation shipyards in Dalian in northeast China. The 360-meter-long vessel will be used by the Chinese Navy for research and training purposes and does not carry missiles.

A Bank of America customer uses an ATM in Charlotte, North Carolina on 18 April, 2012.—Reuters

The decision to tighten public security bureau, Agency
Novartis’s drug reduces heart failure deaths: study

ZURICH, 24 Sept — Novartis’s investigational medicine RLX030 reduced the number of deaths in patients with acute heart failure, the drugmaker said on Monday based on the results of a late-stage trial.

RLX030 is form of the human hormone relaxin-2. Serelaxin acts by relaxing the blood vessels, leading to reduced stress on the heart and kidneys, the firm said in a statement.

Fiat, Italy govt to examine export-focused measures

MILAN/ROME, 24 Sept — Italy’s Fiat and the Italian government said on Saturday they will look for ways to improve the company’s manufacturing efficiency, as the automaker pledged to keep building cars in Italy while shifting its focus to foreign export markets.

Fiat’s (FIA.MI) decision in late August to freeze planned investments to avoid further losses in a weak car market has sparked a firestorm of criticism from trade unions and politicians. Italy is worried about potential job losses if the company eventually shifts manufacturing to countries where wages are lower.

Fiat said in a statement it planned to “re-orient” its business model in Italy “to focus on exports, particularly outside of Europe.”

Mice experiment may point to new ways to protect female fertility

HONG KONG, 24 Sept — Egg cells can repair themselves from damage caused by radiation far better than doctors ever thought, a finding researchers say gives fresh hope in protecting women undergoing cancer therapy from infertility.

Although the experiments have only been in mice, researchers believe they have relevance for female cancer patients and women who suffer premature menopause, a condition that puts them at risk of early infertility, osteoporosis and heart disease.

In paper to be published in the 9 November issue of the journal Molecular Cell, scientists in Australia found that egg cells, or oocytes, are killed not by radiation, but by two proteins — puma and noxa — which snap into action when they detect DNA damage to egg cells.

In experiments using mice that did not carry these proteins, the scientists found that their eggs survived radiation and they went on to produce normal offspring.

“This is very exciting. It means if you get rid of those proteins that kill, the oocytes or specialized egg cells can actually repair their DNA and that has never been known before,” said lead author Clare Scott, an associate professor and oncologist at the Royal Melbourne and Royal Women’s Hospitals.

Between 50 to 80 percent of eggs survived in those mice. “These were enough to result in normal pups. Those pups went on to be fertile themselves and lived a normal lifespan with no evidence of human abnormalities,” she said by telephone.

Scott’s colleagues are conducting similar trials on human egg cells to see if the two proteins work in the same way. If all goes well, they hope a drug can be designed to block the two proteins from killing egg cells.

Rupee rallies; govt continues reform drive

MUMBAI, 24 Sept — The rupee rose on Friday to its highest level in over four months after the government cut a tax for overseas borrowing by local companies, giving them access to cheaper funds. More broadly, the announcement was seen by investors as a signal of the government’s commitment to continuing long-term reforms after tackling last week’s major measures such as raising diesel prices.

Although the reform drive cost the ruling coalition the support of key ally, Trinamool Congress, investors were comforted after a key regional party, Samajwadi Party, said it would continue providing outside support to the government.

The global liquidity is already positive for the rupee. I see the current measures will lead to a continued rupee rally,” said Satyajit Kanjilal, chief executive at Forexserve.

He expects the rupee to rise to 50.30-51 levels to the dollar in the near-term, which would mark a remarkable recovery for a currency that just in late June had hit a record low of 57.32.

The partially convertible rupee ended at 53.45/46 to the dollar from its Thursday close of 54.38/39, securing a third consecutive week of gains with a 1.8 percent advance.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch loses linked to options error: WSJ

NEW YORK, 24 Sept — Bank of America Merrill Lynch sustained a loss of nearly $10 million on Friday due to an “operational error” in handling of stock option trades known as dividend trades by the company’s Merrill Pro unit, the Wall Street Journal reported on Saturday.

The unit’s clients were not affected and the error has been corrected, WSJ said, citing unnamed sources familiar with the matter.

Bank of America Merrill Lynch is a division of Bank of America Corp (BAC.N). Dividend trades involve placing trades a day before shares of a company or exchange traded fund issuer go “ex-dividend,” seeking to capitalize on a typical drop in share prices after that date.

Trading data released early on Friday showed that nearly 400,000 of calls options on the SPDR exchange-traded fund were not “go ex-dividend,” seeking to capitalize on a typical drop in share prices after that date.

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China will not ease grip on property market: paper

BEIJING, 24 Sept — China plans to stick to its tight property sector policies and a nationwide rebound in home prices remains unlikely, a senior official at the housing ministry said in remarks published by state media on Sunday.

The comments underscore Beijing’s determination to keep a lid on rising home prices, a source of social discontent, especially in the run-up to a once-a-decade leadership transition this year.

To curb price rises, Beijing is urging local authorities to increase housing supply and to strictly implement a policy aimed at restricting home purchases, said the People’s Daily, the ruling Communist Party’s official newspaper. It quoted an unnamed official at the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development. “With more affordable housing projects put into operation and market expectations kept stable, the conditions do not exist for a full-scale rebound in house prices,” said the official.

The comments came amid new concerns that a new round of property inflation was in the offing, with data showing a pick-up in housing sales as well as an increase in property prices following eight consecutive monthly declines.

Latest figures showed that Chinese house prices rose 0.1 percent in August from July, extending a modest price increase into a second straight month.

Revenues from property sales in the country rose for the third month in a row in August from a year earlier, reinforcing signs of a recovery in the sector. But the official played down worries about a rapid revival in the property market, saying the recent price increase was mainly a result of stronger real demand from first-time buyers rather than speculative demand from investors.

Officials have rejected calls to relax restrictions on the property market in order to bolster the economy, on course for its seventh straight quarterly slowdown over the July-September period.

Full-year growth for 2012 is likely to fall to 7.7 percent, the weakest showing since 1999. — Reuters

Residential and commercial buildings are seen reflected in a window during a sunset in Central Business District (CBD) of Beijing on 19 Sept, 2012. — Reuters

A Kashmiri shopkeeper staples together loose notes to make a garland at a market in Srinagar on 3 Sept, 2012. — Reuters

The rupee rose to an intraday high of 53.33, its highest since 10 May. Gains accelerated after Finance Minister P. Chidambaram announced the withholding tax on overseas borrowing by local companies will be reduced to 5 percent from 20 percent, in a move expected to increase fundraising abroad.

The moves were well received, as they come after recent action to attract foreign direct investment into a country that had a record high current account deficit as of the June quarter. — Reuters
Obama's foreign policy bright spot now looking dimmer

WASHINGTON, 24 Sept—If you thought Mitt Romney was the only presidential candidate whose problems were piling up in the final stretch of the 2012 election campaign, think again.

From Middle East upheaval to the troubled Afghan war effort to a more assertive Russia, President Barack Obama is facing pressures that threaten to chip away at his foreign policy record as his aides hope would be immune to Republican attacks.

The White House is increasingly concerned but isn’t hitting the panic button, yet Administration officials are heartened by Republican challenger Mitt Romney’s own recent foreign policy stumbles and doubt Obama’s critics will gain traction in a campaign focused mainly on the US economy.

As a result, when Obama speaks inside the cavernous UN General Assembly hall on Tuesday exactly six weeks before the US election, he will seek to reassure American voters as well as world leaders he is on top of the latest global challenges. But he won’t propose any new remedies or bold initiatives.

There will be close scrutiny of how far he goes in talking tough about Iran’s nuclear programme—but even on that point, aides say privately he will not break new policy ground.

Obama’s summit on the world stage before facing voters will be a reflection of where his priorities lie. Despite simmering global crises, he will skip traditional private meetings with foreign counterparts and squeeze his UN visit into just 24 hours so he can jump back on the campaign trail.

Indonesian anti-terror police arrests eight terror suspects

JAKARTA, 24 Sept—Indonesian anti-terror police squad has arrested eight suspected terrorists in Surakarta city known as Solo city of Central Java, local press reported on Monday.

Two suspects, with initial names of BH and RK, out of the eight suspects are believed to have played a key role in a new terrorist group, the name of which is still unknown. “BH and RK are the main figures in this new group,” National Police Spokesman Brig General Boy Rafli Amar was quoted by the Jakarta Post as saying.

Thork is a terrorist suspect whose house in Tambora, West Jakarta was discovered with explosives stored inside it.

The group allegedly has plans to attack police stations and facilities.

RK, 45, was apprehended near the Solo Square shopping mall in Serengan district, Surakarta at 11:24 pm on Friday, while BH, 45, was caught near his home in the Kampung Griyan neighborhood in Laweyan district at 5:50 am on Saturday. From BH’s house, police confiscated handmade rifles, a handmade detonator, sulfur and potassium.

Following the arrests of RK and BH, the anti-terror police squad subsequently apprehended six other terror suspects. The group is under investigation as it has not yet brought them to Jakarta. They are still in Surakarta, ”Boy said.

According to police, the other six arrested terrorist suspects were allegedly linked with storing explosives and learning how to make bombs. —Xinhua

Belarus says election turnout strong, despite opposition boycott

MINSK, 24 Sept—Authorities in Belarus said they had a strong turnout in a parliamentary election on Sunday after hardline President Alexander Lukashenko denounced opposition leaders as “cowards” for urging people to boycott it as a sham exercise. The two main opposition parties had called on people to go mushrooming or fishing and abstain from voting in an election which they said would produce a token parliament to rubber-stamp directives by Lukashenko.

“Elections took place in the course of which 109 deputies were elected ...” Lidya Yermoshina, head of the central election committee, told a news conference early on Monday.

She said turnout had been strong at 74.3 per cent, but made no comment on whether the boycott call by the opposition had had any effect. Asked whether any opposition candidates had been elected, she replied: “It seems doubtful to me”.

The call for voters to shun the election prompted a sneering rebuke from Lukashenko, a populist who has run the former Soviet republic of 9.5 million with an iron fist since 1994 and has stifled any opposition to his rule.

“They are cowards who have nothing to say to the people,” he told journalists on Sunday after voting in Minsk.

In the one seat which had not been decided, an opposition candidate failed to secure more than half the votes and a second round of voting would be held, Yermoshina said.

28 Taleban militants killed, 54 arrested in Afghanistan

KABUL, 24 Sept—About 28 Taleban militants were killed and 54 others detained in different Afghan provinces within the past 24 hours, the country’s Interior Ministry said on Monday morning.

“Afghan National Police (ANP), Afghan army and NDS or intelligence agency supported by the NATO-led coalition forces, launched nine joint clearance operations in Nangarhar, Baghlan, Kandahar, Ghazni, Ghor, Helmand and Nimruz provinces, killing 28 armed Taleban insurgents and detaining 54 others during the past 24 hours,” the ministry said in a statement providing daily operational updates.

They also found and seized weapons, the statement said, without saying if there were any casualties on the side of security forces.

In addition, the ANP also discovered and defused one anti-vehicle mine and 100 kilograms of explosives as a result of separate security operations in eastern provinces of Parwan and Ghohost on Sunday, according to the statement.

The Taleban insurgent group has yet to make any comments.

The Taleban-led insurgency has been rampant since the militant group launched an annual spring offensive dubbed “Al-Varoq” from 3 May against Afghan and some 100,000 NATO-led troops stationed in the country.

Hamas bans import of Israeli fruits to Gaza, except apples, bananas

Gaza 24 Sept—The deposed government of Islamic Hamas movement, which ruled the Gaza Strip, surprised fruit dealers and vendors when it suddenly decided to ban the import of Israeli-grown fruits except apples and bananas.

The decision outraged many who considered it a shady and unstudied decision, especially as the coastal densely populated Gaza Strip doesn’t produce many fruits.

Mamdouh Bahtiti, a 55-year-old Gaza fruit vendor, told Xinhua that the Hamas decision “is wrong and wasn’t made in the proper time. The decision was a shock to vendors and will deprive Gaza populations of these fruits.”

Bahtiti and dozens of fruits vendors explained that the ban will weaken the Palestinian economy because there will be no compensation for these losses,” adding that “If there is an alternative to some kinds of Israeli fruits, how much would it cost?”

The Gaza Strip has been importing various kinds of summer and winter fruits such as yellow dates, peaches, pears, plums, mangos, pomegranates, kiwifruits, avocados, pineapples, apples, bananas and apricots, while the Gaza Strip only produces Guavas, grapes, figs, citrus and red dates.

“The fruits that the Gaza Strip produces can never be sufficient to the population for more than two months, because it only produces for one limited season of the year, while during the rest of the year the Gaza Strip would remain without any other kinds of fruits,” said Bahtiti.

In addition to creating such a crisis by Hamas rule, fruit vendors said this would negatively affect their personal living. “All of us will join the army of unemployed people,” said Bahtiti.

According to official figures of international organizations, the poverty rate in the Gaza Strip has reached 60 percent, while the unemployment rate is sometimes over 60 percent. A large portion of agricultural land in the Gaza Strip has been bulldozed by the Israeli army or inhabited by the Palestinians’ growing population.

Ihab al-Turok, a 35-year-old fruit dealer, worried that if Hamas bans fruit importation from Israel except apples and bananas, West Bank residents may ban the export of Israeli apples and bananas to the Gaza Strip in retaliation. —Xinhua

Palestine

Babah-Turk, a 35-year-old fruit dealer, worried that if Hamas bans fruit importation from Israel except apples and bananas, West Bank residents may ban the export of Israeli apples and bananas to the Gaza Strip in retaliation.
A man chalk-draws on the pavement during first Chalkopup Vancouver event in Vancouver, Canada, on 22 Sept, 2012. People from all walks of life descend on Robson Street in downtown Vancouver at noon to create beautiful sidewalk chalk art together. —Xinhua

Austerity in the dock as Europe's debt-stricken leaders meet

ROME, 24 Sept — The leaders of countries at the centre of the euro zone debt crisis met in Rome on Friday after steep upward revisions to Italy's public debt targets raised growing doubts about the austerity policies being pursued.

"Prime Minister Monti has been very pragmatic in what he set out here, clearly he has raised the question of the extent of austerity which can be applied in Italy," Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny told reporters when asked about Italy's new targets.

Italy said on Thursday that its recession would be much deeper than previously forecast and virtually abandoned plans to cut the debt in the near term, forecasting the debt-to-GDP ratio at 120 percent in 2015, the same level as posted last year.

"The government should recognise that only focusing on fiscal rigor is continuing to worsen our crisis and that it must pursue different policies," said Susanna Camusso, head of the country's largest trade union, the left-wing CGIL.

Monti, an un-elected economics professor, replaced Silvio Berlusconi last November and pushed through more than 20 billion euros of austerity measures to head off a debt crisis.

However, the measures have sapped consumer morale and deepened the recession in the euro zone's third largest economy, eating into tax revenues and pushing up the deficit as a proportion of output.

Credit Suisse economist Gianluca Zanni welcomed the deficit hawks as a sign that austerity is finally going out of fashion.

"It's good, it seems that they want to ease back on the restrictive policies, which is what we are beginning to see at this euro zone level," he said.

Monti met separately with Kenny and the leaders of Spain and Greece at a gathering of European Christian Democrat leaders.

All four economies are in a better state than it was at the beginning, it is growing uncertainty about structural reform all the more difficult at a time when there is growing uncertainty about the Italian political scene," said Nicholas Spiro, head of Spiro Sovereign Strategy.

AU looks forward to successful summit of presidents of Sudan, South Sudan

AUSI ABDIHA, 24 Sept — The African Union (AU) on Saturday said it looks forward to the summit between Presidents Omar Hassan al Bashir of Sudan, and Salva Kiir Mayardit of South Sudan, scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa on Sunday.

In a statement AU said President Jean Ping, Chairperson of the AU Commission, would like to encourage the presidents to take advantage of this unique opportunity to reach agreement on the outstanding issues in the post-secession relations between their two countries.

Over the years, the AU has maintained an intense and sustained engagement with the Sudanese stakeholders and people.

In October 2009, the Peace and Security Council (PSC) established the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) in its engagement and through which, AU has maintained the view that solutions to the challenges at hand lie with the Sudanese people themselves, said the statement.

The AU also recognizes that the crisis affecting Sudan and South Sudan is an African crisis, and as such, Africa has a duty to assist the two States to achieve a lasting solution.

It was in this spirit that the PSC, deeply concerned by the outbreak of fighting along the border between Sudan and South Sudan, issued its Communiqué and Roadmap of 22 April 2012, in an effort to assist the Parties to return to the negotiating table and overcome the challenges facing their relationship, the statement recalled. The PSC was also concerned at the eruption of armed conflict in the “Two Areas” of Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, which lie within the Republic of Sudan. —Xinhua
Injustice, dominance and breaches of fundamental …

(from page 16)

It could be seen that most of the world population could not participate in socioeconomic development. They are being victimised by various conflicts, violence, ignorance and restrictions. Injustice, dominance and breaches of fundamental human rights for years caused adverse consequences.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker continued to say that pursuit of power, property and pride by human beings in political, economic and social arenas led to the manipulation of their capacity for terrorist activities. Terrorism in each and every corner of the world could not give the answer that endures the passage of time.

As the technology of the current age transformed the world into a village, every society or nation requires the common understanding to serve the people is key to development, every nation should establish lasting peace and create the better future. Meanwhile, the mutual understanding, mutual interests and equality among the world nations should be respected.

He pinned his hope on the event for exploring valuable and new visions that could guarantee the world and future generations the sustainable development, lasting peace and safe future.

He expressed his sympathy towards the Chinese government and the people for the deadly quake that shook Yunnan Province of China earlier this year, affected 740,000 people and caused the damage of Yuan 3.5 billion. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker then attended dialogues on peace, reduction of territorial disputes, safeguarding regional stability held under the agenda of International Day of Peace and China-Southeast Asia Peace and Development Forum.

Danger of narcotic drugs talked in Mohnyin Township

MOHNYIN, 24 Sept—A talk on danger of narcotic drugs was held at the school in Ywathitgon Village of Mohnyin Township on 22 September, attended by over 100 local people from Ywathitgon, Kandawgon and Htantabin villages.

Departmental officials gave talks on danger of narcotic drugs. A similar talk was also given at Aungthabye Ward Administration Office.

The officials held the talks in Myoma, Nakha and Ashayu wards yesterday and Nanma, Mawhan and Lonton villages today. The commander of Township Police Force said that the educative talks will be held up to second week of October. Drug abuse and trafficking brings about infection of AIDS and other diseases in the region. Therefore, the local people are specially worried about follow-up problems of drug cases.

District News

Ship sinks Thayawphone Creek

MYANGMYA, 24 Sept—Ship Thia Zaw driven by Aung Pyay Nyein, 28, son of U Tin Nyein of Labutta that left Myangmya at 7 am on 22 September carrying 10 barrel of diesel, 20 bags of fertilizer, other personal goods and passengers sank at the bund of Thayawphone Creek near Myangmya Kontha Village.

Villagers led by Kontha Village administrator salvaged the ship together with the passengers and some goods with the use of six motorboats and five boats during two hours period.

Outbreak of fire leaves 51 homeless

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 24 Sept—A fire broke out from Nilar Win grocery shop of U Horkey in Ward 4 of Mawlamyinegyun at 4.15 pm on 23 September while workers were taking out petroleum.

Members of Township Fire Services Department, Auxiliary Fire Brigade and members of social organizations together with local people put out the fire. They controlled the fire at 5 pm and totally put it out at 6 pm.

Five houses including the house of U Horkey were destroyed in the fire. It was reported that there was no casualty. Ma Mon Thuzar, daughter of the house owner, was burnt at her left hand and leg. She underwent medical treatment at Mawlamyinegyun Township Hospital (100-bed).

A total of 51 people from 14 households of nine houses became homeless. Myoma police station takes action against outbreak of fire.

Should we use mobile phones excessively?

Mobile phones have become such a part of everyday life that it is hard to imagine how people managed without them, given the convenience, freedom of movement and ease of social networking these gadgets bring. But not everyone is a fan and there are those who would be quite happy to return to the pre-cellphone days.

High on the list are security forces whose lives have been put in danger by cellphone-triggered bombs and parents who have to bear the brunt of costs stemming from the excessive use of cellphones by their offspring. And crimes are easily committed with the use of the devices.

Meanwhile, the prolonged use of mobile phones is a growing health problem and it is an increasingly important issue in developing countries.

Today, the world is moving in a faster pace and that we all must work day and night along the tune with an up-beat to keep abreast of the changing world since the clock has been set forward for prosperity. At such a time, use of mobile phones is a must but we need to weigh the consequences of excessive use of the gadgets.

It turns out that the proper use of mobile phones is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do for families with low incomes and thrifty practice should be introduced in order to offset the increased cost of living. Only then, will those who are completely obsessed with mobile phones be free from serious financial problems.

Myanmar movies are really playing fashion catch-up

If these are silent ones, I would take them as foreign films.

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JICA provides low interest loan for development of Myanmar

N A Y P I T A W, 24 Sept—With the help of low interest loan of official development assistance (ODA) from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), five-year plans of the State, sector-wise and region-wise programmes would be effectively implemented for fulfilling people’s needs. The today’s coordination is to implement people centered development in line with the policy of JICA and to draw priority plans to implement people’s needs.

National Planning and Economic Development Dr. Kan Zaw explained the needs of the regions in line with the policy adopted by the State in coordinating regional and sector projects and proposal presented by JICA.

The symposium will be held on 26 September (Wednesday) at the Summit Parkview Hotel and is sponsored by WHO and invited guests may participate in the discussion.—MNA

Gold wares snatched in Kawthoung Market


He said that he wanted to buy gold wares and asked to show two gold chains with fish skeleton shape weighing five ticals, one chain shaped gold chain weighing five ticals, one gold chain with dragon shape weighing five ticals and one gold chain weighing five ticals, totaling 25 ticals worth K.18,973,500. After he had checked the gold chains for about one hour, the seller took back three gold chains.

However, the unknown person asked to show the chains again and then took five gold chains away.

The people nearby the gold shop seized and investigated him. The snatcher was Maung Kyaw Htet, 36, son of U Sein Win of Bannaung Ward in Rangoon of Thailand.

Kawthoung Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Kyaw Soe, post 48/7 on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway.

Illegal sawn teak timber seized on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway

N A Y P I T A W, 24 Sept.—A team led by Senior Forester U Win Than together with witnesses searched a Toyota car near mile post 48/7 on Yangon-Nay Pyi Taw Expressway on 20 September.

They seized 297 pieces of illegal sawn teak timber weighing 1,070.06 tons. The Bawmatgyi Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against driver Kyaw Soe, son of U Tin Kyi.—Myanma Alin

Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein makes a speech at coordination meeting for implementation projects in regions and states with the use of low interest loan from ODA.—MNA

Union Minister for Finance and Revenue U Win Shein discussed taking of Japan official development loan for implementation the projects and delivery programmes.

Deputy ministers from respective ministries, planning and economic ministers from regions/

Applications for political party scrutinized and passed

N A Y P I T A W, 24 Sept.—The Union Election Commission is scrutinizing and permitting the applications for registration as political party. The UEC passed the application for establishment of Myanmar Farmer’s Development Party by U Kyaw Swa Soe and 18 other persons today as it was found that the establishment is in accordance in laws and by-laws.—MNA

Training of artistes inspected

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe viewed training of artistes at the camp to take part in the 19th Myanmar National Races Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition at No 1 Transit Centre in Hline Township on 23 September and provided K.718,000 to 359 artistes.

Yangon Lifestyle Furniture

28 Sept-1 Oct

Yangon Lifestyle Furniture Fair will be organized by Thousand Islands Business Group at Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wirasa Road in Yangon from 28 September to 1 October. A total of 164 booths will display personal goods and furniture at the fair.

Medical servicemen give health care

Servicemen of local medical battalion provided health care services to local people at relief camps in Kunchaung and Bawdwin villages in Maungtaw Township on 21 September and Kantiaw and Shweinayine villages.

Boxing referee refresher course concludes

Boxing referrer (refresher) course and coaching course organized by Sports Ministry and Myanmar Boxing Federation concluded at the office of Myanmar Boxing Federation at Youth Training Centre in Thwunna on 22 September. The Union Minister for Sports presented certificates to trainees.

Roundtable reading held

Roundtable reading was held at the library in Yadana Mying Village of Kyunsu Sub-township on 9 September. Township level officials explained development of library and advantage of reading and then donated books.

Mobile medical team gives health treatment

Doctors, traditional medicine practitioners and health staff led by the Township Medical Officer together members of social organizations of mobile medical team provided health care services to the local people in Kyakktal Township on 13 September. They give treatment to 140 general patients, 29 dental patients and traditional medical treatment to 46 people.

Myanmar women’s volleyball team leaves for Thailand

Y A N G O N, 24 Sept.—The Myanmar national women’s volleyball team left here by air on 22 September to take part in the 17th SEA Youth Women’s Volleyball Tournament to be held in Thailand from 24 to 28 September 2012. The team was seen off at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Myanmar Volleyball Federation. The team comprised manager U Myo Wunna Tun, Chief Coach U Thein Swe, Assistant Coach UKyaw Soe Aung, Trainer U Hlwam Moe, referees U Tun Min Nai and U Phyo Thu Aung, players Cho Cho Win and U Myat Mon of Ministry of Defence, Thi Thi Aung and Khin Thet Wai of Ministry of Home Affairs, Ohmmar Than, Aye Nanda Kyaw and Moh Moh Myint of Sports and Physical Education Department, San San Huy and Phyu Phyu Wai of Ministry of Industry, Aye Nanda Myint, May Thu Aung and Zar Zar Hlaing of Ministry of Construction. Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and Laos will participate in the tournament. Myanmar women’s team set the aim to seek experiences in the tournament.—MNA

Roundtable reading held at the library in Yadana Mying Village of Kyunsu Sub-township on 9 September. Township level officials explained development of library and advantage of reading and then donated books.
Jerusalem, 24 Sept—An Israeli Atomic Energy Commission (IAEC) said that Israel had helped Jordan in developing its nuclear energy plan and provided it with valuable information, local media reported on Sunday.

The declaration contradicts Jordanian King Abdullah II’s recent claims that Israel tried to thwart its plans to establish nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, which was flatly denied by Israeli officials.

Israel has helped Jordan in 2010 by supplying it with a comprehensive geological study of its territory, the Ha’aretz daily reported, quoting an official.

“We told them we had a lot of data from the Geological Institute, which did a comprehensive study of the Elat region and the Gulf of Aqaba as part of its preparations for the possibility of an earthquake and we gave them the material,” IAEC deputy-director David Daniel said.

Following the information Israel provided them with, the Jordanians decided to move a reactor site from Aqaba to an area north of Amman, Daniel said.

“We have no problem with a civilian nuclear programme in Jordan, and it’s a good question why the Jordanians are saying otherwise,” he added.

The conflicting accounts of Israel’s approach towards the Jordanian nuclear plan were made amid last week’s conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) held in Vienna.—Xinhua

Two Asian girls with lanterns attend a street fair for the upcoming Mid-Autumn festival at Chinatown in San Francisco, the United States, on 22 Sept, 2012. The 22nd Mid-Autumn Street Fair held by the San Francisco Chinatown Merchant Association kicked off here on Saturday.—Xinhua

Mozambique, 24 Sept—The Mozambican Ministry of Fisheries announced on Sunday an allegedly overfishing of tuna off its Indian Ocean coast, saying there is need for increasing supervision to mitigate the trend.

This was announced soon after a supervision mission ended on Sunday alongside the Green Peace International, an organization seeking to defend the environment and sustainable development.

The mission started on 6 Sept, supported by a vessel from Greenpeace International baptized as rainbow warrior.

Tokyo, 24 Sept—Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda is set to appoint Finance Minister Jun Azumi as the ruling Democratic Party’s acting secretary-general, public broadcaster NHK said on Monday.

The report did not mention if Azumi would retain the finance portfolio. Noda was re-elected as the head of the Democratic Party of Japan last week.

Nearly 1,000 prisoners facing floodwaters in Cambodia’s Northwestern province

PHNOM PENH, 24 Sept —Nearly 1,000 prisoners and culprits detained in Cambodia’s Batany Meanchey Provincial Prison are facing floods after heavy rains in recent weeks, according to the website of the National Police on Monday.

The prison, situated nearby Sisophon River, has been submerged by flash floods since last Friday, said Prison’s Chief Col. Hin Sophal, adding that as of Sunday, the floodwaters in the vicinity of the prison have risen as high as 0.8 metres. "The water has not flown into the prisoners’ cells yet because we have used 2 pumping machines to pump out the water 24 hours on 24 hours," the website quoted Hin Sophal as saying on Sunday. "We also prepare some 10,000 sandbags to place in front of waterways to prevent the prison from more serious flooding," he said.

The prison has been hit by floods in three consecutive years since 2010, he said. Flash floods have hit Batany Meanchey province bordering Thailand since last Monday, forcing nearly 4,000 families to evacuate to higher ground, according to the report of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM). It said that some 8,033 hectares of rice paddies and 1,530 hectares of cassava crops have also inundated. Floods usually hit the country between August and October. Last year, the floods killed at least 250 Cambodian people and affected some 1.4 million people in the country, the NCDM said.—Xinhua

Tropical Storm Miriam gains strength in Mexican Pacific

MEXICO CITY, 24 Sept—Tropical Storm Miriam gathered strength off Mexico’s Pacific coast on Sunday, threatening to turn into a hurricane by nightfall, said the Mexican weather service.

The storm, according to the Miami-based National Hurricane Centre (NHC), was located about 760 km south of the tourist resort of Cabo San Lucas, in the state of Baja California Sur, with maximum sustained winds increasing to 110 km per hour. The NHC, however, said no coastal watches or warnings were in effect, and no hazards were reported to affect land. Mexican weather forecasters warned the storm would bring clouds to states along Mexico’s west coast, as well as high winds and waves. The National Civil Protection System has called a low-level blue alert for the coastal states of Colima and Jalisco, as well as the islands of Socorro and San Benedicto.—Xinhua

Irish president seeks to defend the country’s environmental and sustainable development.

Irish President Mary McAleese, together with a group from the Mozambique Fishery Ministry, had representatives from 18 other countries including Spain, Italy, New Zealand, Russia, Britain, the United States and Canada.

The mission supervised an area estimated at 133,500 square km from the southern part of the southern African country in the Maputo Ponta d’Ouro to the central region of Save. It reported the supervision of four fishing vessels, three from Japan and one from Spain.

An official of the Fishery Ministry Joao Sanete told journalists that the mission is part of the efforts in fighting illegal fishing and to guarantee that the activity is executed according to the laws established in the country.

Owing to the extensive areas off the coast and lack of resources for supervision, Mozambique is vulnerable to illegal fishing. The just-concluded operation covered 33 percent of the centre waters of 400,000 square km. The arrest of fishermen due to overfishing, the authorities warned.—Xinhua

Japan finance minister Azumi tapped for ruling party Post: NHK

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Japanese fishing boat hits cargo ship, 13 missing

**Japan**

25.047-ton Nikkei Tiger in waters about 900 kilometres east of Miyagi around 2:30 am and may have sunk, the 2nd Regional Coast Guard Headquarters said.

Nine of the 22 on the Horiei Maru—five Japanese and four Indonesians—were rescued by another fishing boat around 7:00 am, the coast guard said, adding they are searching for the missing.

Fire breaks out in Dhaka high-rise building

**Bangladesh**

A fire broke out in a high-rise building in Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka, early on Tuesday, upper floors of the tower, Army troops have been called in to support the fire brigade rescuers. The cause of the fire could not be known immediately.

Fourteen people died in a devastating fire in a very congested area of Dhaka’s old part in June 2010.

North Korea plans agriculture reforms

**Korea**

Beijing, 24 Sept—North Korea plans to allow farmers to keep more of their produce in an attempt to boost agricultural output, a source with close ties to Pyongyang and Beijing said, in a move that could boost supplies, help cap rising food prices and ease malnutrition.

The move to liberalize agriculture under new leader Kim Jong-un, who took office in December 2011 after the death of his father, would reverse a crackdown on private production that started in 2005. It comes amid talk that the youngest Kim to rule the impoverished North is considering reforms to boost the economy.

“Peasants will have incentive to grow more food. They can keep and sell in the market about 30-50 percent of their harvest depending on the region,” the source said.

At present, most farm output is sold to the government at a state auction price that has diverged from the market rate.

It was impossible to verify the plan independently, experts in South Korea, one of the world’s most closed states, although the source has proved reliable in the past, predicting North Korea’s first nuclear test in 2006 days before it was conducted, as well as the ascent of Kim’s uncle, Jang Song-thaek.

The plans come as some websites run by North Korean defector groups have said the price of rice—a staple food—more than doubled at the end of August from the start of June.

The surge in rice prices, cited by DailyNK, a North Korean website run by North Korean defectors, was driven by a fear of economic reforms that could in fact be punitive, like a 2009 currency revaluation that confiscated most peoples’ savings. This report also could not be independently verified.

North Korea experienced a devastating famine in the 1990s from which its economy has not recovered, and a third of its population is malnourished, according to UN estimates. The country needs about 5 million tons of grain and potatoes to feed its people and since the early 1990s its annual harvest has been 3.5-4.7 million tons, according to most observers.

Experts in South Korea believe the North desperately needs fertilizer to boost yields in a country where soil has been degraded by erosion due to poor farming techniques.

Europeans among 10 climbers killed in Nepal avalanche

**Nepal**

An avalanche swept away climbers and their camps on the world’s eighth highest mountain in north-western Nepal on Saturday, killing at least 10 people, officials said.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman would not confirm any deaths but said “at least three” French climbers had been rescued and were being treated for injuries.

French mountaineers on Mount Manaslu said they had been told most of the dead climbers were French.

“There were seven French victims... We got the informations directly from base camp,” said Denis Crabieres, head of the French Mountain Guides Association. He said rescue operations on Mount Manaslu had been stopped until morning.

A former president of Nepal Mountaineering Association, Ang Tshering Sherpa, said most of the dead were French and that other victims were from Italy, Germany and Spain.

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A fruit grower picks apples in an orchard in Donging Village, Yongyang Township of Luochuan County, northwest China’s Shaanxi Province, on 23 Sept, 2012. The apple-planting area in Luochuan covers 500,000 mu (about 33,333 hectares), which could yield an estimated yearly production of 700,000 tonnes.

Women compete during the 6th Women’s Race in Bogota, capital of Colombia, on 23 Sept, 2012. Over 15,000 women participated in the race.

Cambodian King pays state visit to Vietnam

**Cambodia**

Phnom Penh, 24 Sept—Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni left here on Monday morning for Vietnam for a 3-day state visit to boost traditional and friendly ties between the two neighbours.

At the Phnom Penh International Airport, the king was seen off by National Assembly President Heng Samrin, Prime Minister Hun Sen, 1st Vice-President of the Senate Say Chhum, senior government officials and royal family members.

In a royal message to his peoples on 22 Sept, the king said that the visit was made at the invitation of Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang.

“During my absence, the President of the Senate Chan Sirivong will assume the title of the acting head of state of Cambodia,” he said.

Cambodia and Vietnam established diplomatic ties on 24 June, 1967.

The ties have been constantly strengthened and expanded through the exchanges of visits by both sides’ leaders.

The two neighbours have also had good trade and investment relations.

According to the figure of the Vietnam’s Trade Office in Phnom Penh, the two-way trade volume was valued at 1.96 billion US dollars in the first seven months of 2012, a 23 percent rise compared with the same period a year ago.

A college student controls a robot during the First Beijing University Robocon in Beijing, capital of China, on 22 Sept, 2012. About 300 students from 17 universities participate in the robot contest on Saturday.

An ambulance carrying victims of an avalanche at Mount Manaslu, airlifted from the Base Camp, heads for the hospital in Kathmandu on 23 Sept, 2012.

Fire breaks out in Dhaka high-rise building

Dhaka, 24 Sept—A fire broke out in a high-rise building in Bangladesh’s capital, Dhaka, early on Monday and officials said scores of people were quickly evacuated and no one was hurt.

On receiving information about the incident, fire fighters rushed to the spot and doused the blaze which lasted for about two and a half hour.

A fireman who refused to be named said black smoke rose from the 15-story Alauddin Tower in Dhaka’s capital during the night and officials said scores of people were quickly evacuated and no one was hurt.

The building is partly residential and partly occupied by shops and businesses, he said.

The fireman said they are striving to rescue some people feared to have been trapped inside the burning building.
Government pledges 1 billion pounds for state-backed business bank

BRIGHFORD, 24 Sept—The government said on Monday it would allocate 1 billion pounds towards a new state-backed business bank designed to expand lending to smaller firms currently starved of loans from Britain’s main lenders.

The government hopes its backing will be matched by a similar amount from private capital and could support up to 10 billion pounds of new and additional lending, Business Secretary Vince Cable said.

The as yet unnamed institution would operate through the wholesale market and would support the supply of loans and long-term capital to smaller firms through existing banks and other financial providers.

“We need a new British business bank with a clean balance sheet and an ability to expand lending rapidly to the manufacturers, exporters and high growth companies that power our economy,” said Cable, who is attending his Liberal Democrat party’s conference in Brighton, southern England.

“Many new promising, growing companies simply can’t get the loans they need to expand on reasonable terms. We are going to help fix this,” he added, in remarks released by his office.

Earlier this month Cable said such a bank could be run through a new generation of so-called “challenger” banks, which the government has been encouraging to expand in Britain as a way of increasing competition among lenders.

Aides said the scale of the government’s commitment was significant compared to the company’s claims funds of outstanding loans to smaller companies in Britain and that the new bank could be operating within 12 to 18 months.

Reuters
Sharon Stone bounces back from sensitive at Milan fashion week

Fendi on Friday, raising questions over whether she could chair the Saturday AIDS research fundraiser as planned.

The “Basic Instinct” star suffered a health scare in 2001 when she was hospitalized for a brain aneurysm — bleeding in the brain that can cause stroke — after suffering severe headaches.

Dressed in a deeply plunging long black draped dress, the actress smiled at cameras and reassured reporters outside the event about her condition.

"Thank you. I feel fine and I’m good and I’ve got a clean bill of health and I’m happy to be here," Stone told Reuters Television.

"I’m totally happy to be here for something so meaningful to me.”

The American Foundation for AIDS Research said in a statement: "She was examined and given a clean bill of health. And as she said, wild horses couldn’t keep her away.”

The gala was attended by Italian designers Silvia Venturini Fendi and Roberto Cavalli and Fiat heir Lapo Elkann. It featured performances by DJ Mark Ronson and rapper Thalía.

Robert Pattinson is sensitive because he “grew up with lots of girls”

LOS ANGELES, 24 Sept — Robert Pattinson blames the women in his life for his sensitive nature. The Twilight star recently reconciled with long-term girlfriend Kristen Stewart after her affair with “Snow White and the Huntsman” director Rupert Sanders and has so far refused to discuss the cheating scandal.

But the 26-year-old heartthrob weighed in on speculation he is in the running to land the lead role in the big screen adaptation of the bestselling novel Fifty Shades of Grey. He said: “I think the author has written me out of it. I saw some interview recently, and they went ‘Oh, it could never be him.’ And I’m like: ‘Hey, I’m going to make you pay for that.”

“It’s funny seeing all these other actors so openly vying for it. I’ve never seen that happen before. It’s so strange. I haven’t read the whole thing. I read bits of it, there’s a book called Fifty Shades of Grey. Have you seen that book? That’s amazing, just a picture book of fifty grey sheds, and it’s literally on the New York Times Best Seller list. People have got the wrong read.”

Salma Hayek’s secret to eternal youth

LONDON, 24 Sept — Actress Salma Hayek says she achieves her skin perfection by never washing her face when she wakes up in the morning.

The 46-years-old star, who looks much younger than her age, said her less than hygienic regime is the secret behind her skin perfection, reported Daily Mail.

“One strange tip — don’t wash it in the morning, at all. Never. Because at night your skin is rebuilding some of the oils that you need to keep your skin young, and it balances the PH.”

So in the morning if you take them off — you can splash it with water, do something mild — but you don’t want to get rid of that. And if your skin is dirty in the morning, it means you didn’t clean well at night, she said. The mother-of-one has developed her own range of beauty products that she uses all the time.

“I’m not very trim, but I don’t have as many wrinkles as probably I should. But I do use, I use my products but you don’t sell them, I just sell them in only one drug store in the States.”

Nicolas Cage sued by ex-security guard for $115,000

Brum for $115,000. Deepika Padukone, Esha Gupta, Johnson and Nathalia Kaur in the past. Others like Katrina Kaif, Siddharth Mallya is reportedly sued by ex-security men Richard

Los Angeles, 24 Sept — actor Nicolas Cage is reportedly sued by one of his ex-security men Richard

Siddharth Mallya is reported to make TV debut

Mumbai, 24 Sept — Siddharth Mallya, son of industrialist Vijay Mallya, is set to make his debut on the small screen as a host and judge of the fourth season of Hunt for the Kingfisher Calendar Girl.

The show, to be aired on NDTV Good Times starting on 29 Oct, is a hunt for a model to feature in the annual glamorous Kingfisher Calendar.

Siddharth Mallya will join model-turned-actress Lisa Haydon and ace lensman Atul Kasbekar to hunt the calendar girl this season. Together, they will be on the lookout for a girl, who boasts of oomph, charisma and a fit bikini body.

As many as 12 lucky contestants will dive into different avatars and challenges in a bid for a spot on the Kingfisher Calendar.

“Following the decade-long heritage of the Kingfisher Swimsuit Calendar, this edition of the hunt for the Kingfisher calendar girl will prove to be more exciting than ever before with larger than life names, a bigger format and a wider canvas,” Samar Singh Shekhawat, senior vice president marketing, United Breweries Ltd, said in a statement.

 Started in the year 2010, the Hunt for the Kingfisher Calendar Girl is a platform that provides nascent models an opportunity to prove themselves in the fashion industry and gain instant fame.

The ‘Hunt’ has provided a jumpstart to many popular faces such as Himanshi Verkaatwamy, Angela Johnson and Nathalia Kaur in the past. Others like Katrina Kaif, Deepika Padukone, Esha Gupta, Ujjwala Raut and Nargis Fakhri have also featured on the calendar.

Emma Watson admits to painful experiences in love

LONDON, 24 Sept — Actress Emma Watson used to believe love was a “pain” and admits she has had some bad experiences in the past.

The 22-year-old is currently dating student Will Adamowicz. “When I started dating, I had this kind of ‘Romeo and Juliet’, fateful, romantic idea about love.

It was almost that you were a victim — that there was a lot of pain involved and that was how it should be,” femalefirst.co.uk quoted Watson as saying.

“Shakespeare said the course of true love never did run smooth and I had a sense it had to be painful.

It was such a revelation to realise it shouldn’t be that way and you get to choose who you love and who you give your heart to.”

“The sad thing is you only learn from experience, so as much as someone can tell you things, you have to go out there and make your own mistakes in order to learn,” she added.
**SPORTS**

**Van Persie sinks Liverpool, Man City held**

**LONDON, 24 Sept—** Robin van Persie’s late penalty earned below-par Manchester United a 2-1 away win over 10-man Liverpool in an emotionally-charged Premier League clash at Anfield and champions Manchester City were held to a 1-1 home draw by Arsenal on Sunday.

United’s prolific Dutchman sealed the points when he fired his spot-kick past the new goalkeeper of the match against former manager Chris Hughton’s Norwich City.

The first match at Anfield since this month’s Hillsborough report cleared Liverpool’s fans of blame for the deaths of 96 of supporters at the 1989 FA Cup semi-final sparked into life after 39 minutes when Jonjo Shelvey was red-carded.

However, Liverpool deservedly went ahead straight after halftime through Steven Gerrard’s volley, only for United to hit back six minutes later through a curling effort by fullback Rafael.

Van Persie’s late strike, his fifth league goal of the season, left Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers still awaiting his first league win of the season after five games, the club’s worst start to a Premier League campaign.

**Detroit Red Wings head coach Mike Babcock—**

* Continued to play for the £1m a year I had before spending seven weeks on loan at Nottingham Forest in 2000. Chelsea’s most successful captain since they were founded in 1905, having led the club to Premier League titles in 2005, 2006 and 2010, FA Cup successes in 2007, 2009, 2010, 2012 and two League Cup trophies in 2005 and 2007.

* Missed a chance to win the 2008 Champions League final against Manchester United in Moscow when his penalty in the shootout struck the post after he slipped on the wet pitch.

**Britain’s Adlington rules out competing at Rio Olympics**

**LONDON, 24 Sept—** British swimmer Rebecca Adlington, who won two golds in Beijing and two bronze medals in London, has ruled out another attempt at the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro after finishing third behind third

**Despairing dive of Pepe Reina after Glen Johnson had brought down Antonio Valencia.**

**Factbox**

**Chelsea:**

- City won for third time in their opening five games. Laurent Koscielny equalising late for Arsenal after Joleon Lescott had headed the hosts into a half-time lead.
- Both sides are unbeaten with nine points.
- Tottenham Hotspur have eight after Jermain Defoe scored the winner in a 2-1 victory over Queens Park Rangers, Spurs’ first home victory.

**Former-England captain John Terry**

- Chelsea win the Champions League for the first time in 2012, but Terry misses the final against Bayern Munich through suspension.
- Played at Euro 2004 and the 2006 World Cup, after which he was named England skipper by former manager Steve McClaren.

**TSO, 24 Sept—** Ivanovic insisted she still had the game to challenge for grand slam titles after booking a spot in the second round of the Pan Pacific Open on Monday.

**Tennis**

**24-year-old winner of 11 WTA Tour titles, Ivanovic, who won more than $9.6 million career prize money, admitted she still had a little work to do to seriously challenge at the US Open earlier this month.**

**“I need to work on my stamina in the off-season, get a little stronger,” she said.**

**But it’s also confidence. Because only a top player can really boost your confidence and make you start to believe.”**

**American Jamie Hampton was another qualifier to advance, ousting France’s Caroline Garcia 6-2, 6-4.**

**Streetfighter Vettel takes title brawl to Alonso**

**SINGAPORE, 24 Sept—** Sebastian Vettel displayed all the guts and determination of a world champion to haul himself back into the Formula One title race with a Singapore victory that sets up a mouth-watering finale to the season.

**Vettel kept his focus to win a “killer” race that ran for a full two hours on a balmy on Sunday night, enabling the German to cut championship leader Fernando Alonso’s advantage to 29 points with six rounds remaining as he seeks a hat-trick of crowns.**

**To say the title showdown has come down to a duel between Vettel’s Red Bull and Alonso’s Ferrari could be an understatement.**

**But while both men have bemoaned a lack of pace, they make up for it in consistency.**

**Alonso has spent all season claiming his car is not competitive, yet he has forgotten the run-up points by average positions on the grid, a feat he repeated in Singapore by finishing third after starting fifth.**

**On track, we manage to make the most of what we have, making few or no mistakes, thanks to great work from the team,” Alonso told reporters after chasing home Vettel and McLaren’s Jenson Button.**

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Basquiat poised to set record at New York art auction

New York, 24 Sept—An early work by Jean-Michel Basquiat could set an artist’s record in November when it is expected to sell for some $20 million, auction house Christie’s said on Tuesday.

The untitled 1981 work, which has been in a private collection for two decades and has been featured in virtually every major Basquiat retrospective, depicts a fisherman displaying his catch hanging at the end of a line. Christie’s estimates the painting will sell for about $20 million, which along with its commission would bring the price to well above Basquiat’s auction record of $20.1 million, set in June in London.

“Great works by Basquiat have become close to impossible to find in recent years,” said Loic Gouzer, international specialist of post-war and contemporary art at Christie’s, said in a statement. “The market has been waiting a long time for a work of this caliber and freshness.

“Basquiat is increasingly being recognized as a grand master of post-war art alongside de Kooning, Warhol and Pollock,” Gouzer said. “We expect it to set a new record.” The auction house did not identify the seller but catalogs from recent exhibitions of the work identified him as French fashion photographer Patrick Demarchelier. Basquiat burst onto New York’s burgeoning art scene more than 30 years ago and quickly drew attention and respect for his powerful, jarring and sometimes controversial canvases that drew heavily on his Haitian and Puerto Rican heritage. Basquiat, whose career was the subject of the controversial biopic “Basquiat,” died in 1988 at the age of 27. Gouzer said that unlike most artists who win acclaim, “Basquiat created his best paintings at the beginning of his career. ‘Untitled 1981’ unites all the elements of energy, freedom and boldness that one looks for in Basquiat,” he said. The painting will be sold November 14 following public exhibitions scheduled for London, Paris and New York.

Reuters
Injustice, dominance and breaches of fundamental human rights for years beget adverse consequences

Piyadaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint delivering an address at the ceremony to make the International Day of Peace.

Flood Warning

Nav Pyi Taw, 24 Sept—According to the 12.30 hr M.S.T. observation today, the water level of the Ayeyawady River at Katha is observed as 45 cm about 1.5 ft below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours commencing this noon, Meteorology and Hydrology Department announced. —MNA

Liverpool’s injured Kelly to return “next year”

London, 24 Sept—Liverpool’s Martin Kelly hopes to return to action next year after injuring his knee in the English Premier League club’s 2-1 defeat by Manchester United, the defender said on Monday.

Kelly was forced off the pitch after falling awkwardly in the dying minutes of Sunday’s match.

“What I can say is it’s not the worst injury I’ve had and for sure I’ll be fighting for my place next year when I’m back fitter and stronger,” Kelly said on his Twitter account.

The form of the England defender has been a bright spot in an otherwise disappointing season for Liverpool who are third from bottom without a win from their opening five games.

The world also has the knowledge to tap natural resources, sophisticated technologies in agriculture and livestock breeding sectors today provide human beings with nutrient foods sufficiently. Industrial and manufacturing technologies fulfill all the physical requirements. Information technology and knowledge management equips each and every one with the power of knowledge.

Myanmar marionette to present performance in Singapore

Mandalay, 24 Sept—Htwe Oo (Myanmar) marionette troupe and double Academy award winner Sein Mutta orchestra will jointly perform entertainment at ASEAN Marionette Festival to be held in Santosa Island of Singapore from 2 to 10 November.

Sein Mutta Orchestra Troup comprises Ko Bo Naing (small brass gong), U Myat Bo (oboe), U Min Swe (solo drum), Yadanar U Tin Lin (song and narration) and Yadana Thant (song). The orchestra will play the music to contribute to the marionette troupe in addition to solo special performances.

Htwe Oo (Myanmar) marionette troupe showed experiences in performing the entertainment in the international marionette festival and won the applause of the audiences. While marionettes from abroad presented their entertainments to the accompaniment of the traditional songs and music, Myanmar marionette troupe showed off its skills with playback music with the use of CD player. Thus, the Myanmar troupe manages to present its entertainments to the accommodation of the people to love to see sustainable peace and stability, he added.

Regarding the slogan of this year “Sustainable Peace…from Sustainable Development…for a Sustainable Future”, he quoted the speech of the Secretary-General of the United Nations delivered at the 100-day ceremony before the International Day for Peace as saying that sustainable future cannot be achieved without the sustainable peace.

The world also has the knowledge to tap natural resources which are not renewable to conserve the environment in new millennium.

(See page 8)