Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker visits Shenzeng, Shaoguan, Guangzhou

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—U Khin Aung Myint, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, met with the personnel from the Chinese state-owned media in Shenzeng, the People’s Republic of China on 22 September. The Speaker answered questions raised by journalists from Xinhua News Agency and China Radio International focusing on issues related to Myanmar-China cultural exchange, Myanmar’s political, economic and social reforms and good prospects and investment opportunities and relations in the trade sector between Myanmar and Shenzeng and all-round efforts to be made for the peaceful development in the China and ASEAN region. After the press conference, the Myanmar delegation led by the Speaker attended the peace and development ceremony. Afterwards, the delegation visited Shenzeng Museum where officials concerned conducted them around, showing the rapid development of Shenzeng and main businesses in the town. In the afternoon, the delegation went to Shaoguan by train. In the evening, Chairman of Shaoguan People’s Congress Mr Zheng Zhentao hosted a dinner in honour of the Myanmar delegation.

On 23 September, the Myanmar delegation visited a world’s cultural heritage of Modern Agriculture Park in Shaoguan. They also visited Guangdong Furan Agricultural Tech Co Ltd where they observed the plantations of tea and other oil crops, oil production and packaging. In the evening, they left Shaoguan for Guangzhou by train and enjoyed the night scene of Guangzhou in a boat in the Pearl River.

Local people under care of mobile clinic

Tatkon, 25 Sept—The mobile clinic jointly organized by Tatkon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Township Health Department and Township Traditional Medicine Department gives health care services to the local people.

On 23 September, the clinic provides health care services to 39 expectant mothers, 22 children patients, 15 older persons and 56 general patients and transferred two children patients and two expectant mothers to Tatkon Township People’s Hospital (100-bed).—Kyemon

Southwest monsoon has withdrawn

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—During the past 24 hours, southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the northern Myanmar areas, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology announced.—MNA

Sharapova tested, Azarenka dynamite in Tokyo

Tokyo, 25 Sept—Maria Sharapova pushed the envelope on winning ugly to squeak past British qualifier Heather Watson 6-7 6-3 6-4 and reach the last 16 of the Pan Pacific Open on Tuesday. The French Open champion’s performance bordered on the farcical at times with the second seed carelessly frittering away three set points to surrender the initiative before pulling off an escape act.

By contrast, world number one Victoria Azarenka took 63 minutes, exactly a third of the time Sharapova spent on court, to crush Austrian Tamira Paszek 6-1 6-1 and book her spot in the third round of the $2.16 million Tokyo event.

Li Na, last year’s Roland Garros winner, shrugged off a nasty cough to beat Russian Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 7-5 4-6 6-2.

Sharapova left herself with work to do after a string of double-faults and horror misses gift-wrapped the first set tiebreak to Watson 9-7. The errors continued to mount but the Russian, her squealing growing increasingly louder with the effort, did just enough to restore parity by winning the second set.

A forehand miss gave Sharapova the break for 4-3 in the decider and the twice Tokyo champion crawled over the line with a big forehand after three hours and nine minutes. “I definitely felt rusty today,” said Sharapova, who served 14 double-faults and finished with 67 unforced errors. “It’s one of those matches you’re just happy to get through.”

One of three Chinese players who made the trip to Tokyo despite a blazing political row between her country and Japan, Li’s experience told after a wobble in the second set. MNA

China announces formal handover of first aircraft carrier

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Korea eyes to invest in Myanmar’s energy sector

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—Korea is interested in investing in Myanmar’s energy sector in order to secure energy resources in the near future, Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Win Tun said yesterday.

He made the statement at a meeting with Korean officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, who were on a visit here for talks on energy cooperation.

Korea is the second largest source of foreign investment in Myanmar’s energy sector after China.

Officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, who were led by Union Minister U Win Tun, have agreed to cooperate in the exploration and development of natural gas.

The officials are expected to read an official letter of their government in the near future which will give green light to the development of energy projects.

While China has already started work on a gas pipeline, India issued a letter of support for the project.

Officials of Korea also said that they would also be interested to invest in Myanmar’s power projects in the near future.

The Korean officials were also impressed with the socio-economic and tourism environment of Bagan, NyaungU and Ngazun region.

They were interested in taking up the construction of hotels, mosques, schools and other tourism-related facilities.

The officials also expressed interest in working with the Myanmar government in order to cooperate in the exploration and development of natural gas in Myanmar.

One of the Korean officials said that his government was interested in developing energy projects in Myanmar as it needed to diversify its energy portfolio.

The officials also expressed their desire to work with the Myanmar government to develop energy projects in the region.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Minister U Htin Aung and responsible officials from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation.

30-year town plans for Bagan, NyaungU, Ngazun

MANDALAY, 25 Sept—Bagan, NyaungU and Ngazun are the three regions that have been identified by the government as places of emphasis for development.

In these regions, there is a need for the construction of hotels, mosques, schools and other tourism-related facilities.

The government is also working on the construction of a railway line in the region.

The government has started work on the construction of a railway line in the region.

The railway line will be connected to Mandalay, the capital of Mandalay Region.

The railway line will be completed in the near future.

The railway line will be an important link in the connectivity of the region with the rest of the country.

MECF holds forum on development of forest sector, socio-economy of people in Kachin State

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—A forum on development of forest sector and rapid development of socio-economy of the people in Kachin State was held at the Hotel Zone yesterday.

Union Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation U Win Tun made a speech at the forum.

In his address, he said that the forum is aimed at implementing the tasks which can help to get quick win and adopting the ways for laying good foundations for the projects which will take time to be implemented for future governments.

He also stressed the need for conservation watershed area of the Ayeyawady river and to prevent the illegal timber extraction in Kachin State.

In attempts to maintain the balance between the economic development and environmental conservation, he said, the government is working on international summits like ASEAN Summit Conference.

In the debut, Myinkadoe Villate team hammered Inlon PyinOoLwin at 2 pm on 24 September.

Hailstones drop in PyinOoLwin

PyinOoLwin, 24 Sept—Strong winds and heavy rains hit PyinOoLwin at 2 pm on 24 September.

The strong winds fell down the trees on the road.

Hailstones dropped on Mandalay-Lashio Road in Ward 4 of PyinOoLwin.

Danu Leading Body Chairman’s Cup kicks off

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—The Danu Self-Administered Zone Leading Body Chairman’s Cup U-25 Men’s Football Tournament 2012 was kicked off at the sports ground in Pindaya on 17 September afternoon.

Chairman of the Leading Committee U Htoo Ko Ko delivered an address and opened it.

In the debut, Myintkadee Villate team hammered Inlon Village team 6-1, Altogether 34 ward and village teams are taking part in the tournament.

Land management multiplier course opened

MANDALAY, 25 Sept—Records Department U Aye Ko explained the purpose of opening the training course.

HeadOfUpperMyanmar SLRD U Hlwan Moe and Head of Mandalay District SLRD U Myint Hlaing provided lectures to 112 trainees on 24 and 25 September.

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Danu Leading Body Chairman’s Cup kicks off
**Tables turn on Spain with pressure to seek bailout**

**WORLD**

**Spain**

1,000 Congolese flee to Uganda over renewed fighting in eastern DRC

**Congo**

KAMPALA, 25 Sept.—At least 1,000 Congolese refugees have fled into Uganda in the last two weeks, the Ugandan refugee commissioner said, as renewed fighting in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), local media reported over the weekend.

The state owned New Vision Daily reported that the new wave of fighting between the government forces and M23 rebels in DRC’s Rutshuru area has forced another 1,000 people to take refuge in Uganda.

The rebels, mostly women and children, began trickling into the East African country through Ishasha border on 14 Sept, the paper reported. The refugees were temporarily being sheltered at Kihili Police Station, awaiting to be transported to Nyakabande transit centre in the western Uganda district of Kisoro.

Jean Bosco Kamanzi, a refugee who is a teacher by profession, on Saturday said that he had counted five dead bodies of civilians as he fled towards Ishasha.

“The situation has become unbearable because there is nobody to care for the civilians. The fighting forces are only showing off their superiority,” said Kamanzi.

Junko Kasita, Kamangu deputy Resident District Commissioner, who is supervising the exercise of receiving refugees, said they have been registering about 200 people every day except for Friday when the number shot higher.

“We have seen more refugee coming inUnlike in the past when they would come in groups of four or five. Our duty is to ensure that they are all registered,” said Kasita.

Meanwhile, security authorities in Kamanga have asked Ugandan citizens to stop crossing into eastern DRC with immediate effect, saying their security cannot be guaranteed.

Several people in Butogota, Kihili in Kamanga are reported to have been doing brisk business with their phones while others have gardens which they till during the day and return in the evening.

**Venezuela**

Venezuela’s Capriles edges toward Chavez as vote nears

CARACAS, 25 Sept.—Venezuelan opposition candidate Henrique Capriles edged closer to President Hugo Chavez in an opinion poll but remained 10 percentage points behind the socialist leader in the run-up to the 7 Oct. election, according to two sources who have seen the poll. Recent Dananpolis polls show support for Capriles, a 40-year-old state governor, growing in the waning days of the campaign as he continues campaigning across the country. Capriles’ has vowed to create a Brazilian-style “modern welfare state” that balances free enterprise with social welfare programmes. Investors expect him to end a five-year regional election on 21 October, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy is in no rush to yield to nervous pleas, from France, Italy and indeed Ireland, that he request a bailout deal and deal with the calls by UK and French Cabinet ministers for emergency talks with Spanish finance minister directly, said a Spanish government official.

Rajoy’s centre-right People’s Party, which has been designed and manufactured by committed indigenous system of the Sepah (Revolutionary Guards), has spoken about the government’s preconditions for a proposed EU bailout that means more austerity and welfare cuts.

Rajoy’s government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in order to preserve his career on digging in his heels and letting everyone else wear themselves out until he decides he’s ready to act.

“My life is like to see a request from Spain such as France and Italy would be inclined to support, rather than that is clearly not in that is,” said Rajoy on Friday.

He at times waved to supporters from atop a truck. He at times do it in the next six years,” said Capriles told supporters, who were temporarily being made to do in 14 years is not going to do it in the next six years,” said Capriles told supporters, who sang and danced to salsa in the spirit of Venezuela’s political rallies, which often look more like street parties.

**BRUSSELS/MADRID, 25 Sept.—Spain once pushed toward Chavez as vote nears. Now the tables are turned.**

“Iraq tests home-built anti-aircraft system

**Iran**

DEBARY, 25 Sept.—Iran successfully tested a domestically made anti-aircraft system, its English-language Press TV said on Monday, the latest in a series of military exercises Tehran has trumpeted in the face of hints that its nuclear sites could be attacked. “The mid-range systems... is capable of intercepting targets at a range of 50 km (30 miles) and can fly at an altitude of 75,000 feet (22,860 meters),” state-run Press TV’s website said. An Iranian Revolutionary Guards commander, Brigadier General Amir Ali Hajizadeh, said at a military parade displaying the weapons on Friday: “The system has been manufactured with the aim of confronting (hostile) US aircraft.”

“The Iran’s air defence system is the first completely indigenous system of the Sepah (Revolutionary Guards), which has been designed and manufactured by committed Iranian technicians in the struggle for self-sufficiency,” Hajizadeh was quoted as saying by the Mehr news agency. Reuters

**Bujumbura, Kihiihi in Kanungu**

**Spokesperson for Friday when the number shot higher.

“We have seen more refugee coming inUnlike in the past when they would come in groups of four or five. Our duty is to ensure that they are all registered,” said Kasita.

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Several people in Butogota, Kihili in Kamanga are reported to have been doing brisk business with their phones while others have gardens which they till during the day and return in the evening.

**White House said to plan executive order on cybersecurity**

SAN FRANCISCO, 25 Sept.—The White House is preparing to direct federal agencies to develop voluntary cybersecurity guidelines for owners of power, water and other critical infrastructure facilities, according to people who said they have seen recent drafts of an executive order.

The prospective order would give the agencies 90 days to propose new regulations and create a new cybersecurity council at the Department of Homeland Security with representatives from the Defence Department, Justice Department, Director of National Intelligence and the Department of Commerce, a former government cyber-security official told Reuters.

A journalist checks the US Senate’s window in Washington, DC on 13 June, 2011, after it was hacked over the weekend.

“Those who have the ability to regulate to go forth and do so,” said the person, who is currently outside the government and who asked that his anonymity in order to preserve access to government officials.

The draft executive order includes elements of what had been the leading cyber-security overhaul bill in the Senate, which was defeated this summer amid opposition from industries opposed to increased regulation. Senate HomelandSecurity and Governmental Affairs Chairman Joe Lieberman is independent and one of the principal authors of that bill, on Monday urged the White House to issue such an order.

**Reuters**
iPhone 5 defines Apple success, Tim Cook-style

San Francisco, 25 Sept—Tim Cook is no Steve Jobs when it comes to leading Apple Inc (AAPL.O). As the debut of the new iPhone 5 just proved, that may not be a bad thing. The taller, thinner and lighter phone prompted a rush on Wall Street to raise price targets for Apple stock, but the optimism was not because of a big technological advance or design breakthrough; the “wow” factor that was the trademark of the late Apple co-founder Jobs was decidedly absent.

Instead, it was the speed of the global launch that astounded, validating the new CEO’s much-touted wizardry at the essential but unglamorous task of managing a supply chain. “We are positively surprised regarding the pace of the rollout, since we had expected a bigger impact from component constraints,” Barclays analyst Ben Reitzes said.

By next Friday, the iPhone 5 will be in 31 countries, and will be in 100 by the end of the calendar year. That would be 30 more than the rollout of the predecessor phone, the 4S, over a similar period, Jeffries analyst Peter Misek calculated. That means Apple has worked out supply constraints and inked deals now with 240 carriers. It will get enough phones out the door in the next 10 days to have a material effect on earnings.

“His skills fit the time period and the flow of product,” said Raymond Miles, professor emeritus at Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley, adding that Apple may be at a stage where it needs “someone with a production vision.” The iPhone launch offers some other, subtler indications of how Apple is changing.

### Huawei sees steady 30 percent revenue growth from consumer devices

Shenzhen, 25 Sept—China’s Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, the world’s second-largest telecom equipment maker and No. 6 handset maker, expects revenue from its consumer devices unit to grow by about 30 percent next year—of which around 160 million were sold in 2012. The unit’s introduction of the iPhone 5 during Apple Inc.’s iPhone media event in San Francisco, California on 12 Sept, was “a big challenge to achieve high profitability,” Wan said.

“We expect our consumer devices division’s revenues to increase by 30 percent next year, with smartphones growing at about 40 percent.” Huawei, which has diversified into mobile phones, expects sales of its consumer devices— including mobiles, tablets and data cards—to rise by around a third this year from $6.8 billion last year, a senior executive said in May, adding the business could hit sales of $30 billion in five years as the unit matches the flagship telecoms gear business as a revenue driver.

The company has said it aims to ship more than 60 million mobile phones this year, including 60 million smartphones to increase its global market share.

Global smartphone shipments will reach 1.7 billion in 2017, up from 450 million last year—of which around 160 million were sold in emerging markets—Ovum said in a report on Monday. Wan said Huawei was considering developing its own smartphone operating system, but he gave no timeframe for this.

While its consumer products are widely accepted, Huawei’s telecoms equipment has hit roadblocks in the United States and more recently, in Australia, over security issues.

In July, Huawei posted a 22 percent drop in first-half operating profit, citing the “significant challenge” of the global economy and new telecoms equipment market.—Reuters

### Google readsies domestic Internet system, blocks Iran

Dubai, 25 Sept—Iran plans to switch its citizens onto a domestic Internet network in what officials say is a bid to improve cyber security but which many Iranians fear is the latest way to control their access to the web.

The announcement, made by a government deputy minister on Sunday, came as state television announced Google Inc’s (GOOG.O) search engine and its email service would be blocked “within a few hours.”

“Google and Gmail will be filtered throughout the country,” an official identified only by his last name, Khoramabadi, said, without giving further details. The Student News Agency (ISNA) said Google ban was connected to the release of a film posted on the company’s YouTube site which has caused outrage throughout the Muslim world.

There was no official confirmation. Iran has one of the biggest Internet filters of any country in the world, which many Iranians believe is a bid to improve cyber security but which many fear is a cover for the government to limit access to the web.

Economists monitor data flow in the control room of an internet service provider in Tehran on 15 February 2011.—Reuters

Iran president and chief executive anti-government are also routinely blocked. Iran commonly overcomes the government filter by using virtual private network (VPN) software that makes the appearance of the site as if it is based in another country.

But officials have long spoken of creating an Iranian Internet system which would be largely isolated from the World Wide Web.—Reuters

Florida wants NASA land to develop commercial spaceport

Cape Canaveral (Florida), 25 Sept—With an eye toward developing a commercial spaceport, Florida has asked NASA to transfer 150 acres of land north of the shuttle launch pads and the shuttle runway to Space Florida, the state’s aerospace development agency.

“Florida believes that the properties identified in this request are excess to the needs of the US government,” Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll, who is also chairwoman of Space Florida, wrote in letter to NASA chief Charles Bolden and Ray LaHood, secretary of Department of Transportation, which oversees commercial space transportation in the United States. The letter, dated on 20 September, was posted on the state’s Sunburst public records website.

A week earlier, Space Florida agreed to spend $2.3 million for environmental studies, site surveys, title searches, appraisals and other activities to lay the groundwork for Cape Canaveral Spaceport, a proposed state-owned commercial complex that would be licensed by the Federal Aviation Administration and operated like an airport.

“If we want to be satisfied with 10 to 12 government launches a year, I don’t have to do anything,” Space Florida president and chief executive Frank DiBello told Reuters. But he said those launches would likely end when commercial sites elsewhere are able to offer affordable rates.

“What has existed for decades as a government function has been good, but the marketplace has been largely governmental.—Reuters

Google shares hit record high, find favour on Street

San Francisco, 25 Sept—Google Inc shares set an all-time high on Monday, with the Web giant’s reliable advertising business back in vogue among Wall Street investors disenchanted with younger social media companies. The stock reached $748.90 in afternoon trading, inching past a previous record set in November 2007 of $747.24. It traded below $300 in 2009 during the global economic crisis and remained under pressure in the ensuing years as investors worried that Google’s best days were behind it.

The world’s No1 search engine, which generated $38 billion in revenue last year, now looks increasingly attractive compared with a new crop of social Web companies, analysts say. Facebook Inc, as well as some hot-web companies Zynga Inc and Groupon Inc, came to the public markets amid sky-high expectations during the past year, but have fallen out of favour concerning about their future business prospects.

“The markets have to come to appreciate that Google’s been making money hand over fist all this time,” said Brian Wieser, an analyst at Pivotal Research Group.

Google’s lucrative search advertising business, as well as its forays expanding into display and mobile advertising, have helped the company maintain robust revenue growth.

A security personnel answers a call at the reception counter of the Google office in the southern Indian city of Hyderabad on 6 Feb, 2012.—Reuters

Reuters
World Health Organization says has found new SARS-like virus

LONDON, 25 Sept—A new virus belonging to the same family as the SARS virus that killed 800 people in 2002 has been identified in a man who had recently been in Saudi Arabia, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Sunday.

The United Nations health body, which issued a statement through its “global alert and response” system, said tests on the patient, a 49-year-old Qatari man, confirmed the presence of a new, or novel, coronavirus. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which includes the common cold and SARS.

“Given that this is a novel coronavirus, WHO is currently in the process of obtaining further information to determine the public health implications,” the statement said.

SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, appeared in China in 2002 and killed some 800 people globally before being brought under control.

Peter Opelka, director of the Centre for Respiratory Infection at Imperial College London, said at this stage the virus looked unlikely to prove a concern, and may well only have been identified due to sophisticated testing techniques.

“For now, I would be watchful but not immediately concerned,” he told Reuters.

The WHO said the Qatari patient had first presented to doctors on 3 September, 2012 with symptoms of an acute respiratory infection.

On 7 September, he was admitted to an intensive care unit in Doha, Qatar, and on 11 September, he was transferred to Britain by air ambulance from Qatar.

“The Health Protection Agency of the UK conducted laboratory testing and has confirmed the presence of a novel coronavirus,” the WHO said.

It said scientists at the IHA compared gene sequences of the virus from the Qatari patient with samples of virus sequenced by Dutch scientists from lung tissue of a fatal case earlier this year in a 60-year-old Saudi national.

The two were almost identical, it said.

Opelka said the fact the two cases found so far are apparently unrelated suggests “that what has been picked up is just some rare event that in past times might have been unidentifiable.”

Survey shows britons’ inflation fears rise again

LONDON, 25 Sept—Britons’ worries about inflation grew this month, though their view of their future finances was the least pessimistic in 2-1/2 years, a survey showed on Monday.

The Markit Household Finance Index (HFI) dipped to 38.4 in September from August’s 20-month high of 38.9, indicating that consumers’ finances worsened over the month as the index was well below the 50 mark that would mark no change.

The latest reading was still one of the highest in the past two years, and households reported a reduced squeeze on their savings and cash available to spend, survey compiler Markit said.

“September’s survey suggests that the gradual easing of pressure on real incomes so far in 2012 continues to support household finances,” said Markit economist Tim Moore.

Fifty percent of those surveyed anticipated a worsening in their finances in the next 12 months, while 29 percent expected an improvement — making it the least upbeat financial outlook since March 2010.

“However, households appear to have become more concerned about the inflation outlook, with cost of living expectations rising sharply since August,” Moore said.

Around three-quarters of the survey respondents noted that their costs of living had increased since August and the month-on-month rise in the index measuring inflation perceptions was the greatest since January 2011.

General Motors readies $10 billion credit line

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—General Motors Co (GM.N) is in market with $10 billion in revolving credit facilities that will beef up liquidity and refinance existing debt, sources told Thomson Reuters LPC.

JPMorgan is leading the deal that has launched to 10 senior lenders. The 10 senior lenders are understood to be part of the company’s existing bank group.

GM spokesman Jim Cain declined to comment. JPMorgan declined to comment.

The company is asking its lenders for at least $8 billion and as much as $10 billion, split between a $5 billion, five-year revolver and a $5 billion, three-year revolver, sources said. The final amounts have yet to be determined since discussions are said to be ongoing.

The company is also offering a flat fee in addition to the upfront fee. The financing will refinance an existing facility of $5 billion, other debt and provide added liquidity.

Apple sells over 5 mn iPhone 5, supply constraints loom

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—Apple Inc (AAPL.O) sold over 5 million iPhone 5 smartphones in the three days since it hit stores, but shares sagged as the company struggled to meet demand.

While sales were solid, the company said on Monday it had run out of its initial supply and many pre-orders were scheduled to go out in October.

Apple Chief Executive Tim Cook said the company is “working hard to build enough iPhone 5s for everyone.”

5: Expectations for new Apple products were so high — some analysts forecast Apple selling as many as 10 million phone over the weekend — that Wall Street was not wowed by the latest numbers. The stock was down 1.7 percent at $688.64 in afternoon trade.

Given the demand, Apple, the world’s most valuable company, is being closely watched for any supplier problems that may slow down the smartphone production.

“We believe that sales could have potentially been much higher if not for supply constraints,” William Power, an analyst with Baird Equity Research, wrote in a note.

Supply limitations are likely to weigh on Apple as the iPhone 5 is launched in another 22 countries on Friday.

To complicate matters, Apple’s largest contract manufacturer Foxconn Technology closed a factory in the northern Chinese city of Taiyuan after a riot broke out among 2,000 employees. Foxconn did not confirm which plants supply Apple, but an employee told Reuters that the Taian plant is among those that assemble and make parts for Apple’s iPhone 5.

Apple referred questions on the factory to Foxconn. The California company also assembles its devices at factories run by Pegatron Corp (2454.TW). — Reuters

BioLineRx patent protection extended for schizophrenia drug


The patent will be valid at least until 2031, extending the existing patent protection of the product by nine years.

“The rate is now a significantly longer period of exclusivity to our lead product, which reflects substantial additional progress in its development towards commercialization,” Kinneret Savitsky, chief executive of BioLineRx, said on Monday.

“We believe that the market potential for BL-1020 has increased over the past several months, as some larger pharmaceutical companies have reported failures during late-stage clinical trials or have reduced the operations surrounding their schizophrenia therapies due to loss of patent protection.”

Almost 1 percent of the world’s population suffers from schizophrenia, Savitsky said, adding that BL-1020 has shown to significantly improve cognitive function in schizophrenia patients.

The company is conducting a Phase III trial with BL-1020’s cognition enhancement as its primary objective. Results are expected in the second half of 2013.— Reuters

Apple’s iPhone 5 is seen on display at the Apple store in Manhasset, New York on 21 Sept, 2012. — Reuters

*New Light of Myanmar Wednesday, 26 September, 2012*
Clinton reassures Egypt’s Mursi on US assistance

NEW YORK, 25 Sept—Secretary of State Hillary Clinton reassured Egypt’s new Islamist president on Monday that the United States would forge ahead with plans to expand economic assistance despite anti-American protests that cast new shadows over US engagement with the region.

Clinton met Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi in New York, where both are attending this week’s UN General Assembly meeting, and reinforced the Obama administration’s commitment to provide both military and economic aid for Cairo, a senior State Department official said.

“What he heard from the secretary is that she is committed to following through on what she has said we will do,” the official said following the 45-minute meeting.

Obama detours from campaign trail to world stage

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept—President Barack Obama will step onto the world stage on Tuesday just long enough to address simmering crises centered on Iran, Syria and the broader Muslim world, and he will then jump quickly back on the campaign trail.

In a speech at the United Nations Monday night in Pakistan’s North Waziristan, local media reported, Monday. The target house is located in the Haider Khel village southeast of Mir Ali, a militant stronghold near Pakistan-Afghan border.

Identities of the slain visitors have not been released. The senior official said Clinton, who has personally lobbied lawmakers to keep US aid to Egypt and other Arab countries on track, believed these concerns had been laid to rest.

“Of course we understand that there may be (of Congress) who have questioned (the aid), but there is strong bipartisan support for Egypt being a democratic success because it’s in our national security interest that that occur,” the official said.—Reuters

Americans to spend more on Halloween this year: survey

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept—When the black cats, witches and trick-or-treaters come out for Halloween this year, a record 170 million people in the United States will dress up, celebrate, and spend up to $8 billion, according to a new retail industry survey.

Seven in ten Americans will take part in the festivities, and the average person will spend $79.82 on decorations, costumes and candy - up from $72.31 last year, according to the National Retail Federation’s 2012 Halloween consumer spending survey, conducted by research group BIGinsight.

Halloween, observed on 31 October, is the eighth biggest selling season in the United States. It is far behind the winter holidays which rank as the No1 retail selling season.

Last year, retailers raked in $471.5 billion during the winter holidays, according to NRF. Halloween sales were about $6.9 billion, lower than the previous year, according to the survey.

The study, which has a margin of error of plus or minus 1 percent, polled 9,393 consumers from 5 to 11 years of age.

Five militants killed in eastern Afghan operations

KABUL, 25 Sept—Afghan forces and the NATO-led coalition troops have eliminated five militants in operations launched in eastern Afghan provinces within a 24-hour period, the coalition forces said in a statement on Tuesday.

“Afghan and coalition forces killed five insurgents, detained one, located two weapons caches and cleared seven improvised explosive devices (IEDs) during operations in eastern Afghanistan throughout the past 24-hour period,” coalition’s Regional Command-East (RC-East) said in the statement.

The operations were launched in eastern Logar, Laghman, Ghazni, Khost, Paktia and Nangarhar provinces. The operations in RC-E are still ongoing, the statement added.

However, the Taliban insurgent group, which announced the launching of an annual spring offensive from 3 May against Afghan and NATO forces, has not to make comments yet.

MEXICO CITY, 25 Sept—Six out of 10 Mexican prisons are “self-governed” by prison gangs or drug cartels, according to a report issued on Monday by the country’s human rights commission.

Commission representa- Andeas Aguirre said at a news conference that Mexico’s prisons also are plagued by overcrowding, a shortage of guards and corrupt employees who sometimes help with breakouts. Aguirre said 60 percent of the country’s 430 prisons or jails are controlled by criminal elements. He added that the escape of 521 inmates over 14 incidents since 2010—with the help of corrupt prison officials—constitutes a grave problem for the country. Earlier this month, more than 130 inmates escaped from a prison near the US border in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, one of numerous mass breakouts tied to organized crime in the past few years. Initial reports indicated the Piedras Negras inmates escaped through a 23-foot-long underground tunnel, but it was later revealed that they had merely walked out the facility’s front door with the help of prison guards.

“A good number of (Mexico’s) prisons feature similar conditions to those at Piedras Negars,” Aguirre said.

Overcrowding of the country’s prisons and jails is another problem facing the national penal system. As of July, Mexico’s overall prison population stood at 48,872, an increase of 20 percent from the system’s official capacity.

Report shows most Mexican prisons controlled by inmates
France confirms death of four national climbers, two still missing

Paris, 25 Sept—France confirmed on Monday the death of four French climbers after an avalanche hit the base of Manaslu Mountain in Nepal on Sunday. “At this stage, the provisional toll reported four French nationals died. Two (others) were still being sought,” said Helen Conway-Moore, minister in charge of French Nationals abroad. Three other French climbers were hospitalized and expected to return home later in the day, she added.

Search and rescue operations were suspended on Monday as “there is no hope to find the missing people,” said Christian Tromsdorf, vice president of the National Union of Missions Abroad, signed by Europe 1 radio as saying.

At least nine people including foreign climbers were killed when the avalanche hit the base of Manaslu Mountain in Nepal on Sunday. About 18 other tourists were injured in the avalanche, most of them from Germany and France, reports said.

Man killed, at least 20 homes lost in brush fire east of San Diego

US SAN DIEGO, 25 Sept—California firefighters battled Friday to contain a brush fire on Monday that has damaged or destroyed at least 30 homes, forced dozens of others evacuated and claimed one life east of San Diego near the US-Mexico border. The body of an unidentified man was found on Monday in the charred rubble of a house after authorities said they were searching for an 82-year-old man who resides in the area and was reported missing.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection declined to immediately confirm that the missing man turned up as a fatality. But a neighbour who spoke to Reuters by telephone, Bob Gookin, said he was certain they had found a body. “His track was pretty distinctive and it’s parked out front,” Gookin said. “It’s the house down from us, next to the Boot Hill Ranch.”

The so-called Shockey Fire erupted near the Campo Indian Reservation in southeastern San Diego County on midday on Sunday and has scorched at least 2,000 acres of dry brush, authorities said.

By Monday afternoon, crews had managed to contain vegetation lines around 10 percent of the fire’s perimeter, CalFire incident manager Rick Vogt said. The origin of the fire was under investigation, but locals have blamed a pedestrian for starting it.

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Driving forces behind a democratic state

Since the elected government has taken office in March 2011, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has been in the reform process. The first year saw the political reform, and the by-election was held on 1 April 2012 for political all-inclusiveness. Accordingly, political stakeholders are now in the parliaments at all levels, and the country is gaining more and more political unity and stability.

All hands are in harmony and union amending the existing laws and enacting new laws as and when necessary for national development. Moreover, we all witness the government signing peace agreements with ethnic armed groups.

The President has been seeking advice from independent bodies such as the Political Advisory Council and the Economic Advisory Council formed with experts within the country, and finding best solutions through talks and negotiations. We have also adopted the people-centred economic development in the second year.

Currently, Myanmar is in the process of devising and delivering political and economic reforms. So, the country has now become favorable to international order. As the country can improve relations with many world countries including the US, economic sanctions against Myanmar were eased to a certain degree, and the country is receiving international investment and aids offers.

The important thing here is we should also form a pilot agency like the Ministry of Internal Trade and Industry-MITI of Japan or the Economic Planning Board-EPB of South Korea that steered the development drive of those countries.

We also need systematic foreign aid management mechanism in channelling international assistance proportionately to regions that really need help and sectors ensure long-term benefits for the public.

All in all, Myanmar will become a developed, glorious and prosperous country in the world if we all work hard in establishing the characteristics and the driving forces that give birth to a democratic state.

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Illegal logs seized, owners to be prosecuted

Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry is taking constant legal actions against illegal log extractors with the help of the public.

Four trucks loaded with illegal timber were seized by an 11-member team of Mandalay Region Forest Department in a surprise check in Chamyathazhi Township in Mandalay District on 19 September.

Legal actions will be taken against the owners of the logs who are being chased by the authorities.

A similar team raided an illegal sawmill in Oktwin Township of Bago Region the next day and seized illegal woods but the owner managed to escape from the scene. Authorities are in the chase of the owner to prosecute.

Kachin State Hluttaw continues its fifth day session

The Fourth Regular Session of the First Kachin State Hluttaw continued for the fifth day at the State Hluttaw Hall yesterday afternoon, attended by Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai, Kachin State Hluttaw Speaker U Rawam Jone and 47 Hluttaw representatives.

At the session, nine questions were answered, the budget of Kachin State for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, approval for expenditure of Myanmar Correctional Department of Kachin State exceeding the estimated accounts in 2011-2012, scrutiny report of Hluttaw legislative committee submitted to the Hluttaw, a bill and two proposals discussed and two new proposals submitted.

The Hluttaw came to an end at 5.05 pm.
**NATIONAL**

Public service broadcasting expected to emerge soon

**YANGON,** 25 Sept—“Public broadcasting plays a crucial role in ensuring the public’s right to receive a wide diversity of independent and non-partisan information and ideas. It also serves as a meeting place where all citizens are welcomed and considered equals and where social issues are discussed. It has probably been the greatest of the instruments of social democracy to be accessible to all and meant for all,” said Union Minister for Information U Aung Kyi at the Conference on Public Service Media at Inya Lake Hotel, here, at 9 am yesterday.

The Union Minister went on to say that it also helps to create a greater sense of national identity, foster democratic and other important social values, provide quality educational and informational programming, and serve the needs of minority and other specialized interest groups.

Recent abolishment in media censorship and relaxation on internet rules ensure that the government’s policies are in line with democracy practices. These processes are aimed to promote the accountability and transparency of the government which will eventually increase the public trust towards the government. The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has laid down “People-centered strategy” for the democratic reforms in every arena. And as media reform is more favourable and effective when it is part and parcel of a broader democratic governance reform, he hoped that public service broadcasting will become a part of democracy promotion asset in Myanmar soon.

Chairman Harlad Bockman of Democratic Voice of Burma presided over the first session of the conference and resource persons read the paper under the title Public Service Journalism. In the second session of the conference chaired by Director Gayathry Venkiteswaran of SEAPA, the resource persons read the paper under the title Public Service Broadcasting in Theory and Practice. U Soe Thein (Maung Win Tha-Wrter/Journalist) presided over the third session and resource persons read the paper under the title PSB in Myanmar. They replied to questions and discussions of the attendees.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Minister for Information U Ye Htut, Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw representatives, representatives from political parties, responsible persons from DVB, Swedish Radio Media Development Office, International Media Support (IMS), Myanmar journalist associations and Ministry of Information.

The conference concluded today.—**MNA**

Union Education Minister meets BEHS headmasters who got doctoral degree

**NAY PYI TAW,** 25 Sept—Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye met with BEHS headmasters who got doctoral degree at auditorium of the ministry here this noon. At the meeting, the Union minister urged them to emphasize for promotion on basic education quality, to maintain dignity of teachers and to turn out new generation for the State.

Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu explained expansion of formation in basic education sector, Director-General U Bo Win of Education, Planning and Training Department and officials the needs for expansion education tasks.

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Ministers for Education U Ba Shwe and Dr Myo Myint, directors-general, deputy directors-general, officials from departments and BEHS headmasters who got doctoral degree. **MNA**

Maize dryer and milling factory opened in Kyaukme

**KYAUKME,** 25 Sept—Hteiktan Maize Seed Trading Co Ltd launched the 100-ton maize dryer and milling factory in Mwedaw Village of Kyaukme Township, Shan State (North), at 10 am on 23 September.

Thanks to the factory, the local maize growers can earn income early. Today, maize seeds may be sold at K350 per viss. Shan national race farmers from Naungpein, Pintein, Sakhantaw, Lonwe, Kywegon, Khonohn and Khomone villages sold 12,000 baskets of maize seeds by light truck to the factory recently.

It was reported that the company will distribute high yield TP hybrid maize to the local farmers. **Kyemon**

Development of technology discussed

**YAMETHIN,** 25 Sept—The second workshop of Technological University for development of technology in Yamethin District was held at the hall of District General Administration Department at 1 pm on 22 September.

Deputy Commissioner U Kyaw Kyaw Tun of District General Administration Department made a speech. Principal Dr Aung Ko of Technological University and four other heads explained the purpose of giving training. It was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw and Region Hluttaw representatives of Yamethin and Pyawbwe Townships, departmental personnel, industrialists and local people. **Myanmar Alin**

Kayah State honours outstanding farmers

**NAY PYI TAW,** 25 Sept—Kayah State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Oo praised farmers for their hard work to yield 200 baskets of Pakehtaw hybrid paddy per acre, adhering 14 Good Agricultural Practices adopted by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation at the ceremony held at Lokwai Irrigation Department yesterday.

He said enthusiasm and resourcefulness contributed to the success, calling for extension of the high yield paddy fields.

The chief minister and State Agriculture and Livestock Breeding Minister U Po Re Yan Aung awarded outstanding farmers. The average yield of Pakehtaw paddy fields in the state is 171.11 acres. **MNA**

Cultural symposium 1-3 October

Ministry of Culture and Foundation for International Human Resource Development (JIHDR) of Thailand will jointly organize the Symposium on Cultural Conservation in Myanmar Cultural Heritage Site and Culture as the Tourism Related at Asia Plaza in Yangon from 1 to 3 October. A total of 50 participants from ministries and organizations are invited to attend the symposium.

Bags of rice distributed to Putao

The Chief Minister of Kayin State inspected loading of bags of rice onboard F-28 of Myanma Airways to be sent to local people in Airport Ward in Putao.

Fingerlings released into Ayeyawady River

Kayin State Fisheries Department and Jade Land Myanmar Co Ltd jointly organized the releasing of fingerlings into Ayeyawady River at the jetty at the corner of Strand Road and Yongyi Road in Myikyina. The state authorities and departmental officials released 200,000 fingerlings into the river.

Farmland law, land management law multiplier course opened

The multiplier course for farmland law and vacant, fallow and virgin land management law was held at Zabuthiri Township General Administration Department on 24 September morning. The course was provided till 25 September.

Mon State MCWSC opens ten house leader course

Mon State Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee organized the 10-house leader course at the hall of Mon State Planning and Training MCWA on 24 September. Altogether 30 trainees from Mawlamyine and Thaton districts attended the two-day course.

MMA to conduct hospital management course

Under the CME programme, Hospital Management Society of Myanmar Medical Association will conduct the four-day hospital management course as of 20 October and another batch of course as of 3 November. The courses will be provided from 12 noon to 4 m daily. The four-day hospital management course as of 20 October and another batch of course as of 3 November. The courses will be provided from 12 noon to 4 m daily. The course will be opened at Public Health University in Lanmadaw Township.

**News in Brief**

**YESB concludes on-job technician course**

On-job basic technician training course 2/2012 of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board (Head Office) concluded at its training school in Ahlon Township on 24 September afternoon. Altogether 59 trainees attended the two-week course.

**District News**

The Chief Minister of Kayin State inspected loading of bags of rice onboard F-28 of Myanma Airways to be sent to local people in Airport Ward in Putao.
Breathing European air shortens life

EU

BRUSSELS, 25 Sept—Air pollution is shortening lives by almost two years in parts of the European Union, the European Environmental Agency (EEA) said, strengthening the case for a tightening of emissions restrictions in the bloc.

Legislation had managed to cut the amount of some toxins belched out by exhaust fumes and chimneys across Europe, an EEA report published on Monday said.

But there were still dangerous levels of microscopic particles, known as particulate matter and linked to diseases such as lung cancer and cardiovascular problems, it added.

On average, air pollution was reducing human lives across the region by roughly eight months, the report said. It also quoted separate European Commission-filmed research showing that a reduction in particulates levels could extend life expectancy by 22 months in some areas.

The report did not spell out where those areas were, but it said that Poland and other industrial regions of eastern Europe had particularly high levels or particulate pollution.

 Alone among British cities, London also exceeded daily EU limits for particulate matter. Speaking after the launch of the report, EU Environment Commissioner Janez Potočnik said that a review of EU air quality laws next year needed to bring EU limits on pollution levels closer to the stricter World Health Organization (WHO) recommendations on safe levels of pollutants.

This (the report) is really a serious warning about the importance of air quality of life and health, Potočnik told Reuters.

Apart from the impact on health, EEA Executive Director Jacqueline McGlade said that the pollution cost the bloc 1 trillion euros a year in healthcare and dealing with the wider impact on ecosystems.

“European Union policy has reduced emissions of many pollutants over the last decade, but we can go further,” she said. —Reuters

Giants panda cub that died at US zoo had abnormal liver

WASHINGTON, 25 Sept—The death of a six-day-old giant panda cub at the National Zoo in Washington, an agonizing blow to wildlife conservationists efforts —could be linked to an abnormal liver, the zoo’s chief veterinarian said on Monday.

A day after the zoo’s staff failed to revive the cub with lifesaving measures, including CPR, the initial results of an examination showed the panda was likely a female whose body displayed no obvious signs of trauma or infection.

“One cost was beautiful,” veterinarian Suzan Murray said at a press conference.

The cub was born on 16 September but had not yet been given a name, in line with a Chinese tradition that pandas are not named for 100 days. The arrival was cause for celebration among zoo officials and wildlife conservationists given the daunting odds for the endangered species reproducing in captivity.

Despite fewer than 1,000 giant pandas are known to exist in the wild, and about 300 live in zoos and wildlife centres around the world. Breeding is a scientific challenge. One in five cubs born in captivity die in their first year of life, the National Zoo said on its website. Preliminary results of an examination of the cubshow the tiny animal had a discolored liver, which was hardened in some areas, Murray said. “This can suggest there was a liver component to the death,” Murray said.

Another unusual finding, according to Murray, was fluid in the cub’s abdomen, normal for adult pandas but odd for a juvenile. Pathologists were analyzing the fluids. Murray said. “The amount appears moderate for a small cub,” she said, adding that further testing was needed to confirm a cause.

The body of the cub weighed about 3.5 ounces (100 grams). Zoo officials said they were concerned about the reaction of the cub’s mother, Mei Xiang, who had given birth after a year of failed efforts at conception, including five “pseudo pregnancies” in which her hormones levels and behavior indicated she was carrying a cub when she was not. —Reuters

Six killed in building collapse in western India

NEW DELHI, 25 Sept—at least six people were killed and 16 others were trapped under debris in a building collapse in the western Indian city of Pune in the state of Maharashtra on Monday, a senior police official said.

“The mishap happened at 2:00 pm (local time) when the Somnath building in the Dhanwadi area of the city caved in. Police and fire brigade teams have been trying to rescue those still trapped in the collapse,” he said, on condition of anonymity. While two people died on the spot, four others succumbed to their injuries on way to hospital, he said, adding that the death toll may go up. A probe has been ordered into the incident, the official added. —Xinhua

Family of Arizona grandfather shot dead by police files suit

PHOENIX, 25 Sept.—The family of an Arizona man who was shot dead while holding his 7-month-old grandson by a police officer responsible for five other fatal shootings on Monday filed a wrongful death lawsuit against a Phoenix valley city.

The suit alleging police misconduct was filed against the City of Scottsdale on behalf of the surviving daughter and father of John Loxus, 50, who was killed with a single rifle shot to the head in February by city officer James Peters.

Police said they called to Loxus’ home after neighbours reported a visit to Vietnam in July, but Washington and Europe have stopped short of sanctioning the country over its worsening rights record. —Reuters

Vietnam jails three bloggers in crackdown on dissent

HANOI, 25 Sept.—A Vietnamese court sentenced three high-profile bloggers to jail terms ranging from four to 12 years on Monday, in the latest crackdown on dissent as booming Internet usage threatens to undermine the Communist government’s authority.

Bloggers in Vietnam, which has one of the world’s fastest growing Internet populations, have grown bolder in criticising the government over issues ranging from land rights to corruption, and China’s growing regional influence.

That comes as Vietnam’s economy, not long ago a star of Southeast Asia, faces a slowdown in the wake of debt scandals at its huge state enterprises that have undermined investor confidence and exposed divisions in the Communist leadership.

The government has responded to the growing dissent with a crackdown that has earned it the title of “Enemy of the Internet” from media freedom group Reporters Without Borders, which says only China and Iran jail more journalists.

Nguyen Van Hai, who criticised government policies under his blogging name Dieu Cay, was sentenced to 12 years for “anti-state propaganda”, according to a lawyer for the bloggers who attended the brief trial in southern Ho Chi Minh City on Monday.

Fellow bloggers Ta Phong Tan and Phan Thanh Hai got 10 years and four years respectively, said the lawyer, Ha Huy Son. All three were founding members of the Free Journalists Club, a website set up for bloggers to post their writing.

“These harsh sentences against bloggers are absolutely outrageous, and show the Vietnamese government’s intolerance of views that oppose its own,” said Phil Robertson, Asia deputy director for Human Rights Watch.

“Today’s sentences show how deep-seated the Vietnam government crackdown on basic human rights really is,” US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said she raised concerns over human rights and the three bloggers during a visit to Vietnam in July, but Washington and Europe have stopped short of sanctioning the country over its worsening rights record. —Reuters

A view of ILVA steel plants in Taranto, Italy, on 4 Aug, 2012. —Reuters

Violent unrest erupts in Italian city

ROME, 25 Sept.—One person was killed and at least four others were injured as a train ran over a truck in southern Italy on Monday.

On average, air pollution is shortening lives by almost two years in parts of the European Union, the European Environmental Agency (EEA) said, strengthening the case for a tightening of emissions restrictions in the bloc.

Legislation had managed to cut the amount of some toxins belched out by exhaust fumes and chimneys across Europe, an EEA report published on Monday said.

But there were still dangerous levels of microscopic particles, known as particulate matter and linked to diseases such as lung cancer and cardiovascular problems, it added.

On average, air pollution was reducing human lives across the region by roughly eight months, the report said. It also quoted separate European Commission-filmed research showing that a reduction in particulates levels could extend life expectancy by 22 months in some areas.

The report did not spell out where those areas were, but it said that Poland and other
China announces formal handover of first aircraft carrier

BRITAIN, 25 Sept—China’s first aircraft carrier officially entered service on Tuesday and the Defence Ministry said it would help project maritime power and defend Chinese territory.

The handover of the vessel comes as China and Japan are embroiled in a diplomatic spat over islands both claim and China is concerned over renewed US military interest in Asia.

China’s overall naval operational forces, “the China’s first aircraft carrier, which was renovated from an old aircraft carrier that China bought from Ukraine in 1998, is seen docked at Dalian Port in Dalian, Liaoning province in this on 22 Sept, 2012 file photo. China’s first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, officially entered naval ranks on 25 Sept , 2012 the country’s Ministry of Defence announced, in a move that it said would help project maritime power and defend Chinese territory.—Reuters

Lightning kills 91 Cambodians in eight months, down 37 pct

CAMBODIA, 25 Sept.— Lightning strikes had killed 91 Cambodians in the first eight months of this year, down 37 percent compared with 146 deaths at the same period last year, a senior disaster official said on Tuesday.

Chea Vey, chief of the Cabinet of the National Committee for Disaster Management, said that 19 out of the dead persons were female and most of them lived in rural areas.

In addition, the lightning strikes had injured 69 others and killed 32 heads of cattle, he said.

The decrease in death toll this year is thanks to the government’s efforts in educating people about how to keep themselves safe from lightning strikes, he said.

Floods, landslides displace 1 million in India; 33 dead

GUWAHATI, 25 Sept.—Floods and landslides caused by relentless rain in northeast India have killed at least 33 people and displaced more than a million over the past week, officials said on Monday.

At least 21 people were killed in landslides and another eight were missing in the mountainous state of Sikkim, said state government spokesman AS Tobgy. In Assam, still recovering from deadly floods that hit the tea-growing state in July, eight people were killed and 20 were missing, police said.

Disasters displaced nearly one million people state and many were now sheltering in camps or beside roads, which tend to be built above the land they pass through, a senior official in Assam’s disaster management authority said.

China has vast sea areas and huge maritime rights and interests that it needs to protect, and China’s growing overseas interests require a strong navy to provide security guarantees,” said Yang, a former director of the Institute for Strategic Studies at the People’s Liberation Army National Defence University.

“The Liaoning will mainly engage in scientific, research and training, Yang said, while adding it would also help China assert its military power.

“China is tough-minded and will absolutely safeguard its sovereignty and national dignity,” Yang said. “We stand for peace, but we are not afraid of any threats or intimidation.”

The carrier, called the Liaoning, was originally purchased from Ukraine and named after the northeast China’s port of Dalian.

“The entry into the ranks of this aircraft carrier will raise the level of modernization of China’s overall naval forces,” the ministry said on its website (www.mod.gov.cn).

China’s first aircraft carrier, the Liaoning, officially entered naval ranks on 25 Sept , 2012 by the country’s Ministry of Defence announced, in a move that it said would help project maritime power and defend Chinese territory.—Reuters

New Zealand prepares for big quake test nationwide

WELLINGTON, 25 Sept.— More than 1.2 million people have signed up to take part in New Zealand’s first earthquake “shakeout” to test disaster readiness.

New Zealand has a total population of around 4.4 million. Almost 2000 schools and nearly as many businesses will join the government-organized nationwide event which warns people what to do if a quake hits.

The first shake-out is at 9:26 am local time on Wednesday in 2003, has a designed annual production capacity of 90,000 tonnes. —Xinhua

Japan

Japan

Ten hurt in train derailment in Japan due to mudslide

TOKYO, 25 Sept.—Ten people were hurt after a commuter train from China to Japan ran into a pile of mud that covered the tracks after heavy rain in Kanagawa prefecture on Monday, local media said on Tuesday.

The three front cars of the eight-carriage train were derailed on the Keikyu main line. The police said nine passengers sustained minor injuries, the report said.

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, around 100 millimeters of rain was recorded in one hour from 11:00 pm on Monday in the Yokusuka area.

Two people were killed and 200 passengers injured in the train derailment near the Hayama station, a police official said.

“China has vast sea areas and huge maritime rights and interests that it needs to protect, and China’s growing overseas interests require a strong navy to provide security guarantees,” said Yang, a former director of the Institute for Strategic Studies at the People’s Liberation Army National Defence University.

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Indonesia's car demand to rise
275 pct by 2025

JAKARTA, 25 Sept—Domestic demand for automobiles in Indonesia is going to increase dramatically by 275 percent by 2025, driven by rising per capita incomes, robust economic growth and urbanization, a consulting group was quoted as saying on Tuesday.

The ratio of local car owners would jump significantly from 80 to 300 units per 1,000 people by 2025, an increase of 275 percent, boosted particularly by increased consumer purchasing power, said Massaki Honda, the principal consultant for automotive and transportation at Frost & Sullivan Asia Pacific.

"Indonesia’s gross domestic product (GDP), which was 700 billion US dollars in 2010, is expected to reach 4.6 trillion US dollars by 2025, making it the world’s 10th largest economy. By that time, the GDP per capita will be 17,000 US dollar, up from around 3,000 US dollar at present," Honda was quoted as saying by the Jakarta Post as saying here.

Chinese president-elect promotes trade ties with Peru

LIMA, 25 Sept—Visiting Mexican President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto on Monday told Peruvian business leaders here his government plans to promote trade and investment ties with Peru. Addressing a group of 180 members of Peru’s National Confederation of Private Business, Pena Nieto stated trade and investment ties between the two countries are healthy, but could be expanded.

In recent years, Peru has become Mexico’s second largest investment destination in Latin America, with trade flow between the two growing by more than 500 percent, according to Pena Nieto. “If these favorable conditions continue in Peru, larger investments can be attained and trade exchange will grow,” said Pena Nieto, adding Mexican private investment in Peru has reached 14 billion US dollars in the past few years.

Peru’s business community is interested in improving conditions for bilateral trade and investment, and concerned about the effects of organized crime and drug trafficking in both countries. —Xinhua

China Library opens at Tanzania’s National Central Library

DAAR ES SALAAM, 25 Sept—Chinese government donated computers and publications concerning China at the opening ceremony of China Library at Tanzania’s National Central Library on Monday, in an effort to deepen Tanzanian people’s understanding of the Asian giant.

Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Lu Youqing said at the ceremony that culture exchanges continue to increase with the expansion of economic cooperation in recent years, and Chinese government has always supported the development of culture and education in Tanzania and offered help within its capacity.

"Books are the carriers of knowledge and stepping stones to human progress. Moreover, books are envoys of culture exchange and links of friendship," Lu said, adding that he hopes the China Library could become a new window for Tanzanian people to learn about China and a new bridge of deepening traditional friendship between China and Tanzania.

Chinese government donated 20 computers, 1000 paper publications and videos and 100,000 digital publications to China Library, which was co-established by China’s State Council Information Office and Tanzania’s National Central Library. Covering Chinese politics, economy, culture, history, art, science, etc, the donated publications offer an integrated image of China to Tanzanian people.

The extensive cooperation between Tanzania and China in social, economic, political and cultural areas has benefited the two countries’ people, and China’s generous donation is the best example of the good relationship, said Celestine Gesimba, Permanent Secretary of Tanzania’s Ministry of Education and Vocational Training.

China Library would open to the public as soon as possible, he added.

The opening ceremony and books donation were part of a series of cultural exchange events called “Experience China at Tanzania”, which has been going on in Tanzania since last month. —Xinhua
Obama offers himself up as “eye candy” on “The View”

Los Angeles, 25 Sept—President Barack Obama on Monday offered himself up as “eye candy” on a taping of the daytime talk show “The View,” by flirting with his wife and bearing gifts for the hosts, but he could not escape tough questions on the economy that have dominated the election.

When host and veteran journalist Barbara Walters kidded Michelle Obama about bringing the president as her “date,” Obama quipped, “I’ve been told I’m just eye candy here.”

The appearance, which will air on Tuesday on the ABC television network, marks the first time the Obamas have appeared together on the one-hour show, which features four female hosts, including Hollywood icon Whoopi Goldberg, and is popular with middle-income women voters.

The taping in New York was squeezed in before Obama’s obligations at the United Nations General Assembly’s annual meeting, where he is delivering a Tuesday morning speech.

During the show, the Obamas joked about their upcoming anniversary and presented the hosts with White House cloth napkins, golf balls, candy and bottles of Obama’s home-brewed beer. The couple’s 20th anniversary will fall on the day of the first presidential debate, on 3 October.

“Our first wedding anniversary, I totally forgot,” Michelle dead-panned.

The president jokingly responded: “Cold.”

Obama and his Republican opponent, Mitt Romney, are both fighting hard for the women’s vote.

In 2008, middle-class women were key to Obama’s presidential win, and Obama has worked to get them to the polls again. His campaign this summer renewed its focus on social issues such as birth control, women’s health and reproductive rights.

Bollywood’s Aishwarya Rai Bachchan named UN HIV/AIDS envoy


Bollywood's Aishwarya Rai Bachchan named UN HIV/AIDS envoy

Obama offers himself up as “eye candy” on “The View”

Los Angeles, 25 Sept—R&B singer Chris Brown has tested positive for marijuana while on probation.

Schneck said mandatory drug testing was not a condition of Brown’s probation. But she scheduled a 1 November hearing to decide whether he had violated his probation on that and other matters, including travel restrictions and fulfillment of community service.

Schneck gave Brown, 23, a warning in court, reminding him that he was a role model.

Brown’s lawyer, Mark Geragos, said his client had “completely all of his community service.

Brown, who won a Grammy award earlier this year, was sentenced to five years of probation and six months of community service after pleading guilty to criminal assault for beating Rihanna on the eve of the Grammy awards in 2009.”

Chris Brown tests positive for marijuana while on probation

Los Angeles, 25 Sept.—R&B singer Chris Brown has tested positive for marijuana, leading a Los Angeles judge on Monday to set a November hearing to decide whether he violated his probation stemming from a 2009 assault on then-girlfriend Rihanna.

According to a probation report presented in court, Brown tested positive in August in Virginia, where he is fulfilling his community service, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Patricia Schnegg said. Brown, who is midway through a five-year probation sentence, produced a medical marijuana card after the positive test, Schnegg said.

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After Brown’s failed pregnancy test, Screw, who was convicted of felonious assault with a motor vehicle, said he was going to have another baby. But he violated his probation on the new matter, and was sentenced to six months in jail and 30 months probation.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan was born in 1973 in India and began her acting career at the age of 16. She is one of India’s most popular actresses and has won several awards for her work in the film industry.

She has also worked in Hollywood films such as “The Pink Panther 2” and is a regular at the Cannes film festival.

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Obama offers himself up as “eye candy” on “The View”
Real labour to 2-0 win at lowly Rayo Vallecano

MADRID, 25 Sept—Real Madrid got back to winning ways in La Liga but were far from convincing in a laboured 2-0 victory at lowly city rivals Rayo Vallecano on Monday.

Karim Benzema finished off a swift breakaway in the 13th minute and Xabi Alonso had to clear a Rayo effort off the line before Cristiano Ronaldo netted from the penalty spot 20 minutes from time.

The victory, only their second success in five games this season, lifted Jose Mourinho’s side to seventh on seven points, eight behind leaders Barcelona, who were 2-0 winners at home to Granada on Saturday.

Real have already lost twice in La Liga — at Getafe and Sevilla — the same number of defeats the champions suffered in the whole of last season, while arch rivals Barca have won all five of their games.

Monday’s match had been due to be played on Sunday night but was postponed because of alleged sabotage to the lighting at Rayo’s Vallecas stadium.—Reuters

Hodgson disappointed with Terry retirement decision

LONDON, 25 Sept—England manager Roy Hodgson has reluctantly accepted John Terry’s retirement from internationals but said he was disappointed in the defender’s decision.

Terry, who is due before a Football Association tribunal on Monday facing a charge of racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand, announced on Sunday he was quitting international soccer.

The former England captain, capped 78 times in an international career stretching back to 2003, said the impending case against him had made his position in the national team untenable as he was cleared in the criminal trial over the affair.

“If I’d like to thank John Terry for his commitment to the England team since I became manager,” Hodgson said in a FA statement.

“I am of course disappointed to lose a player of John’s international experience and exceptional ability.

“I have enjoyed a good relationship with John during my time as England manager and I reluctantly accept his decision.

“I can also confirm that he had the courtesy to call me prior to announcing his retirement from the England team. I’d like to wish John well for the future with Chelsea.”

If found guilty by the FA of abusing Ferdinand, Terry could face a lengthy ban similar to the eight-game suspension served by Liverpool’s Luis Suarez last season for racially abusing Manchester United’s Patrice Evra.—Reuters

Walcott wants to stay at Arsenal as contract talks continue

LONDON, 25 Sept—England international Theo Walcott expressed his desire to stay at Arsenal on Monday although he said he was happy to let contract negotiations with the north London club run their course.

The 23-year-old has been the subject of intense speculation about his future as he and club officials have been unable to agree on an extension to his current deal which ends next summer.

Walcott, who has made money have said money was the contentious issue with Walcott valuing himself significantly higher than the club did. “I’ve never said I wanted to go. I’ve always said I wanted to be an Arsenal player,” Walcott told Reuters at an English Football Association (FA) “Just Play” event north of London.

“I’ve never been influenced by the money, it’s never been about that. I’m not that sort of person at all. It’s always been a football decision for. It was about the money, I wouldn’t have gone in the summer.

“Hopefully, something can be sorted...we’re just waiting for the club to come back to us and go from there. Hopefully, I can get back in that team and start playing again.”

Walcott said he wanted to play as a striker instead of the wide role he has usually occupied for Arsenal but he has been sitting mainly on the substitutes’ bench this season as the team have made an encouraging start.

The high-profile departures of Robin van Persie and Alex Song and a number of new signings in key positions could have destabilised Arsen Wenger’s squad but they have been playing well.

A thrumping 6-1 win over Southampton was followed by a 2-1 victory at French champions Montpellier in the Champions League and Arsenal drew 1-1 at Premier League champions Manchester City on Sunday.

“We’ve had two very positive away matches against top teams,” Walcott said. “I think we could’ve done better against Man City as well but you’ve got to take that. We’re only going to get better.”—Reuters

Chelsea face Monterrey or Asian champs in Club World Cup

ZURICH, 25 Sept—European champions Chelsea will face either Monterrey of Mexico or the winners of the Asian Champions League in the semi-finals of the Club World Cup following draw for the tournament on Monday.

Chelsea received a bye in the first round of the competition, to be held in Japan from 6-16 December, and will enter at the semi-final stage on 13 December.

The Asian champions will be decided in early November. The champions of the Japanese J-League, which ends on December 1, will open the tournament against New Zealand’s Auckland City at Nissan Stadium in Yokohama.

With eight games remaining in the J-League, Sanfrecce Hiroshima lead Vegalta Sendai by two points and former Asian champions Urawa Reds are a further three points back.

The winners of that first match will then play the African champions, who will be decided on 10 November with the victors going on to face Brazil’s Copa Libertadores champions Corinthians in the last four on 12 December.—Reuters

Chelsea’s John Terry reacts during a team training session at Stamford Bridge in London on 18 Sept. 2012.—REUTERS

Arsenal’s Theo Walcott shoots and scores against Southhampton during their English Premier League soccer match at the Emirates Stadium in London on 15 Sept. 2012.—REUTERS

Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo scores a penalty kick against Rayo Vallecano during their Spanish First Division soccer match at Teresa Rivero stadium in Madrid on 24 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

Li beats sniffs to advance in Tokyo

TOKYO, 25 Sept—Former French Open champion Li Na shrugged off a nasty cough to beat Russia’s Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 7-5, 4-6, 6-2 and reach the last 16 of the Pan Pacific Open on Monday.

One of three Chinese players who made the trip to Tokyo despite a blazing political row between her country and Japan, Li’s experience told after a wobble in the second set.

“Obviously I’m still not 100 percent,” Li told Reuters.

“Just trying to stay healthy and taking (cough) medicine every morning and every night.”

However, 2011 Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova was Larsson 6-3, 7-6 and next faces Frenchwoman Marion Bartoli of their Spanish First Division soccer match at Teresa Rivero stadium in Madrid on 24 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

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**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

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<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Taste of Myanmar (Fried Flat Noodle)</td>
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<td>8:20 am</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Bagan; The Land of Pagodas (Part 1)</td>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
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<td>9:45 am</td>
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<td>The ChilisFest Journal Launch Party</td>
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<td>Myanmar Movie “Forgive and Forget”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>1. Paritita By Hilly Region Missionary Sayawal</td>
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<td>1:15 pm</td>
<td>2. The Longest Running Traditional Performing Arts Competition (Level Men)</td>
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**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(26-9-12 09:30 am – 27-9-12 09:30 am) MST

- News
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- For sufficient oil, let’s grow hybrid sunflower
- News
- Future Youth and Success Mind
- Song for you
- News
- Astronomy & Astrology
- “Horoscope for 12 Sign of Ascendants in October, 2012”
- News
- Launching Ceremony of the Public Image Journal
- News
- 1st Technical Field-Wise Seminar of JICA Alumni Association

**FA reject Terry claim of forcing his retirement**

last four days on Monday, facing charges of racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand last October despite being acquitted in the law courts in July.

FA general secretary Alex Horne dismissed Terry’s objections to the hearing, saying that the governing body was not responsible for the player’s decision to retire.

“It’s a personal decision. I don’t see how we have made it untenable, they are two very separate processes,” Horne told the British media on Monday.

“It’s something that happened in a match - it shouldn’t be taking a year to resolve but we feel we are reaching a conclusion on that.

“That’s a very different process from our England procedures; they sit in different compartments and I could separate the two in my mind, but it doesn’t look like he could. If I found guilty of racially abusing Ferdinand, Terry could face a lengthy ban similar to the eight-match one served by Liverpool’s Luis Suarez last season.

London-born Terry, capped 78 times since his debut in 2003 including appearances in two World Cups, has spent his entire career with Chelsea since joining the European champions as a 14-year-old.

**Czech begins to construct high-tech institute**

Prague, 25 Sept.—The Czech Republic Monday officially began to construct the main buildings of the Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC) with the total costs of 5.246 billion crowns (about 264 million US dollars).

The buildings will emerge on the campus of Masaryk University and Brno University of Technology in the city of Brno.

Along with Masaryk University and VUT, the project has been joined by Brno-based Mendel University, University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno, the Veterinary Research Institute and the Institute of Physics of Materials.

Although the CEITEC infrastructure is only in the making, some research teams are already working in the laboratories of Brno universities. In the past months, the researchers reached success in the development of ultra firm varnish that can replace natural enamel.

The scientists are discussing the prospect of Russian and Czech teams being implemented on the regional shelf include Sakhalin 1 and Sakhalin 2.

**Int’l conference on Russian Sakhalin oil and gas projects kicks off**

 Vladivostok, 25 Sept.—Over 400 participants of an international conference are discussing the prospect of Russian Sakhalin oil and gas projects, RIA Novosti news agency reported Tuesday.

Held in southern Ussursk-Sakhalinsk city of Russian Sept. 24-25, the “Sakhalin Oil and Gas 2012” is the 16th international conference for oil and gas professionals either active or interested in energy projects of the Russian Far East. The managers of oil and gas companies will present the latest information on the Sakhalin shelf projects, as well as on the shelf of Magadan, Kamchatka, Chayandinskoye field and others.

The first nine similar conferences were held in London, popular with Western businessmen. The forum is being held in the Russian Far Eastern Sakhalin Island since 2006.

The Sakhalin region has the fourth largest oil reserves in Russia, with main customers coming from Asia-Pacific countries, including Japan, China, South Korea, and the United States. The international projects being implemented on the regional shelf include Sakhalin 1 and Sakhalin 2.

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In all, the planned laboratory area is 25,000 square metres and there will be up to 1,000 jobs for scientists. The research programs focus on nanotechnologies, advanced materials, structural biology, molecular medicine and brain research.

The researchers want to overcome the boundaries of natural sciences and technical fields, said Jaroslov Koca, one of the scientific directors. He said the results will contribute to improvement in the quality of life and human health.

The CEITEC scientists are planning cooperation with commercial and application spheres.

Czech Education Minister Petr Fiala said CEITEC was an example of a project that was not being established from scratch. It follows up the work of scientific teams that have already scored some good results. This project was one of the biggest investments in scientific infrastructure in the Czech Republic.

**News Bank**

**Traffic jam cleared around Yadanabon Diamond Plaza**

Mandalay, 25 Sept.—Road users are informed not to stop their vehicles on Yadanabon Diamond Plaza on 78th street between 33rd and 34th streets and between 33rd and 34th streets in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay and to stop their vehicles at the designated place. The warning latter describes discipline brokers will be punished with K 5000 fine.

Those who collect fee for wheel tax were allotted to 33rd, 34th and 77th streets. Those shopping at the plaza face traffic jam in front of Yadanabon Diamond Plaza.

35 Mexican police officers arrested over drug cartel links

MEXICO CITY, 25 Sept.—The Mexican Navy announced Monday the detention of 35 police officers in eastern Mexico for alleged involvement with the Zetas drug cartel.

The Navy said in a statement that 19 were captured in Veracruz state capital of Xalapa and 16 in neighboring San Luis Potosi state, among whom were four women.

“All of them were police officers in the Ministry of Public Security of Veracruz and allegedly collaborated with the criminal organization of Los Zetas,” said the statement.

The captured were brought to Mexico City before the public prosecutor under the Office of Special Investigations into Organized Crimes.

Veracruz has been one of the main states that suffered drug-related violence and witnessed the killings of 35 people last September.

In the Zetas, a gang formed in the 1990s by deserters of special military forces, is seen as one of the most powerful drug trafficking groups in Mexico.

The Mexican government has deployed thousands of troops and police forces in a bid to curb violence between Zetas and rival groups since launching “Safe Veracruz Operation” last October.

Volunteers take a portion from the world’s biggest vegetable salad after a Guinness World Record attempt in Bucharest, Romania, Sept 23, 2012. The salad is made of 4 tonnes each of green salad and cucumbers, 2 tonnes each of sweet peppers, onions and carrots, 400 kg olives, 400 liters of olive oil and 400 kg of salt.
Japanese government in between Myanmar and contributive cooperation" acknowledged the "much this morning.

The report of anti-malaria fight up to 2011 was handed over to the Japanese government at the ceremony held at Chatrium Hotel here this morning.

Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin acknowledged the "much contributive cooperation" between Myanmar and Japanese governments in health sector.

Myanmar Tourism Service arranges package tours for tourists

Myanmar Tourism Service of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism opens information counters across the nation for ensuring smooth and convenient travelling of local and foreign tourists.

Package tours are sold to the foreigners and the local package tours to the local travelers for vacations.

The local visitors in individuals or groups or students from basic education schools may contact Myanmar Tourism Service for their trips.

For detail information, contact may be made to Myanmar Tourism Service (Yangon Branch), No. 118, Maha Bandoola Park Street, Kyauktada Township, Tel: 01-252859, 371286, 374281 and the head office (Nay Pyi Taw Office No 33), Tel: 067-406097, 067-406169 and 067-406105.

Loew still ‘ideal’ coach for Germany-federation boss

BERLIN, 25 Sept—Germany coach Joachim Löw remains the best choice to lead the team despite their Euro 2012 semi-final exit that extended their 16-year run without a trophy, German football association boss Wolfgang Niersbach said on Tuesday.

Loew, who took over after the 2006 World Cup, has steered the team to a Euro 2008 final spot and last four appearances at the 2010 World Cup and this year’s Euros.

Following their 2-1 semi-final loss to Italy in June, Loew has been under growing criticism for failing to deliver a trophy. His contract runs to the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Germany’s openness to World Cup qualifying wins have also been less than impressive.

“Joachim Löw is competent, straightforward, serious. He is and remains for the DFB the ideal national team coach,” Niersbach told the WAZ newspaper group.

“We should also not forget that we are second in the world rankings and it cannot be that after every Euro 15 coaches are fired and only one stays on.” Among those critical of Loew’s work has been Bayern Munich president Uli Hoeness, who said the coach should be tougher with his players.

“It’s wise for the DFB to stick with continuity,” said Niersbach. “Only Denmark’s Morten Olsen has been longer in his job than Loew in Europe. All other teams have changed coaches many times.”

“I ask with what success? By the way Spain had to wait 44 years for another title before winning (Euro) 2008.”

MFF President grants cash award for second prize winner Myanmar Women’s Team

NAY PYI TAW, 25 Sept—President of Myanmar Football Federation U Zaw Zaw will award K 15 million to Myanmar women’s football team that secured second prize in the AFF Women’s Championship.

In the championship, Myanmar women’s football team lost to a 3-4 result under victory of host Vietnamese team.

With respects to their plays, President of MFF U Zaw Zaw said, “My players defended the rivals for over 120 minutes showing off their brilliant efforts. In the penalty decision, they lost to the rivals. Trying hard to win over strong Thai team in the semifinal, Myanmar encountered against host Vietnam in the final. I praised the whole team for its concerted efforts.”

MFF plans for both men’s and women’s football teams to have victories in the future.

At present, the Myanmar women’s team will be trained for securing champion in the coming SEA Games 2013. The salaries of the players were raised to K 500,000 from K 300,000, said U Zaw Zaw. The second prize winning Myanmar selected women’s team arrived back in Yangon on 23 September evening.

Myanmar Health Department explained “Achievement of Malaria Control Programme Supporter by Japan Grant Aid.”

Japanese aids for anti-malaria combat “much contributive”