NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein left here on 24 September to attend 67th UN General Assembly to be held in New York, USA, and arrived at Changi International Airport of Singapore at 9.20 pm local time and then at Frankfurt Airport of Germany at 7 am local time on 25 September from which to John F Kennedy Airport in New York, USA, at 10.35 am local time the same day.

The Myanmar President was welcomed by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Myanmar Permanent Representative to the UN U Kyaw Tin and US Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Derek Mitchell at the airport.

The President and his entourage Union Ministers Lt-Gen Thein Htay and U Khin Yi, deputy minister Dr Win Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Soe Yel, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative U Saw Tun Mya Aung and departmental heads then proceeded to the Mark Hotel.

Visiting Chairperson of National League for Democracy Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Daw Aung San Suu Kyi paid a call on President U Thein Sein at the Mark Hotel at 6.45 pm on 25 September.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker finds new areas of Myanmar-Australia cooperation

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker, Thura U Shwe Mann together with New South Wales Governor Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO.

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—A goodwill delegation led by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann, who was on a goodwill visit to Australia and Singapore, on 17 September, arrived at Sydney Airport in Australia at 10.20 local time through Singapore.

On 18 September, Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party held talks with a delegation led by Speaker of Australian House of Representative Mr Peter Neil Slipper and Australian Senator Mr John Haff, at Parliamentary Building in Canberra. After that, Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party attended a dinner at Australian Parliamentary Building.

On 21 September, Chairman of Australian House of Representative Mr Peter Neil Slipper and wife hosted a dinner to the Myanmar goodwill delegation, on Sydney Harbour dinner cruise in Sydney.

On 17 September, Myanmar goodwill delegation held talks with Governor of New South Wales Mr Shelly Hancock and Chairman of Legislative Council Mr Don Harwin MLC discussed parliamentary affairs and hosted a dinner to Myanmar delegation.

On 18 September, Myanmar delegation met with Australian Foreign Minister Senator Bob Carr, at Australian Parliament (See page 8)

Home Ministry emerges champion in Bando C’ship

YANGON, 26 Sept—The final matches and prize presentation or the 10th Myanmar National Sports Committee Chairman’s Cup Bando Championship was held at Aung San Gymnasium, here, this morning.

Patron of Myanmar Martial Arts Federation Police Brig Gen Thura Bo Ni, Vice-President of MMAF U Ye Myint and officials presented prizes to the winners.

The Ministry of Home Affairs secured championship trophy.

China’s top legislator meets with foreign guests attending WCIF

Japan opposition LDP picks Abe as new leader, possible next PM

Dazzling Bayern beat Wolfsburg, Dortmund draw at Frankfurt
Workshop on Viniççaya cases held

Union Minister for Commerce discusses smooth flow of trade

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint met with the Myanmar Article VIII Mission of International Monetary Fund at the ministry, here, this afternoon.

They discussed easing of export and import policies of Myanmar and trade development and further cooperation in ensuring smooth flow of trade, trade promotion and development of the payment system being practised in international community. MNA

Union Education Minister calls for respect to personal morality

Ministers U Ba Shwe and Dr Myo Myint, directors-general, deputy directors-general, and heads of region, state, district and township education departments at the ministry here this morning.

The Union minister called for sound foundation of basic education sector urging educational staff to accomplish own duty with good will adhering to civil servants code of conduct and principles.

Present on the occasion were Deputy Education Minister U Aye while meeting heads of region/state and district and township education departments at the ministry here this morning.

The Union minister explained promotion scheme, extension of organizational structure of education departments at different levels, calling for collaborative efforts of educational staff for promotion of quality of basic education sector.

Workshop on job opportunity held

President of UMFCCI U Win Aung made a speech. President of IFF Mr Robert Filop introduced functions of IFF. Co-founder and Senior Joint President of IFF Mr Leonardler read the paper on Myanmar innovated financing initiative.

The participants discussed agriculture and livestock breeding, food-stuff and health, investment and raising proficiency of financial management, technology for economic development of Myanmar and monetary affairs.

Gambler seized in Letpadan

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According to the information, one of two air-conditioners worth K300,000 each was lost recently. Therefore, the air-conditioner found in the paddyy field was brought to the station.

Review and Planning Meeting on Comprehensive RH service for communities in Myanmar in progress.

The Review and Planning Meeting on Comprehensive RH service for communities in Myanmar (German Funded Project) was held at Sky Palace Hotel, here, at 9 am today.

The reproductive health project is jointly being implemented by Maternal and Child Health Section of Health Department of the Ministry of Health, Health Education Branch of Health Planning Department and UNFPA/ JOICFP(German Funded) for enabling everybody to have reproductive health knowledge.—MNA

Reproductive health project discussed

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NATIONAL

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Religious Affairs

Myanmar Permanent Representative presents Credentials to UNSG

Myanmar Ambassador presents Credentials to Brazilian President

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Obama at UN calls for end to intolerance, warns Iran

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—President Barack Obama urged world leaders on Tuesday to put an end to the intolerance and violence that led to the recent killing of the US ambassador to Libya and warned Iran he would do what it takes to prevent Tehran from getting nuclear arms.

In a 30-minute address to the 193-nation UN General Assembly, Obama called anew for the ouster of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad following an 18-month civil war without saying how to make it happen. He also offered no fresh ideas on solving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Beginning and ending his remarks by evoking Christopher Stevens, the US ambassador to Libya who died with three other Americans in a 11 September assault on the American Consulate in Benghazi, Obama called on nations to fight such violence.

"Today, we must affirm that our future will be determined by people like Chris Stevens, and not by his killers," said Obama, who seeks re-election on 6 November. "Today, we must declare that this violence and intolerance has no place among our United Nations.

US missions also came under attack in Egypt, Tunisia, Indonesia and other Muslim nations.

"We cannot accept that mindless violence," Rousseff said.

Brazil and the United States publicly sparred last week over the tariffs, with US Trade Representative Ron Kirk urging the US government to reconsider. Brazil retorted that US monetary policy had unleashed a flood of imported goods at artificially low prices.

"We cannot and we will not accept profligacy, the struggle we have against the excessive growth of the US monetary policy," Rousseff said.

"We are also going to advocate that the international monetary policy continue to work in violation of federal law, and we will continue doing that," she said.

"We cannot accept that a country’s monetary policy permits protected money speculation," she said.

"We are going to continue working within the international monetary policy to fight these excesses."
New “extreme” Hubble shows deepest view yet of night sky

A new, improved portrait of Hubble’s deepest-ever view of the universe, called the ExTrreme Deep Field, or XDF, which shows a small area of space in the constellation Fornax, created using Hubble Space Telescope data from 2003 and 2004, is seen in this composite image released to Reuters on 25 Sept 2012.—Reuters

The newly unveiled image is a wide field, filled with colliding and merging galaxies that radiate in bright blue light, a telltale sign of new star formation.

The Hubble portrait also shows brilliantly shining spiral galaxies and older red-fuzzy galaxies whose star-formation days are over.

More than 2,000 images of the same field, taken by Hubble’s Advanced Camera for Surveys and its near-infrared Wide Field Camera 3, were combined to form the XDF—"the deepest image of the sky ever obtained," astronomer Garth Illingworth, with the University of California at Santa Cruz, said in a statement. "It allows us to explore further back in time than ever before."

Nokia unveils two new mid-range cellphones

HILJENI, 26 Sept—Troubled cellphone maker Nokia said on Tuesday it is releasing two affordable touchscreen cellphone models on Tuesday to defend its mass market position while it struggles to compete in high-end smartphone market.

Baseball cap phones have generated most of Nokia’s sales, holding up much better than smartphones, where it has rapidly lost share to rivals like Samsung and Apple. With a profit margin of over 20 percent, these phones are still the company’s bread and butter even though consumers are increasingly switching over to smartphones.

"Although they don’t get as much attention as its smartphones, mobile phones play a key part in Nokia’s future. Mobile phones account for the majority of Nokia’s revenue today and they are also vital for building loyalty with potential smartphone users in the future," said Ovum analyst Nick Dillon.

Nokia said on Tuesday it expects the Nokia Asha 308 and the Nokia Asha 309 to retail for about $99, excluding taxes and subsidies, with deliveries to start in the second quarter of 2012. Analysts have said offering phones around or under $100 is crucial for the company if it wants to compete with cheaper smartphones using Google’s Android software.

Nokia still sells almost 1 million basic phones a day but it has reported operating losses of 3 billion euros ($3.9 billion) in the last 18 months, all while closing sites and cutting tens of thousands of jobs.

"The new Asha devices are essential to defend Nokia from a raft of low-cost Android alternatives," CCS Insight analyst Geoff Blaber said.

"The continued strength of the mobile phone business is testament to Nokia’s scale and distribution advantages. Defending that business is critical. Nokia’s smartphone business is to weather the storm."

The new phones use Nokia’s low-end Series 40 software platform and hence most analysts do not count them as smartphones, even though Nokia itself sees them as smart devices in emerging markets.

"The smartphone-feature phone distinction is largely irrelevant in emerging markets. The Asha devices provide all the features most users need, including apps, web browsing and Facebook access," said Blaber.

Nokia has to use its low-end software for the new $100 phones as Windows Phone requirements for hardware are too high for such cheap phones. Nokia’s cheapest Windows Phone retails for around $200.

Shares in Nokia were up 1.8 percent at 2.14 euros, outperforming 0.5 percent rise in STOXX 600 European technology index.

Separately on Tuesday, Nokia said it would cut 725 jobs at its South Korean factory as part of its global cost savings programme unveiled in June.—Reuters

Picture shows a Nokia logo at a shop in Warsaw, on 26 January, 2012.—Reuters

Toys R Us sued over kids tablet trade secrets

SAN DIEGO, 26 Sept—The maker of the Nabi tablet computer for children sued Toys R Us Inc on Monday, saying the world’s largest toy retailer stole trade secrets in preparing to introduce the rival Tabeo tablet this month.

The lawsuit filed in federal court in San Diego, California, seeks to stop Toys R Us from selling Tabeo ahead of the all-important holiday season. Nabi creator Fuhu Inc contends that Toys R Us agreed to become the exclusive seller of the Nabi last year to learn product secrets before bringing Tabeo to market.

Toys R Us sued Fuhu’s trade secrets and confidential information to start selling Tabeo, which systematically attempts to replicate the Nabi experience, far earlier than planned.

Toys R Us could have done otherwise, if at all," the lawsuit said. Aside from the order to stop selling Tabeo, Fuhu is asking that any Tabeos be turned over to Fuhu. It is also seeking unspecified monetary damages.

A spokesperson for Toys R Us said the company could not comment on the lawsuit as it has yet to have an opportunity to review it.

The case is Fuhu Inc v Toys R Us Inc, Case 12-CV-2308, US District Court, Southern District of California.—Reuters
Evolution of India reform a factor for policy - Gokarn

BUSINESS & HEALTH

A man walks past a logo of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in front of its building in Kolkata on 21 May, 2012. —Reuters

New York, 26 Sept — India’s persistent inflation and sub-par economic growth has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) caught in a monetary policy vise but conditions in the economy should not be considered static, Deputy Governor Subir Gokarn said on Tuesday.

The RBI’s main policy rate unchanged on 17 September at 8 percent, disappointing those who wanted a lower rate to spur growth and dovetail with a space of unexpected economic reforms unveiled by the government.

“The percentage rate, in my view has been in place since April while economic growth has underwhelmed at 5.5 percent in the latest quarter, not much better than the first three months and raising questions of whether this is a ‘new normal’ environment,” Gokarn said.

“I think the concept of new normal has to take into account structural conditions and to the extent there are very visible and effective responses to what is clearly becoming, for example an entrenched source of inflation, which is food,” Gokarn told reporters on the sidelines of the India Investment Forum.

Citing the fluid situation in India and authorities’ response to spiking inflation and fiscal deficits, Gokarn said the bank will look at how the government is addressing these economic stress points by the next policy meeting.

“It is the evolution of these responses that is really going to shape the growth and inflation trajectory so we have to be sensitive to that,” he said.

Gokarn expressed less concern about spiking fuel costs and the possible long-term inflationary effects of a rise in diesel fuel prices, mainly because of the global economy.

Global oil prices have in the last week fallen back from the recent 2-1/2 month run-up to $100 a barrel.

Walkable neighbourhoods tied to lower diabetes risk

New York, 26 Sept — People living in communities that lend them easy walking had a significantly lower risk of developing diabetes than those living in the least walkable neighbourhoods in a large new study from Canada.

“If you have fewer opportunities for physical activity in your daily life, then you may gain more weight...and you’re also more likely to develop diabetes,” said Dr Gillian Booth, the lead author and a researcher at St Michael’s Hospital in Toronto.

Booth said earlier studies have looked at potential links between diabetes and the pedestrian-friendliness of neighbourhoods, and have found similar connections — but that research took only a snapshot in time, making it difficult to determine which came first, the neighbourhood style or the elevated diabetes risk.

The researchers found that, among long-term Ontario residents, 6,003 out of about 210,000 who lived in the least walkable neighbourhoods developed diabetes, compared to 5,290 out of 245,000 who lived in the most walkable areas.

This corresponds to a 32 percent increase in diabetes risk for those who live in the least-walkable areas.

Among new immigrants to the region in the previous 10 years — most foreign-born — more than twice as many people

Xbox games get kids moving, but benefits unclear

New York, 26 Sept — Kids burned more calories while playing dance and boxing video games than they did during a sedentary activity, in a new UK study.

Researchers said it’s not surprising children would get their body working harder while playing a game on Kinect for the Xbox 360 that requires being off the couch and jumping around.

But it’s still not clear whether that translates to real weight and health differences for youngsters who have those games at home:

“If the kids enjoyed the games exactly as they played them in this study and they did that for the amount of time they normally play video games, that could be very beneficial,” said Jacob Bedell, an exercise science researcher from Kent State University in Ohio who wasn’t involved in the study.

“I would stop short of saying, ‘Well then just buy your kids the Xbox and they’ll lose weight,’ ” he told Reuters Health. That’s because kids may opt for the less-intensive games on the system, or they may substitute outdoor physical activity for video gaming, he added.

The new study involved 18 kids aged 11 to 15.

Researchers from the University of Chester had the kids play different Kinect games for 15 minutes each: Project Kinect Farming Racing 4 (a sedentary game), Dance Central and Kinect Sports boxing.

Kids wore a heart rate monitor as well as a facemask measuring oxygen consumption so the researchers could calculate how many calories they were burning. Heart rate and energy expenditure were both higher with the active games than the sedentary comparison, Michael Morris and his colleagues reported in the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine.

On average, kids burned calories at a rate of 90 per hour playing the racing game, 180 per hour during Dance Central and 264 per hour while virtual boxing.

That’s a higher expenditure than has been shown with other active video gaming systems, according to Bedell — possibly because Kinect doesn’t use a controller, so it’s harder for kids to sit down while playing. Calorie expenditure during the boxing game was consistent to what a person would burn while playing volleyball or tennis, according to Morris.

“Moderate activity is obviously very good for you,” he told Reuters Health. But, he added, this study just provides a “snapshot” into possible benefits from the games.

UN Secretary General’s Message on World Tourism Day

27 September, 2012

The Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development emphasized that well-designed and well-managed tourism can make a significant contribution to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. One of the world’s largest economic sectors, tourism is especially well-placed to promote environmental sustainability, green growth and our struggle against climate change through its relationship with energy.

“Tourism and Sustainable Energy: Powering Sustainable Development” is the theme of this year’s World Tourism Day, selected to advance the goals of the 2012 International Year of Sustainable Energy for All.

Hundreds of millions of people around the world depend for income on this energy-intensive sector. Sustainable energy will allow tourism to continue to expand while mitigating its impact on the environment.

Many in the tourism industry have already shown leadership in developing and deploying clean energy solutions, cutting energy consumption and carbon emissions in some regions by up to 40 percent through initiatives such as the Hotel Energy Solutions toolkit developed by the UN World Tourism Organization and the UN Environment Programme.

Other concrete advances include the growing use of energy-efficient fuels in air travel, sustainable procurement strategies and increasingly popular carbon offsetting schemes.

Everyone has a role in sustainable tourism. I commend the tourism community for its growing commitment to sustainable energy. I also think the tourists who play their part by offsetting their own carbon emissions, choosing ecologically friendly destinations and providers, or simply by postponing their trip or towels laundered. Every action counts.

This year, one billion international tourists will travel to foreign destinations. Imagine what one act multiplied by one billion can do.

On this World Tourism Day, I appeal to all who work in and enjoy the benefits of this global sector to join in building a more sustainable future for all.

—UN/Giang Vu Van

BlackRock raises S&P 500 target, but says rally over

New York, 26 Sept — BlackRock Inc (BLK.N), one of the world’s largest asset managers, has raised its expectations for the US stock market in 2012 in line with the rally this week, its stock rally has run its course, according to targets provided by the firm on Tuesday.

The Standard & Poor’s 500 index .SPX will finish 2012 at 1,450 and rise to 1,525 by mid-2013, according to Chris Leavy, BlackRock’s chief investment officer, fundamental equity for the Americas.

The new targets are up from the firm’s earlier forecasts and reflect a 7 percent rally in the benchmark index since early August. Earlier, the firm projected the S&P 500 would finish the year at 1,350 and rise to 1,400 by mid-2013.

BlackRock provided the targets to Reuters, which is releasing its broad global equity poll on Wednesday.

The firm has assets under management of about $5.56 trillion on 30 June, including $297 billion in equities under management.

Late last afternoon, the S&P 500 was down 0.5 percent at around 1,450, where BlackRock says it will finish the year, but 4.8 percent below its target for mid-2013.

The index reversed earlier gains amid midday after BlackRock updated its targets. —Reuters
EU rejects US claim to have weaned Boeing off subsidies

EU

Geneva, 26 Sept—US aircraft giant Boeing is still getting US subsidies despite Washington’s claim to have stopped the handouts, the European Union said on Tuesday in the latest round of the world’s biggest trade dispute.

The EU’s claim came one day after the US Trade Representative’s office said it had complied with a ruling by a World Trade Organisation dispute panel that found Boeing had benefited from illegal payments. The United States had until 23 September to comply.

“We have expected that the US would have finally complied in good faith with its international commitments with no other choice but to insist on proper compliance before the World Trade Organisation. We are confident that this process will finally lead to a level playing field in the aircraft sector,” a spokeswoman for the US Trade Representative’s office said.

The EU has set out very clearly how it had complied with the WTO ruling, and the numerous steps it has taken to ensure full compliance, Boeing spokesman Charlie Miller said. Reuters

Vitol trades Iranian fuel oil, skirtng sanctions

SINGAPORE, BEIJING, 26 Sept—Vitol, the world’s largest oil trader, is buying and selling Iranian fuel oil, undermining Western efforts to choke the flow of petrodollars to Tehran and put pressure on Iran’s suspected nuclear weapons programme.

Vitol last month bought 2 million barrels of fuel oil, used for power generation, from Iran and offered it to Chinese traders, Reuters established in interviews with 10 oil trading, industry and shipping sources in Southeast Asia, China and the Middle East. A spokesperson for Vitol declined to comment.

Swiss-based Vitol is not obliged to comply with a ban imposed in July by the European Union on trading oil with Iran because Switzerland decided not to match EU and US sanctions against Tehran.

The company earlier in the year stopped trading Iranian crude oil from its main European offices before the 1 July EU embargo deadline.

EU

Death toll climbs to 20 in NW China mine carriages crash

BAITIN, 25 Sept—The death toll has climbed to 20 after two carriages carrying mine workers back to the ground crashed early on Tuesday in a pit of northwest China’s Gansu Province.

A steel cable pulling a locomotive that carried 34 miners in two carriages snapped shortly after midnight in a pit in Baiyinchang near Lanzhou, the provincial administration of work safety said.

The two carriages slipped and overturned, sending all the workers aboard down into the pit, it said in a news update.

Rescuers had retrieved all the miners as of midday. Most of the 14 survivors were in hospital with injuries. Company sources said the cable that snapped was replaced on 29 July, but an initial investigation suggested the carriages were overloaded.

The coal mine, run by Quiesheng Coal Mining Co., was operating illegally, as it was one of the 55 mines safety authorities had ordered to halt production for an industrial reshuffle.

The planned reshuffle was aimed at incorporating the 55 small mines into 10 larger ones. The Quiesheng pit began operation in 2003 and has a designed annual output of 90,000 tonnes.

In the wake of the accident, the provincial government of Gansu has demanded a temporary shutdown of all mines with annual output below 300,000 tonnes for a safety overhaul.

REUTERS

Italy’s Sardinia struggles to leave state aid behind

CARBOSULCIS, Italy), 26 Sept—Four hundred meters below the surface dozens of miners risk their lives at Sardanica’s Carbosulcis, Italy’s only coal pit, digging low-quality carbon that no one wants to buy.

In nearby Portovesme, workers at the country’s largest aluminium smelter are fighting for their jobs after high energy bills, tight EU regulation and falling aluminium prices prompted US commodity giant Alcoa to leave Italy.

With more than 1,000 jobs at risk, the industrial crisis hitting the impoverished Mediterranean island of Sardinia is a political hot potato for technocrat Prime Minister Mario Monti as he fights to keep costs down and contain Italy’s high debt.

A protest by Sardinian workers in Rome this month turned violent and the government is wary of letting tensions rise to boiling point in the run-up to general elections in the spring.

In both cases the solution appears to be an old Italian remedy for its poor southern regions: the state will help.

"This is a whole system that has been belly up: the mine, the aluminium, everything," said a government source with direct knowledge of the situation.

REUTERS

Vitol trades Iranian fuel oil, skirting sanctions

But the trading sources said it has continued to deal in Iranian fuel oil from the Middle East.

The tale of the cargo of Iranian fuel oil involves tanker tracking systems being switched off, two-ship-to-ship nuclear transfers, and blending of the oil with fuel from another source to alter the cargo’s physical specification.

Privately-held Vitol SA is led by its long-time CEO Ian Taylor, a Briton. Taylor was among leading donors to Britain’s ruling Conservative Party named in March by the Prime Minister’s office as having dined with David Cameron at his private apartment in Downing Street amid the fall-out from a “cash for access” party funding scandal.

Britain is a vociferous critic of Tehran’s nuclear programme and a leading advocate of the EU sanctions. Vitol has said previously it is in compliance with sanctions against Iran, but has declined to say whether or not it would follow the strict EU regulations rather than Switzerland’s.

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Xinhua

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Xinhua
Democratic Party picked former Prime Minister Shinzo
territorial row with China, a long list of economic ills and
Ban Ki-moon said on Tuesday
against another.
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annual gathering of world
assembly at the opening of its
recent comments by Israeli,
break this dangerous
seriously undermines efforts
“The continued growth of
the UN General Assembly.
violence and flows of arms to
spirals out of control,” he said.
the other way as violence
community should not look
violence and flows of arms to

Facing tough road in Ohio, Romney and Ryan embark on bus tour

DAYTON, Ohio, 26 Sept—Facing a tough path to victory if they cannot win Ohio, Republicans Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan launched a two-day bus tour on Tuesday to try to boost their fortunes in a state that polls show could be slipping away from them.
The Republican nominees for president and vice president appeared together for the first time in more than three weeks, part of what aides vow will be more aggressive phase of campaigning after Romney spent much of the past two weeks raising money and holding few public rallies.
Romney emphasized his claims that Democratic President Barack Obama’s policies are preventing the US economy from a full recovery and that Obama has not been tough enough in pushing back against Chinese trade practices that have led to cheap goods flooding the US market and killing American jobs.
Romney accused China of a wide variety of trade abuses, from holding down the value of its currency to keep its products cheap, to stealing US intellectual property. “We cannot compete with people that don’t play fair, and I will not let that go on,”

Chavez calls for crime fight as Venezuela vote nears

CARACAS, 26 Sept—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez called for a new fight against crime on Tuesday, acknowledging an issue that voters say is their top concern ahead of an election in less than two weeks.
Speaking at a graduation ceremony for more than 8,000 police officers, the socialist leader said the South American country still lacked the specialized forces it needed to solve problems that hit poor neighbourhoods the hardest. “We need preventative, scientific and community-based police who can help resolve the conflicts in the barrios, between relatives and neighbours, and to fight against the crime that causes so much damage to society,” Chavez said.
Armed robberies and murders are common in Venezuela, where more people have been killed during the last five years than have died in Mexico’s drug war. Many city dwellers are reluctant to venture out after dark, and both candidates ahead of the 7 October vote are promising safer streets if they win.
Chavez’s rival, 40-year-old state Governor Henrique Capriles, says he has heard the same story of day-to-day problems—crime, unemployment, inefficient public services - on every campaign stop around the country of 29 million. At a rally in the eastern city of Maturin on Tuesday, the opposition leader asked the crowd to raise a hand if they knew a victim of violence. A forest of arms went up.
“How can they (the government) speak about independence when 50 Venezuelans are killed every day here?” Capriles asked. Local researchers say more than 19,000 people were murdered in Venezuela last year. The government rarely publishes any figures, but says the number was closer to 15,000. Capriles, who is promising to replace 14 years of Chavez’s self-styled revolution with an administration that would be roughly modeled on Brazil’s government - business-friendly but with stronger social welfare programme. Chavez says those pledges are a ruse to win over undecided voters, and that “the candidate of the right” is in the pay of rich elite who held power before he took office in 1999.—Reuters

Ex-Murdoch editor Brooks due in court on hacking plot charges

LONDON, 26 Sept—Rebekah Brooks, a former executive in Rupert Murdoch’s media empire and friend of British Prime Minister David Cameron, faces charges in court on Wednesday that she conspired to hide evidence from police investigating a phone hacking scandal.
The charges are part of the criminal inquiry into assertions that UK newspapers intercepted messages on the phones of celebrities, politicians and crime victims, and made illegal payments to public officials. The scandal has damaged the reputation of Murdoch’s global media operations, raised questions about Cameron’s judgment and exposed the close relations between British politicians, police and journalists.
Brooks, 44, was expected to enter a plea on three counts of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and those related to intercept phone messages.—Reuters

UK

Cameron’s ex-media chief Andy Coulson, who also worked as a Murdoch newspaper editor, is due in the same court for a preliminary hearing on charges that he conspired to intercept phone messages.
Brooks is separately charged with conspiracy to intercept phone messages, allegations she has denied. Wednesday’s hearing will encompass both the charges of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and those related to phone messages.—Reuters

Former News International chief executive Rebekah Brooks leaves Westminster Magistrates Court in London on 3 Sept, 2012. REUTERS

Japan opposition LDP picks Abe as new leader, possible next PM

Japan’s main opposition Liberal Democratic Party’s (LDP) lawmaker and former prime minister Shinzo Abe bows to parliamentarians of the LDP after he was chosen as the party president at the party presidential election at the party headquarters in Tokyo on 26 Sept , 2012. REUTERS

Tokyo, 26 Sept—Japan’s main opposition Liberal Democratic Party picked former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, 58, as its new leader in a run-off vote on Wednesday.
Abe could become Japan’s next prime minister as opinion polls suggest that LDP will win enough seats in election for parliament’s lower house expected in the coming months, putting it in a pivotal position to form the next government of the world’s third-largest economy.
Among issues needing to be resolved, Japan faces a territorial row with China, a long list of economic ills and the need to overhaul its energy policy after the Fukushima radiation crisis.—Reuters

NEW LEI TNG OF MYANMAR Thursday, 27 September, 2012

Venezuela
Indian motorcycle marketable in Mandalay

Mandlay, 26 Sept—FZ brand motorcycle of Yamana Company based in Kolkata of India flows into the market. The motorcycle is sold at K 1.4 million without licence.

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker...

Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party pose with Speaker of Australian Senate Mr John Haff. —MNA

Thaung Oo, Director of the Ministry of Health Dr Zaw Win and Deputy Director-General U Win Khin Moe of Ministry of S&T headed group discussions. The experts drew conclusions from the discussions.—MNA

Resource persons read papers on "Procedure of Standardization in Myanmar", "Food Safety and Standards of Food and Drug Administration", "Socio-economic Impact of Pesticide Residues in Agricultural Commodities (MRLs)", "Registered Private Food Industries in Myanmar and International Food Additives Standards", "Development of Food Industries, Requirements of Food Standards and suggestions", and "Issues and Recommendation for Development of Edible Oil Industry".

Navy Pwi Taw, 26 Sept—Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint called for exporting and importing quality food at the workshop on Myanmar’s food quality at the ministry here this morning.

He said the emergence of ASEAN Free Trade Area would give more opportunities to distributors and consumers, boosting competitiveness in the market and creating more job opportunities. Aung Min, Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo said consumers demand quality, safe and eco-friendly products as the low-quality products have threatened lives of the people.

Export and import food should be of high quality

Union Minister U Aye Myint speaking at workshop on Myanmar food quality. —MNA

MNA
**Winners awarded in performing arts competition**

The prize presentation for the 19th Myanmar National Races Traditional Performing Arts Competition was held at the city hall in Monywa on 22 September, with an address by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint. The competition is being held in four places.

**Performing arts competition kicks off**

The 19th Myanmar National Races Traditional Performing Arts Competition of Mon State commenced at Mon State hall in Mawlamyine on 24 September, with an address by Mon State Chief Minister U Ohn Myint. The competition is being held in four places.

**Golf and mineral entrepreneurs meet**

Sagai Region Gold and Mineral Entrepreneurs Association held the annual general meeting at the city hall in Monywa on 23 September, with a speech by Region Chief Minister U Tha Aye.

**Seeds provided to farmers for first time**

First seeds were provided to farmers for cultivation of crops on the flooded farmlands in Alikappa Village of Myinmu Township on 23 September. At the ceremony, 120 baskets of gram, 60 baskets of Yein-8, 60 baskets of Yein-3 ICCV, 100 baskets of groundnut Hsinpadetha, 135 kilos of Yein hybrid strain-1 of sunflower and 75 baskets of white wheat were given to farmers.

**Farmland law and land management law discussed**

A multiplier course on farmland law and vacant, fallow and virgin land management law and rule was opened at the city hall in Dawei on 25 September. Altogether 56 trainees are attending the course.

**Health care services provided in Sittway**

Servicemen of local medical battalion in Sittway gave health care services to local people at relief camps on 24 September. They provided medical treatments to 71 of 470 people from 200 households at the camps.

**World School Milk Day celebrated**

World School Milk Day was celebrated at No. (54) Basic Education Primary School in Pobbathiri Township in Nay Pyi Taw this morning.

Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint said the celebration was aimed at improving the production of small scale cow breeding, developing dairy products market chain and increasing incomes for cow breeders.

Mya Sein Yang milk processing factory in 500-acre model mechanized farm will provide Nay Pyi Taw Council Area with dairy products. Ten more similar factories will be established in regions and states.

**3MDG launches to reduce maternal and child mortality rate, fight 3 diseases**

The Three Millennium Development Goals Fund (3 MDG) will develop a program to reduce the maternal and child mortality rate and to fight the HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in the five-year period.

The 3 MDG will spend US$300 million to finance this efforts.

The ceremony to mark the three Diseases Fund and its contribution to the health of Myanmar and launching of the 3MDG was held at Chatrium Hotel in Yangon yesterday.

Ms Veronique Lorenzo, Counsellor of the European Union, delivered an opening address at the ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Pe Thet Khin, Union Minister for Health and Chairman of Myanmar Union Minister for Health and Chairman of Myanmar—MNA

**World Heart Day marked in Mandalay**

Mandalay, 26 Sept—A talk to mark the World Heart Day which falls on 29 September was observed by Cardiac Department of Mandalay General Hospital and Medical Companies on 23 September.

Cardiologist Prof Dr U Tun Shwe and Head of Medical Department Dr U Aung Gyi formally opened the ceremony.

Professor Dr Daw Thida gave talks on over obesity children and Professor Dr Daw Than Than Kyaw about women and cardiology.

Officials presented prizes to the winners in the quiz.

The commemorative talk was attended by 800 people.

**Free mechanic course at Central Workshop**

Mandalay, 26 Sept—Central Workshop (North) of Public Works is providing mechanic course to enthusiasts free of charge at its workshop on Yangon-Mandalay Highway in Chaymyathazi Township.

Those who attended mechanic course have good opportunity to hunt the jobs, so the youth should study the course. —Kyemon
18 killed in road mishap in western India

NEW DELHI, 26 Sept.—At least 18 people, including five children, some school children, were killed in a major road mishap in the western Indian state of Maharashtra on Wednesday, a senior police official said.

The mishap happened when a 35-seater Marcopolo bus, carrying over 55 passengers, plunged into Purna river in the state’s Budhana district.

Ghana, World Bank sign 210 m dollar Agriculture, Urban Water deal

Accra, 26 Sept.—The government of Ghana and the World Bank entered into an agreement here on Tuesday for the bank to support the country’s efforts to sustain economic growth and maintain its middle-income status, released here by the World Bank country office said.

The deal signed by the Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, Kwabena Duffuor involves projects to be funded by a total of 210 million US dollars from the World Bank.

By agreement, the rest are Securing Private Partnerships (PPPs) and small-holder linkages in the Accra Plains with a funding component of 45.4 million dollars.

The rest are Securing Private Public Partnerships (PPPs) and small-holder linkages in the Accra Plains with a funding component of 45.4 million dollars.

The four areas include Strengthening investment, promoting infrastructure for attracting land, strengthen Ghana’s ability to facilitate access to land with funding.

Great European wine grapes, just not many to harvest

NEW YORK, 26 Sept.—Europe is in the midst of another crisis: not debt, but grapes. Yields are sharply lower, down nearly 40 percent in some of parts of Portugal, which means wineries will have fewer grapes to blend and, in the end, fewer bottles to offer.

The situation is even worse in parts of Burgundy, where hail storms pummeled vineyards in Pommard, Santenay and Volnay destroying nearly 80 percent of the harvest, according to the Burgundy Wine Board (BIVB). When the growers were not fighting cold weather or hail, mildew and fungus threatened.

“People have been fighting them strictly,” Cecile Mathiaud, a BIVB spokeswoman, said. Noting the uneven growth of the grape bunches, a condition known as millerandage, she said it “is bad for quantity, but it is usually the promise of a good quality.

One Portuguese winemaker, Bernardo Cabral, of Wines of Vitoria, echoed Mathiaud’s forecasts, saying, “Fortunately, small berries are correlated with high concentration. So, at this moment, we have very high quality wines in process.”

In Spain, the regulatory board of Rioja wines confirmed that its harvests would be smaller as well.

But “the good news is that consumers won’t feel any effect of this lower-yields harvest as Riojas has sufficient reserves in terms of volume to fulfill global demand,” a spokeswoman for the regulatory board said in an email.

Karl Storchmann, editor of the American Association of Wine Economists journal, said “it is safe to say the laws of supply and demand work on any market, including the one for grapes.”

A customer helps a vendor transport crates of grapes for wine production at Malvira farmer’s market, north of Lisbon on 15 Sept.—Reuters

Oil pipeline in southeast Yemen bombed

ADEN, (Yemen), 26 Sept.—A bomb explosion ripped through an oil pipeline in Yemen’s southeastern province of Shabwa early on Tuesday, a government official told Xinhua.

The pipeline in Shabwa province pumping about 10,000 barrels per day to Yemen’s Belha export终端 in the Gulf of Aden was bombed by unknown gunmen, the local government official said on condition of anonymity.

“A bomb planted by unknown armed tribesmen, police said. The site of the blast is 10,000 barrels per day to be pumped into the pipeline and resume pumping to the town of Attaq, the government official said.

Traffic is seen on the 405 Freeway in Los Angeles, California on 14 July.—Reuters
Beijing traffic authority warns of pre-holiday traffic jams

BEIJING, 26 Sept—Traffic jams could seriously clog Beijing’s roads ahead of the upcoming eight-day national holiday, the city’s traffic authority warned on Monday.

Heavy traffic is expected this week, and it could be further affected by possible rainfall, according to a statement from the Beijing Municipal Commission of Transport. Traffic congestion is expected ahead of the holidays to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival on Sunday and the National Day on 1 Oct. Congestion is expected during the evening rush hours from Wednesday to Saturday, according to the statement.

The commission also said it will pay special attention to the city’s traffic on Wednesday and Friday nights, when heavy traffic jams are likely.

The statement said the commission based its expectations on traffic analyses and its experience in previous years.

The commission has urged residents to use public transportation ahead of the holiday. In a separate statement, the commission said Beijing’s highways, which will exempt small passenger cars from road tolls for the first time over the holiday, are expected to face a sharp increase in traffic flows. During the holiday, an average of 1.55 million vehicles are expected to travel each day on the city’s 17 highways that have toll gates, a 33.6 percent increase from ordinary days, according to the statement.

The figure marks 124-percent growth from the same period last year, it said. Statistics show that highways linking Beijing with Hong Kong and Macau, Tibet, Chengde, Hebei Province, and Kaifeng, Henan Province, were all overstressed during last year’s National Day holiday.

Traffic pressure is also expected to affect roads in the Beijing city proper.

Indonesia, Malaysia to jointly patrol on border

JAKARTA, 26 Sept—The Indonesian Armed Forces and the Malaysian counterpart will hold joint patrols to monitor the boundary between the two countries on Kalimantan island, local media reported on Wednesday.

A total of 37 border security personnel from Indonesia and 26 from Malaysia will take part in the week-long operation, an Indonesian senior military officer overseeing border area with Malaysia, Brig. Gen Gadjah Pambudi, said.

“The joint foot patrol will be (carried out) to check on border markers, but it will be more about (initiating) a border security arrangement,” Gadjah said on Tuesday.

The two-star general added that the senry will check 316 border markers and determine whether they have been moved or not.

“We admit that there are several border markers with problems, whether they have disappeared or (been) moved. For the time being we will jointly define their position,” he was quoted as saying by the Jakarta Globe.

Indonesia and Malaysia have long-standing differences regarding the exact position of the border markers, frequently igniting tension between the two countries.

Last month, officials in East Kalimantan called on the Indonesian government to immediately resolve the long-standing differences with Malaysia over the two countries’ shared border area, warning that the fate of five villages hanged in the balance.

Frederik Beth, head of the provincial office for border and remote area management (BP2KPTD), said earlier that unless the border between East Kalimantan’s Nunukan District and Malaysia’s Sabah state was clearly demarcated, isolated communities in Nunukan could be absorbed into the neighbouring country. Gadjah maintained that the location of border markers should be decided bilaterally.

Seven trapped mountaineers on Philippines’ highest peak rescued

MANILA, 26 Sept—Seven mountaineers who were trapped in an expedition on the Philippines’ highest peak were rescued on Monday night, a senior government official said on Tuesday.

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) executive director Benito Ramos said that at around 12:00 noon Monday, seven local mountain climbers, ages 21 to 30, were trapped at Marbel river while descending from Lake Venado camp site through Kidapawan City at Mt Apo National Park, Kidapawan City in southern province of North Cotabato.

“They could not pass through the river due to its strong current and high water level caused by continuous rains. The climbers called for help from the City Investment Office because of lack of food supply,” he said.

Ramos said that Kidapawan City Emergency Response Unit immediately launched a rescue operation, which ended almost 9:00 pm on the same day.

At least eight killed, scores missing after ferry sinks off Sumatra island, Indonesia

JAKARTA, 26 Sept—At least 8 people were killed and scores were missing after a ferry with over 200 people on board sank following collision with a tanker in waters off Lampung Province on Sumatra island, Indonesia early on Wednesday, an official said.

Ferry Bahaya Jaya sailed from Merak port in Banten province on Java island to Bakaheuni port on Sumatra island, when it was hit by a Norr Guster tanker ship at 4:58 am Jakarta time at a location 4 miles from Bakaheuni port and it sank about an hour later, Budiharto, head of the disaster management and mitigation agency in Lampung Province, told Xinhua by phone.

“So far, eight people are dead and 215 people have been rescued, but search and rescue operation is still underway for the missing people,” he said.

But Budiharto could not confirm the number of missing people whom the rescuers estimated at scores.

Meanwhile, a senior transport official stationed in Java’s Merak seaport said that 7 passengers were confirmed dead, while 215 were evacuated from the collision scene in Sunda Strait that separates Indonesia’s Java and Sumatra islands early Wednesday morning, local TV station reported.

“The collision occurred on 4:50 am near Rimau Bahak island, a few minutes away from Sumatra’s Lampung seaport. Seven were confirmed dead in the collision and 215 were evacuated by vessels engaged in rescue,” Supriyanto, a senior official of Sea and Lake Transport Firm Association (ASDP) at Java’s Merak seaport branch said in the report broadcast by Metro TV.

The report said that the ferry was ripped by the tanker, leading to the sinking of the ferry.

The death toll is expected to increase as rescue efforts are underway at the moment.

Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi (I, front) shakes hands with Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari during their meeting at the United Nations headquarters in New York, the United States, on 25 Sept., 2012. —Xinhua

Singapore needs foreigners to complement resident workforce

SINGAPORE, 26 Sept—Singapore needs foreign manpower to complement its resident workforce and support such sectors as construction, health and social services, Trade and Industry Minister Lim Hng Kiang said on Tuesday.

Foreign manpower is also needed to anchor and build up new sectors in Singapore such as the biomedical and aerospace industries, he said.

“If you train Singaporeans to fill up the sector before you launch the sector, you may lose the opportunity, and you take too long,” he said.

Singapore is adopting the strategy of bringing the sector in and allowing the companies to hire foreign talent and workers while it train Singaporean workers to fill up the jobs.

“If you tell Rolls Royce, wait until we train all the workers and technicians, I think we would have missed the investments,” he said.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry released a paper on Tuesday to explain Singapore’s strategy of calibrated immigration policy to deal with the prospect of an aging population.

It also aspires to explain the role of foreign manpower in Singapore, a city state of 5 million that has jumped from the third world to the first world economy over the past decades. It is estimated that the number of Singaporeans who are professionals, managers and executives as well as technicians and associate professionals will rise by 2030, thereby creating the continued need for foreign workers in low-skilled jobs to complement the resident workforce, the ministry said.

The ministry said coordinating the inflow of foreign manpower is a delicate balance.

An overly liberal access to low-skilled foreign manpower could depress wages for low-skilled jobs or encourage businesses to rely on cheap labor instead of making productivity improvements. Too much high-skilled foreign manpower may lead to Singaporeans feeling a sense of displacement and pressure on the infrastructure in the short run.

People attend the delivery ceremony in Tianjin, north China, on 25 Sept., 2012. A ceremony of the delivery of the 100th Airbus A320 family aircraft assembled in Tianjin to Air China was held here on Tuesday. —Xinhua

**REGIONAL**
**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (057)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ESM CREMONA VOY NO (057) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR:** M/S ORIENT OVERSEAS SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

**CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 25608/378316/376797

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**INVITATION FOR TENDER**

**TENDER NO. 2/1/2012/2012-2013**

1. Sealed Tenders are invited for the Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, the Ministry of Energy for the supply of 782 Metric Tons Lube Base Oil Additives.

2. Tender Closing Date : 16-10-2012 at (12:00) noon.

3. Tender Opening Date : 16-10-2012 at (13:00) hrs.

4. Delivery Time : Within January/February 2012

5. Tender Documents and details information are available at the Department of Finance, Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise, Nay Pyi Taw, during office hours commencing 27-9-2012 on payment of the Myanmar Kyat One Hundred Thousand (Kyat 100,000) per set.

6. Only bid from tenderer who has purchased tender document officially from Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise will be accepted for evaluation.

Managing Director
Myanma Petrochemical Enterprise

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (+)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV GIANG HAI II VOY NO (+) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of S.P.W (2) where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR:** M/S RK SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ER TURKU VOY NO (001)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ER TURKU VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P. where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR:** M/S HANJIN SHIPPING LINE

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Lehman to pay creditors another $10.5 billion**

New York, 26 Sept—

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc on Tuesday said it will pay about $10.5 billion to creditors staring early next month, the second leg of a plan to eventually pay out more than $65 billion.

Lehman will distribute the money to affiliates and subsidiaries, as well as to third-party creditors, according to a filing in Manhattan bankruptcy court.

Creditors have already received about $22.5 billion under the first leg of the payout plan, unveiled in April. The additional $10.5 billion will bring total payback to around $33 billion.

While that is about half the total they are estimated to receive, it’s a far cry from full payback on the more than $300 billion in claims leveled by creditors against the defunct financial giant Lehman’s collapse on 15 September, 2008 helped spur the global financial crisis.

Creditors waited 3-1/2 years, the reports said.

Lehman’s success in marketing its real estate and other assets, which could be affected by changes in markets.

A spokesman for Lehman could not immediately be reached.

Lehman said in a statement on Tuesday it anticipates making a third distribution around 30 March.—Reuters

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**Sharp to cut 11,000 jobs and sell assets worldwide**

Osaka, 26 Sept—

Troubled Japanese consumer electronics Sharp Corp said on Wednesday it plans to cut a total of 11,000 jobs worldwide and sell its assets and factories to generate 213.1 billion yen (about $2.4 billion) in net cash.

The reports added that the company is also expected to cut wages to save almost 50 billion yen (about $584 million US dollars) in total payback and giving more than $300 billion in claims leveled by creditors against the defunct financial giant Lehman.

Lehman’s success in marketing its real estate and other assets, which could be affected by changes in markets.

A spokesman for Lehman could not immediately be reached.

Lehman said in a statement on Tuesday it anticipates making a third distribution around 30 March.—Reuters

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**Merkel, Draghi say eurozone needs reform to improve competitiveness**

Berlin, 26 Sept—

German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Eurozone Central Bank President Mario Draghi agreed on Tuesday that reform is needed for the eurozone to improve competitiveness and regain credibility, a German government spokesman said after the leaders’ meeting.

Merkel and Draghi held closed-door talks over European banking supervi-

sion and European Union summit in October, Merkel’s spokesman Steffen Seibert said.

“The considerable willingness to reform is necessary in Europe—among nations as well as within the currency union—in order to improve competitiveness and regain credibility,” Seibert said in a statement.

The spokesman did not reveal details of the talks between Merkel and Draghi.

The ECB’s plans for unlimited purchases of debt issued by deeply indebted eurozone countries in order to help them lower borrowing costs have caused scepticism in Germany, where some see the measures as inept.

“Their proposals will compromise the ECB’s independence and fan inflations. However, in his address to an industry conference in Berlin also on Tuesday, Draghi said the ECB aims to address “unfounded fears about the euro area that were affecting our ability to ensure price stability,” stressing the central bank’s commitment to its mandate of fighting inflation.

He said eurozone governments should take decisive actions for the common currency zone’s future, adding the ECB’s measures are to alleviates the debt crisis.

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**A logo of US investment bank Lehman Brothers is seen on its website.**

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**A Palestinian vendor sells fruits at a market in Gaza City on 24 Sept, 2012. The Hamas-run ministry of agriculture in Gaza decided to ban theimport of fruits from Israel except apples and bananas to support the local Palestinian products.**

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**MLMYN**
**Katy Perry named Billboard’s woman of the year**

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept— Pop star Katy Perry was named Billboard’s Woman of the Year on Tuesday, after a whirlwind 12 months in which she split up with her husband and turned their break-up into a hit single and film.

Perry, 27, channelled her split with British comedian Russell Brand in late 2011 into the chart-topping hit “Part Of Me” and a 3D behind-the-scenes film “Katy Perry: Part Of Me” that documented her personal and professional rollercoaster ride.

The singer has won over a legion of fans, known as ‘katycats’, on Twitter and Facebook with her quirky costumes and catchy bubble gum pop songs.

Forbes placed Perry at No 3 on their highest-earning female musicians list in December, estimating her pre-tax earnings at $44 million. She has sold 48 million tracks in the United States alone, according to Billboard, including the hits “Firework,” “California Girls,” “ET” and “Hot N Cold” from her major-label 2008 debut “One Of The Boys” and 2010 album “Teenage Dream.”

Peyo

**Psy vows topless show if “Gangnam-style” reaches No 1**

SEOUL, 26 Sept— A chubby South Korean singer who has taken the pop world by storm, topping Apple’s iTunes charts and getting 270 million You Tube views, has vowed to perform his “Gangnam Style” hit topless if it reaches number one. The rapper who does the foot-stomping “horse dance” and goes by the name Psy returned on Tuesday to the upmarket Seoul suburb that he put on the world music map.

“If it ranks number one in the Billboard chart, then I will perform ‘Gangnam Style’ topless in a place where everyone can watch,” Psy told a news conference on Tuesday.

Psy, who sums up his style as “dresclassy, dance cheesy,” has become a surprise hit in the United States where he was feted on chat shows and signed a deal with Island Records.

Psy, whose real name is Park Jai-sang, has always stood out as an oddity compared with the well-scrubbed members of Korean girl and boy bands that have swept to fame in Asia and beyond.

After gaining recognition with a 2001 debut album, he landed in hot water several times. He says he was caught smoking marijuana and later had to repent his mandatory military service after not taking it seriously the first time.

The 34-year-old was raised in Gangnam and went to the Berklee College of Music in the United States. He dropped out of a US business school which his traditional parents hoped would prepare him for taking over the family business.

Referring to his chunky brand shoots, he said: “Honestly, I like being ‘second class’... I was born ‘B class’.”

His hit, released in mid-July, was intended to be fun, he said. Doing a bit of his horse-riding dance, Psy declared in English that his aim was to have “fun by music.” While he hasn’t taken over the family business, his new-found fame seems to have helped it considerably. Its market capitalization has surged to $3.2 billion (264.16 billion won) since he shot to fame.

Psy plans to release a new record in the United States in November.

**Javier Luis Guerra leads Latin Grammy nominations**

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept— Dominican singer-songwriter and producer Juan Luis Guerra scored six Latin Grammy nominations on Tuesday, ahead of Mexican pop duo Jesse & Joy, who earned five nods heading into Latin music’s biggest night, the Latin Recording Academy said.

“Los Cocos,” a Latin traditional music album, and “Momento,” a pop album, were both nominated for album of the year.

Guerra, 55, who won three Latin Grammys in 2010, including the coveted album of the year for his hit studio set “A Son de Guerra,” earned six nominations including record and song of the year for “En El Cielo No Hay Hospital.” The awards will be held in Las Vegas on 13 November.

Brother-sister pop duo Jesse & Joy, winners of the best new artist Latin Grammy in 2007, scored nominations in the big three categories – album, record, and song of the year – for their third studio set (“Con Quién Se Queda El Perro?”) and their song “Corre!”

Veteran Latin musicians including Guatemalan singer Ricardo Arjona, Colombian rocker Juanes, Cuban musician Arturo Sandoval, Brazilian singer-songwriter Ivete Sangalo and Brazilian singer-composer Caetano Veloso joined music engineer Edgar Barrera and Mexican pop singer Carla Morrison with four nominations each.

Veloso, 70, is also this year’s Latin Recording Academy’s person of the year, being honored for his life’s work.

Newcomers Gaby Amarantos, Deborah De Corral, Elain, Ulises Hadjiz, Los Mesoneros, Juan Magan, Rosario Ortega, Piso 21, Ball MTY and Ana Victoria will battle it out for the prestigious best new artist award.

The winners will be announced at the awards to be broadcast live from the Mandalay Bay Events Center in Las Vegas on the Univision television network.

**Actress Helen Mirren to receive European film award**

LONDON, 26 Sept— British actress Helen Mirren will receive a lifetime achievement award from the European Film Academy when it hands out its annual movie prizes in December, the organization said on Tuesday.

The 67-year-old, best known for her Oscar-winning portrayal of Queen Elizabeth in “The Queen”, will attend the awards ceremony held on December 1 in Malta.

“...was intended to be fun, they have helped it considerably. Its market capitalization has surged to $3.2 billion (264.16 billion won) since he shot to fame. Psy plans to release a new record in the United States in November.

Spanish singer Javier Luis Guerra, 55, who won three Latin Grammys in 2010, including the coveted album of the year for his hit studio set “A Son de Guerra,” earned six nominations including record and song of the year for “En El Cielo No Hay Hospital.” The awards will be held in Las Vegas on 13 November.

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**Roni Wood of the Rolling Stones—Reuters**

Ronnie Wood, ex-wife auction off Rolling Stones memorabilia

LOS ANGELES, 26 Sept— Guitarist Ronnie Wood and his ex-wife Jo Wood are auctioning off their shared collection of art and Rolling Stones memorabilia after their seven-year marriage ended in divorce. Auctioneer Darren Julien pegged the collection’s initial value at $300,000 to $500,000 and said the sale, to be held at Julien’s Auctions in Beverly Hills on 27 October, marked the first time a member of the Stones had held an auction of this kind. “We expect it to do very well,” he said.

The rocker, 65, and Jo, 57, a former-model, separated in 2008 after his widely reported relationship with a young cocktail waitress named Sylvie Meis was revealed. Their divorce was finalized in February 2011. The sale takes place ahead of the release next February of Jo Wood’s memoirs that reveal her tales of life as the wife of a Rolling Stone. “They are still very good friends and they just decided it was time to simplify and sell some of their property,” Julian told Reuters.

Part of the proceeds will go to MusiCares, the Grammys charity that offers support and professional help to people in the music industry, the auction company said in a statement.

**British actress Helen Mirren. Reuters**

In “The Madness of King George” (1994) she played Queen Charlotte, but it was 14 years later, in the part of another queen, Elizabeth II, that she established herself as at the very top of her profession.

Her portrayal of the current British monarch won her a best actress Academy Award, and she was nominated for the same award again for “The Last Station”.

Mirren will portray the queen on stage in a play written by the script writer of “The Queen”, Peter Morgan. “The Audience” opens in London in 2013.
Dazzling Bayern beat Wolfsburg, Dortmund draw at Frankfurt

Bayern Munich's Mario Mandzukic (9) scores a goal against VFL Wolfsburg during their German Bundesliga first division soccer match in Munich on 25 Sept, 2012. Reuters

Pavel Pardo

BAYERN MUNICH, (ILLINOIS), 26 Sept—Tiger Woods may be the greatest golfer of his generation but at the Ryder Cup he has been Joe Average and on Tuesday accepted responsibility for the dismal US showing for the past 15 years.

During a period where Woods reigned supreme over the golf world winning seven PGA Tour titles, including 14 majors, he has been unable to extend his dominance to the biennial competition that pits the US best against Europe’s best.

Medinah's face close to the centre circle. If found guilty by FIFA the 26-year-old Naismith faces a possible three-match ban and could miss two World Cup ties against Serbia’s Mijailovic's face close to the centre circle.

He’s fine, he’s been dealing with the heart of the visitors’ defence and curled the ball into the top corner. Lee doubled their advantage when a Danny Pugh shot was prodded into the bottom corner by Rodolph Austin in the second half before Sylvain Distin headed in a late consolation. Garry Monk scored in the 90th minute for Swansea City who beat third tier Crawley 3-2, while Wigan Athletic won 4-1 in an all-Premier League encounter at West Ham United.

Terry salutes the fans after Chelsea's 4-1 win over Wolverhampton Wanderers in the English League Cup at The Hawthorn Stadium in Manchester, northern England on 25 Sept, 2012. Reuters


Scotland's Naismith facing possible FIFA ban

The game between England on 25 Sept, 2012.—

US captain Davis Love III poses with Tiger Woods and the Ryder Cup during the 39th Ryder Cup golf matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 25 Sept, 2012.—Reuters

Scotland forward Steven Naismith

Scotland forward Steven Naismith has now opened disciplinary proceedings against Steven Naismith, a spokesperson for soccer’s ruling body.

Woods accepts responsibility for US Ryder Cup woes

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US captain Davis Love III poses with Tiger Woods and the Ryder Cup during the 39th Ryder Cup golf matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 25 Sept, 2012.— Reuters
**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

- News
- News-Tid-Bits
- Applied Myanmar Traditional Martial Art (Part-2)
- News
- Personal Touch Art Show
- Myanmar Movie “Love between the Devil and Deep Blue Sea”
- Myanmar TV (27-9-2012, Thursday)
- 7:40 am
  - Partita By Hilly Region
  - Missionary Saydaw
- 8:40 am
  - Dance of National Races
- 9:40 am
  - Documentary
- 10:40 am
  - Musical
- 11:40 am
  - Martial Song
- 12:40 pm
  - Documentary
- 1:40 pm
  - TV Drama Series

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**GENERAL**

**Two Los Angeles radio stations evacuated over beeping package**

**Los Angeles, 26 Sept—** Two Los Angeles radio stations were evacuated for about two hours on Tuesday, along with a number of other buildings in the 27-story building they share, after police were called to investigate a package that was making beeping noises. A Los Angeles Police bomb squad later determined that the parcel was harmless and contained only promotional materials.

The offices of KXV and KFWB, both CBS affiliates, were evacuated after calls to the police and fire departments at around 8:30 a.m., Los Angeles police spokesman Richard French said.

“We got a call... that a package had been delivered to the second floor lobby, and there appeared to be some kind of ticking or beeping coming from it,” he said.

An LAPD bomb squad responded to the building in the city’s mid-Wilshire district, which also houses law firms and other offices, to examine the parcel.

“The bomb squad examined it and discovered that it was promotional material,” LAPD Commander Andrew Smith said.

KXN said in a broadcast report that the package had been sent to a music radio station that shared the building and was considered suspicious because it was “oddly wrapped” and making beeping noises.

KFWB said in a statement posted on its website that the building had been evacuated by law enforcement officials “due to a bomb threat.” — Reuters

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**Blast near hospital injures 20 in SW Colombia**

**Bogota, 26 Sept—** An explosion outside a hospital in southwestern Colombia injured 20 people, Colombian Army officials said Tuesday.

The bomb was set off by the Comuneros del Sur Front, a faction of the National Liberation Army (ELN), on Monday night in the town of Samaniego, Narino state, Colombia’s 35th Army Brigade commander Enrique Bredeney told a press conference.

The remote-controlled explosive device was placed outside the hospital entrance. The hospital and 15 nearby residential buildings were damaged.

Among the 20 injured, four were sent to a local hospital. Two of them, who were severely hurt, received treatment in state capital Pasto. Police Chief Rodolfo Palomino condemned the attack and traveled Tuesday morning to Pasto to hold a security council meeting.

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**Salmonella sickens 30 in 19 states, peanut butter recalled**

**Washington, 26 Sept—*** Thirty people in 19 states have fallen ill from Salmonella poisoning, probably from tainted peanut butter, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Tuesday.

Health officials and regulators point to Trader Joe’s Valencia Creamy Salted Peanut Butter made with Sea Salt as the likely source of the outbreak of the Salmonella Javero strain, the CDC said in a statement.

The median age of those taken ill is 7, and four people have been hospitalized, the CDC said. The outbreak is scattered across the United States, and Massachessetts has the most cases with three. Grocery chain Trader Joe’s said Saturday it was recalling its Creamy Salted Valencia Peanut Butter, Valencia Peanut Butter with Roasted Flaxseeds and Almond Butter with Roasted Flaxseeds because of potential contamination with Salmonella. New Mexico nut producer Sunland Inc said on Monday it was pulling around 100 kinds of peanut butter and other products containing nuts and seeds.

The illness from the food-borne organism usually causes diarrhea, fever and abdominal pain. It can be fatal for old people, young children and people with weakened immune systems. — Xinhua

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**Survey shows most Austrians do not see euro-problems solved by ESM**

**Vienna, 26 Sept—** A majority of Austrians do not see that lingering eurozone debt crisis could be solved by the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), a survey showed on Tuesday.

According to Austrian news agency APA, the polling institute “Market” conducted the survey on 1,000 people over 16 years of age, of whom 63 percent responded that the ESM was “likely not” able to solve the euro issue.

At the same time 57 percent of respondents said they supported the currency and in hindsight saw its adoption in Austria as a positive thing, though 36 percent called it a “mistake.”

The Market Insitute said that the percentage in favor of the euro was particularly high among those with a higher education, at 76 percent.

Opinions on the situation of Greece were mixed, with 33 percent expecting positive long-term developments, 26 percent negative developments, and 25 percent not expecting any significant consequences. Of the interviewees, 65 percent said Greece must stick to its austerity package and schedule. Meanwhile 70 percent feared that the European economy would stagnate in the coming years, while 16 percent expected an economic crisis, only 10 percent expected an improvement.

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**The Qinglang bridge under construction is seen in Wenchang, south China’s Hainan Province, 25 Sept. 2012. The 1828-meter-long Qinglang bridge is the second cross-sea bridge of Hainan Province with an investment of 395 million yuan (94.4 million US dollars). — Xinhua**

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**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(27-9-12 09:30 am — 28-9-12 09:30 am) MST

- News
- Myanmar International Frontier (Myanmar-Vietnam Bilateral Relation)
- News
- National Races from Shan State “Gon Shan and Li Shan”
- News
- Significant Festival of Wagansu
- News
- Hot System Precise & Speedy for the People
- News
- System of Myanmar (Rangoon-Mandalay Union Highway)(Part-2)

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**Map of Baja Mexico locating the epicenter of a 6.2 magnitude earthquake that struck Tuesday evening local time.—Reuters**

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China, Uzbekistan draw 1-1 in AFC U-16 championship

TEHRAN, 26 Sept.—China snatched a 1-1 draw against Uzbekistan in the Group D match of the AFC U-16 2012 championship here on Tuesday.

China came from behind to salvage a point against its rival after India held Syria 0-0 in another Group D match earlier.

After two rounds of games, Uzbekistan tops the group with four points while China and Syria both have two points. On Tuesday, South Korea beat Japan 3-1 and Saudi Arabia lost to DPR Korea 2-1 in the Group C matches.—Xinhua

Entrepreneurs buy plots from farmers along Yangon-Pathein Highway

NAUNGDON, 26 Sept.—Companies and entrepreneurs buy the vacant land plots from farmers along Yangon-Pathein highway, especially in Nyaungdon Township of Ayeeyawady Region.

The entrepreneurs plan to build factories, workshops, fuel stations, restaurants, commodity brokerage, rice mills, paddy dryers and farming equipment showrooms. At present, the plots are being fenced and are under land preparations. Therefore, the local people have easy access to job opportunities.—Kyemon

High tide warning at Yangon River

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept.—The public are hereby informed that exceptionally high Spring of from 20 feet to 20.3 feet high above the datum are excepted to occur in Yangon River during the period 30th September to 3rd October 2012. That it is not serious because the high tide have reached up to 21.7 feet high above datum, announced by Myanmar Port Authority.—MNA

Pyithu Hluttaw goodwill delegation back from Australia, Singapore

YANGON, 26 Sept.—A goodwill delegation of Pyithu Hluttaw led by Chairman of Planning and Financial Development Committee U Soe Tha arrived back here by air at 3.50 pm today after paying goodwill visits to Australia and the Republic of Singapore.

They were welcomed back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U T Khan Myut and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Myanmar-Japan football chiefs vow to deepen cooperation

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept.—The chiefs of the Japanese and Myanmar soccer leagues vowed in Tokyo on Wednesday to deepen cooperation based on a partnership agreement signed in late August aimed at sharing the J-League’s expertise with the new Myanmar soccer body.

J-League’s Chairman Kazumi Ohigashi and Zaw Zaw, President of the Myanmar Football Federation and Chairman of the Myanmar National League, told Kyodo News that they plan to promote exchanges of professional soccer players, coaches and young trainees to raise the level of soccer in Myanmar.

Myanmar is 183rd in the world rankings of soccer governing body FIFA.

“The Myanmar National League was launched in 2009, but the J-League has a history of around 20 years. We’d like to learn a lot” on ways to manage the league, said Zaw Zaw in fluent Japanese. The J-League was established in 1993.

Ohigashi stressed the need to develop cooperative ties between the two leagues over the long term and said he expects J-League fans to increase in Myanmar, where European soccer teams are popular.

The J-League chairman said broadcasting of J-League games has recently begun in Myanmar following the partnership accord signed in Yangon on August 27.

He also said the Japan Football Association sent Yoshinori Kumada in August last year to serve as the head coach of Myanmar’s national soccer team.

Ohigashi and Zaw Zaw referred to the long-standing relationship between Japanese and Myanmar soccer players, with Kyaw Din having taught Japanese players how to improve their passing skills in the 1920s.

Kyaw Din, who came to Japan as a student of the predecessor of the Tokyo Institute of Technology, entered the Japan Football Hall of Fame in 2007 for his contribution to advancing the skills of Japanese soccer players.

Zaw Zaw and owners of Myanmar soccer clubs under the J-League headquarters and asked questions regarding ways to effectively manage the league, such as how to secure income and sponsorships.

The J-League also inked cooperation agreements with soccer leagues in Thailand in February and Vietnam in August aimed at sharing the J-League’s expertise with the new Myanmar soccer body.

Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw U Soe Tha arrived back at Yangon International Airport by Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Pyithu Hluttaw Bill Committee Chairman U T Khan Myut and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—MNA

Committee Chairman U T Khan Myut and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

Chairman U Soe Tha being welcomed back by Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Yangon Region Hluttaw Speaker U Sein Tin Win at Yangon International Airport.

Pyithu Hluttaw goodwill delegation back from Australia, Singapore

Pyithu Hluttaw goodwill delegation back from Australia, Singapore

Pyithu Hluttaw goodwill delegation back from Australia, Singapore