On the occasion of the 63rd Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Hu Jintao, President of the People’s Republic of China.

MNA

President U Thein Sein felicitates Cypriot counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Demetris Christofias, President of the Republic of Cyprus, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Cyprus, which falls on 1 October 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein sends felicitations to President and Commander-in-Chief of Nigeria

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which falls on 1 October 2012.—MNA

President U Thein Sein meets UN Secretary-General

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein met Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr Ban Ki-moon at his residence on the Sutton Place Road in New York at 8 am local time yesterday.

At the residence, the President signed in the visitors’ book and Mr Ban Ki-moon introduced the President with Mr Joseph V Reed, Adviser to the UN Secretary-General; Mr Vijay Nambiar, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General for Myanmar; Mr Jeffery Feltman, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Ms Valarie Amos, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Ms Helen Clark, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator; Dr Babatunde Osotimehin, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund; and Ms Judy Cheng Hopkins, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace Building Support.

Afterwards, they had a breakfast together and discussed matters on further cooperation between the UN and Myanmar and on provision of development aid to Myanmar.

MNA

Substitute Bent secures Villa draw against West Brom

LONDON, 30 Sept—Striker Darren Bent came off the bench to score a late equaliser and secure Aston Villa a 1-1 local derby draw at home to West Bromwich Albion in the Premier League on Sunday.

The England international, netting his 150th career league goal, fired home 10 minutes from time following a scramble.

Shane Long put West Brom, in sixth place on 11 points, ahead on 51 minutes when he converted James Morrison’s low cross from the right. Villa are 15th with five points.

The match was the only Premier League encounter on Sunday. Chelsea top the standings, three points ahead of Everton, after a 2-1 victory over Arsenal on Saturday.

Queens Park Rangers host London rivals West Ham United at Loftus Road on Monday (8:00 pm British time).

Reuters
Union FM sends felicitations to Chinese FM

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63rd Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China.—MNA

Union FM felicitates Cypriot counterpart

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Republic of Cyprus, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Dr. Erato Kozakou-Marcoullis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus.—MNA

Union FM sends felicitations to Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of the Independence Day of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, which falls on 1 October 2012, U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Olugbenga Ayodeji Ashiru, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.—MNA

PNKliaison office opened in Hpa-an

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—The Government is striving for ensuring peace and stability of the State. Yesterday, the Brigades Liaison Office (Hpa-an) of Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) was opened at No 4/500 on Thiri Street in Ward 4 of Hpa-an, Kayin State.

It was attended by Union Minister at the President Office U Aung Min, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint, Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Min, Speaker of Kayin State Hluttaw U Saw Aung Kyaw Min, Hluttaw representatives, state ministers, NGOs/INGOs, regiments and units, peace making group members, departmental officials, representatives of political parties, local people, Kayin don dance troups and students totalling 400.

Union Ministers U Aung Min and U Ohn Myint, the state chief minister, the state Hluttaw speaker and KNLA Chief of Staff Mutu Sae Poe formally opened the liaison office. The KNLA Chief of Staff unveiled the signboard of the office.

The second session of the opening ceremony was held at KanthaU Hall in Hpa-an, Union Minister U Aung Min and KNLA Chief of Staff Mutu Sae Poe delivered addresses. The Chief of Staff of KNLA and party presented commemorative pensants.

The Union Ministers and officials of Kayin State Government presented gifts, computer, TV, Sky Net receiver, phone, fax phone, medicine and exercise books.

Liaison offices were opened in Kyaukkyi, Dawei, Myawady and Phayathonsu including in KNLA Brigades Liaison Offices in Hpa-an. With liaison offices, officials will meet to strengthen further relationship for eternal peace. The local people are specially delighted at restoring peace in the region.—MNA

Religious Affairs Minister meets Thai guests

YANGON, 30 Sept—Union Minister for Religious Affairs Thura U Myint Maung met Thai scholars at the meeting hall of Shwedagon Pagoda Board of Trustees Office for construction of Shwedagon Pagoda Historical Museum.—MNA

District News

Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament launched

YANGON, 30 Sept—with the aim of securing victory in the XXVII SEA Games and turning out outstanding tennis players, the Inter-Ministry Table Tennis Tournament was opened at the hall of Myanmar Table Tennis Federation on U Wisara Road on 27 September. President of the federation U Kyaw Kyaw made a speech.

The president and officials of the federation enjoyed participation of athletes in the tournament. The competition runs from 27 to 30 September.

Equestrian athletes under training

YANGON, 30 Sept—Three equestrian athletes who secured awards in the XXVII SEA Games and new generation equestrian athletes are taking training at Yangon Equestrian Club in Da gon Myothit (North) Township as of 22 September with the aim of taking part in the equestrian contests in the region.

President
U Thein Sein
being welcomed by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.
(News on page-1) MNA

If you’re not going to help me, don’t disturb me!

Why do you disturb the busy guy?

Nope, I woke up the sleeping one.

Maung Maung Hnyet

Drive safely
Two Venezuelan opposition activists shot dead

Venezuela

CARACAS, 30 Sept—Gunmen shot and killed two local leaders of parties back- ing presidential challenger Henrique Capriles on Saturday in the worst violence of a volatile campaign before Venezuela’s election next weekend.

Capriles’ party, Primero Justicia (First Justice), said the gunmen fired from a van that witnesses identified as belonging to state oil compa- ny PDVSA or the local may- or’s office during a rally in the agricultural state of Barinas. The government of President Hugo Chavez, who is seeking re-election, con- firmed the deaths and vowed the perpetrators would be brought to justice. Interior Minister Tareck El Alissami said the circumstances of the attack were still under investi- gation.

Chavez is awash with guns, and violent crime is fre- quently cited as voters’ No 1 concern. There had been shoot- ings and fistfights in previous opposition rallies as “Chavis- tas” and Capriles supporters clashed, but no deaths.

This tragedy gives us more strength and faith to fight for a Venezuela where justice and non-violence reign,” said Primero Justicia, the party of one of the vic- tims.

Another two people were injured, and there were six arrests after the attack on an opposition motorcade that had been blocked by Chavez supporters, Primero Justicia said in an account not confirmed by police or other authorities.

“70 am so sad at this bad news,” Capriles said via Twit- ter. The opposition Democra- tic Unity coalition, with United Venezuela’s opposition parties, demanded a quick investigation.

Aissami said police were doing just that. “It was an iso- lated incident,” he told state TV.—Reuters

Nuclear site ends security contract following nun’s break-in

WASHINGTON, 30 Sept—The government’s “Fort Knox” of weapons-grade uranium storage has ended a contract with a unit of its own military experts, Press TV reported.

The Shaheer long-range sniper and Neimata tactical vehicle were unveiled dur- ing a ceremony in the Ira- nian capital Teheran. The ceremony was attended by commander of the Iranian army’s ground forces, Briga- dier General Ahmad-Reza Pourdastan, the report said.

The 14.5-mm-caliber sniper rifle has an effective range of 5 km, said the report, adding that the weapon, which is 185 cm long and weighs 22 kg, requires three operators for efficient use.

Pourdastan told reporters that 2.5-ton Neimata tacti- cal vehicle is designed to trans- port troops and equipment. The vehicle, which boasts a 240-horsepower engine, is 7.2 metres long, 2.5 metres wide and 2.8 metres high, and can carry up to 5 tons of load on ordinary roads and 2.5 tons on all kinds of terrain, according to the report.

Press TV reported on Tuesday that a new gener- ation of home-made Saqeqh (Thunderbolt) fighter jets will be brought into an air force fleet before the end of this Iranian calendar year (20 March, 2013). “The new generation of home-made Saqeqh fighter jets is being produced and will soon join the air force fleet under a new name,” Deputy Commander of Ira- nian Air Force Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh was quoted as saying.

In fighter jets are more advanced than the cur- rent ones and have been opti- mized by the Iranian special- ists, he said, adding that the new aircraft can be equipped with enhanced ammunition, smart bombs and modern electronic systems.

Nasirzadeh said Iran’s air force is ready to counter any possible threat against the country.—Xinhua

NATO soldier, civilian contractor killed by Afghan soldier

KABUL, 30 Sept—A NATO soldier, a NATO civilian contractor and several Afghan sol- diers were killed by an Afghan soldier on Saturday in eastern Afghanistan, the latest in grow- ing “a joint ANA and ISAF assessment is underway. “ The brief statement did not disclose the nationalities of the victims and the exact place of the incident under ISAF policy.

It is also known that there were Afghan National Army (ANA) casualties,” it said, add- ing “a joint ANA and ISAF assessment is underway.” The brief statement did not disclose the nationalities of the victims and the exact place of the incident under ISAF policy.

Troops mainly from US have been stationed within the 100,000 strong NATO-led ISAF forces in eastern Afghan provinces. Four US soldiers were killed when a local policeman opened fire on coalition troops in southern Zabul Province earlier this month on 16 Septem- ber. A total of 51 NATO and US soldiers were killed in about 33 green-on-blue attacks so far this year. Up to 344 foreign soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan in Taliban-led violence and attacks since the beginning of this year.—Xinhua

France’s diplomatic shuttle causes mixed reaction in Algeria

ALGERIA, 30 Sept—Top French officials’ recent visits to Algeria have raised hopes that President Francois Hol- lande will have the keys to loosen the blocked relations between the two countries.

Some observers say, however, that such a diplo- matic shuttle is no more than a strategic step by financially troubled Paris. “France has never managed to succeed in Algeria, regarding related historical factors,” Abdelhamid Mezache, an economist and political analyst, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

“In fact, France has always preferred to invest in neighbouring Morocco than to back Morocco in the Maghreb conflict that would reign there in all fields, “ he said.”

However, Mezache noted that the newly elected Hollande and his leftist gov- ernment seem to have a new vision in terms of boosting bilateral relations with Al- geria, including investment in the North African nation.

In this context, France and Algeria have launched talks to build an assembly plant for the French au- tomaker Renault in Algeria. Renault CEO Carlos Ghosn was quoted by French media as saying that his company would soon install a plant in the country.

“Is in the interests of Algers and Paris to sit down and talk about issues of com- mon interest, including the neighboring crisis-lit Mali, in a bid to reach convergence way-out to the crisis, and eventually avoid that Alge- ria to be affected,“ Mezache said.—Xinhua
Sharp says making adequate volumes of display used in iPhone 5

New York, 30 Sept—

Sharp Corp is making “adequate volumes” of displays that are known to be only compatible for Apple Inc’s new iPhone 5, a company executive said, indicating that a possible bottleneck in supplies of screens may have eased.

Analyzing a shortfall in supplies of display for leaving Apple with too few iPhones to meet burgeoning demand at its launch this month. At the end of August three weeks before the new iPhone went on sale, Sharp, which was supposed to be mass producing at its Kameyama plant in central Japan, had fallen behind schedule, a source earlier told Reuters.

Now the source said, was struggling to improve low production yields, raising the question of whether Apple would be prepared to sacrifice financial incentives to secure an acceleration of production. Apple also buys screens from Japan Display and Korea’s LG Display.

Apple began offering the iPhone on 21 Sept, selling over 5 million in the first three days, topping the iPhone 4S, which sold more than 4 million units in its first weekend. On the fourth day, Apple said it had run out of its initial supply and many orders were scheduled to go out in October.

“The iPhone 5’s 4-inch low-temperature polysilicon (LTPS) touch-panel display with in-panel switching (IPS) is exceptionally difficult to produce at high yields,” Deutsche Securities analyst Yusato Nakane said in a report on 14 Sept.

Nakane estimates iPhone screen cost at JPY 80,000 to JPY 120,000, and notes that Apple’s first lot of new iPhones likely came from Sharp.

Sharp and Japan Display do not publicly admit to the relationship even though Apple, in a list of component makers published last year, identified both Japanese companies as suppliers. The Sharp executive made the comments at a press briefing in Osaka, western Japan, speaking on condition that his identity was expected to be kept secret for “adequate volumes of T-Mobile USA in $2.4 billion tower deal with Crown Castle

Washington, 30 Sept—

T-Mobile USA is selling the right to operate 7,200 of its towers in a $2.4 billion deal to Crown Castle International Corp to help fund a network upgrade and reduce debt at its parent Deutsche Telekom.

Crown Castle has the option to pay another $2.4 billion to buy the towers outright from T-Mobile USA at the end of the lease term for each tower between 2025 and 2048—under the deal announced on Friday.

The deal, analysts said it was a good deal for T-Mobile USA, which is spending $4 billion on network upgrades to compete with AT&T Inc and Verizon Communications Inc.

The major concern that the company has also been looking to become financially independent from its parent, which had tried to exit the US market the year before. However, several analysts said that Crown Castle had over-paid, likely because another bidder had pushed up the price.

Evercore Partners analyst Jonathan Schildkraut said the company had paid about $400 million more than he would have liked. “As people start to pull apart the numbers, it doesn’t look that great,” Schildkraut said, but he added that Crown Castle “needed to do it for growth.” Deutsche Telekom said the deal would reduce its debt by about $2.4 billion or roughly 1.9 billion euros. T-Mobile USA, the No 4 US mobile provider, has been struggling to stem customer losses as it has a tough time competing with bigger and smaller rivals.

It had been trying to raise money from a tower sale since its proposed purchase by AT&T Inc failed late last year because of regulatory opposition. It also had looked into selling the towers in early 2011 before starting the AT&T process.

The deal is expected to close in the fourth quarter, according to the companies. Crown Castle said it expects the towers to generate about $125 million to $130 million in adjusted funds from operations before financing costs in 2013. JPMorgan analyst Phil Cusick said that, but they still need to do it for growth.” Deutsche Telekom said the deal would reduce its debt by about $2.4 billion or roughly 1.9 billion euros.

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**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**UN Secretary-General’s Message on the International Day of Older Persons**

1 October 2012  
“Longevity: Shaping the Future”  

Rapid population ageing and a steady increase in human longevity worldwide represent one of the greatest social, economic and political transformations of our time. These demographic changes will affect every community, family and person. They demand that we rethink how individuals live, work, plan and learn throughout their lifetimes, and that we re-invent how societies manage themselves.

As we embark on shaping the post-2015 United Nations development agenda, we must envision a new paradigm that aligns demographic ageing with economic and social growth and protects the human rights of older persons. We are all — individually and collectively — responsible for the inclusion of older persons in society, whether through developing accessible transportation and communities, ensuring the availability of age-appropriate health care and social services, or providing an adequate social protection floor. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. As the proportion of older persons in society grows, the bold vision it put forward — of building a society for all ages — is more relevant than ever.

Longevity is a public health achievement, not a social or economic liability. On this International Day of Older Persons, let us pledge to ensure the well-being of older persons and to enlist their meaningful participation in society so we can all benefit from their knowledge and ability.

**Health**

**The World Health Organisation (WHO) headquarters are pictured in Geneva. Reuters**

**WHO says only severely ill should be tested for new virus**

**Geneva, 30 Sept**— Doctors should only test people for a new virus if they are very ill in hospital with a respiratory infection, have been in Qatar or Saudi Arabia and test negative for common forms of pneumonia and infections, the World Health Organisation said on Saturday.

The newly discovered virus from the same family as SARS has so far been confirmed in only two cases worldwide, one in a 60-year-old Saudi man who died from his infections, and another in a man from Qatar who is critically ill in a London hospital. The WHO said in a statement its new case definition was “to ensure an appropriate and effective identification and investigation of patients who may be infected with the virus, without overburdening health care systems with unnecessary testing.”

The virus is from a family called coronaviruses, which also includes viruses that cause the common cold and SARS, or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which emerged in China in 2002 and killed around a tenth of the 8,000 people it infected worldwide.

WHO said the virus has spread more slowly than SARS and was not as deadly.

**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Chinese manufacturing activity contracts for 11th consecutive month:**  

**HSBC Business Monitor China**

China manufacturing activity fell for the 11th consecutive month. New export orders declined at the sharpest rate in 42 months amid reports of weak international demand, while lower workloads were linked to a fall in backlogs of work.

The rate of reduction in manufacturing output in China accelerated during September, signaling the strongest contraction since March. A number of respondents that reported a fall in production levels attributed this to lower order volumes as both domestic and international demand weakened.

However, the rate of reductions in new export orders remained stronger than the decline in overall new orders. Panelists commented on tough trading conditions in a number of key trading markets.

Purchasing activity fell in China’s manufacturing sector for a fifth successive month during September. The rate at which input buying declined accelerated to the fastest since February. As a result, stocks of purchases fell in September at the quickest rate since May, as companies sought to utilize inventories wherever possible in production.

Meanwhile, average lead times improved for the fifth consecutive month. Survey respondents reported that reordered demand for inputs and fewer orders placed to vendors resulted in quicker delivery times.

**Study finds birth defects down among IVF babies**

**SUBIACO, (Australia), 30 Sept**— Though assisted-reproduction techniques (ART) are known to come with a higher risk for birth defects, a new review of defect rates in Western Australia shows major improvements in reducing these risks.

“A change to clinical practice may be largely responsible with improved laboratory techniques,” said lead researcher Michele Hansen, the lead author of the study and a researcher at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in Subiaco, Western Australia.

Hansen said she and her colleagues wanted to get an update on those rates using a database of all births in Western Australia.

They collected information on more than 207,000 births, including babies conceived through two common techniques, 1,328 by in vitro fertilization and 633 by intracytoplasmic sperm injection, from 1994 to 2002.

The data also included pregnancies terminated due to a defect in the fetus.

Overall, major birth defects, including cleft lip, heart and septal abnormalities, fell from 0.38 percent of ART babies compared to about five percent of babies conceived without assistance.

When the researchers compared the period between 1994 and 1998 to the years between 1998 and 2002, they saw a decline in birth defects over time among babies whose parents used ART.

In the first period, nearly 11 percent of ART babies had a birth defect diagnosed by age six, compared to about 7.5 percent in the second period.

In the journal Obstetrics & Gynecology, Hansen calls the results “encouraging,” though she can’t explain them. The researchers speculate they could stem from a combination of ART techniques becoming available to a wider swath of the population, and changes in how the techniques themselves are applied.

**Health**

**Chinese factory workers assembling umbrellas.—Xinhua**

**Thousands of German children sickened by suspected virus**

**BERLIN, 30 Sept**— Thousands of schoolchildren in Germany suffered from vomiting and diarrhoea over the past few days, which were thought to be triggered by contaminated food.

According to Robert Koch Institute (RKI), a federal healthagency, more than 4,000 children have been affected since Tuesday evening.

The outbreak spread across states of Berlin, Brandenburg, Saxony and Thuringia. Some schools were closed and children were receiving hospital treatment.

All schools affected had received food from a common supplier, indicating it was a food-borne illness such as norovirus, the Institute said in a statement late Thursday. But Sodexo, the food supplier, denied that their relevance with the outbreak. Health and food authorities of national, state and local levels are investigating the cause of the disease. —Xinhua

A health worker fumigates inside a home in Havana on 20 September, 2012. Cuba conducts regular fumigation inside homes to check the spread of dengue, a mosquito-transmitted virus that causes a fever which can be deadly. **Reuters**

**Medical worker fumigates inside a home in Havana on 20 September, 2012. Cuba conducts regular fumigation inside homes to check the spread of dengue, a mosquito-transmitted virus that causes a fever which can be deadly.**
NATIONAL

Union CPT Minister urges to step up efforts for IT sector development

YANGON, 30 Sept—Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu has urged to step up efforts for the development of the Information and Communication Technology sector, including the Information and Communication Technology industry in Myanmar to be developed in parallel with the infrastructure of the country, and it needs to be developed with the country.

Union Energy Minister visits oilfields

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Union Minister for Energy U Than Htay yesterday visited Mann ThanpyarKay oilfields of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprises in Myawady Region. He said that Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprises can be an example for other companies to use the local people and department for development of the oilfields.

Minister for Communication, Posts and Telecommunications U Aung San Hla extended greetings to the students who passed the matriculation examination.

State Chief Minister inspects rice bags bound for Putao

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Kachin State Chief Minister U La John Ngan Hsi together with the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Department of Labour and Employment, have inspected rice bags bound for Putao.

Overseas employers directly meet with employees to ensure swift and smooth process of official dispatch of Myanmar employees

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept—Today, the Business Council of Myanmar employees of Thailand and new permanent establishment in the Overseas Employers Council of Myanmar employees of Thailand held a meeting with workers about the smooth process of dispatch.

Myanmar, Indonesia stage concert

YANGON, 30 Sept—To mark the 67th anniversary of Independence Day of the Republic of Indonesia, the Myanmar and Indonesian cultural troupes shared the stage at the National Theatre on Myanmar Kyaung Street, here yesterday evening.

The Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu and wife Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe and Region Ministers, departmental officials, Indonesian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Sebastianus Sumarsono and wife, officials and families of foreign embassies in Myanmar and guests.

The Indonesian Ambassador gave a speech and donated cash to the Rahkine State and Pyinsual Village Hospital in Labutta Township, Ayeyawady Region.

Overseas employers directly meet with employees to ensure swift and smooth process of official dispatch of Myanmar employees

The in-charges of Canned Fish Factory of L.S.A Value Co, Ltd of Thailand and Myanmar employees of Top Star Workers Training School met at Pinimal Hall of the Labour Department under the Ministry of Labour in Dagon Myothit (South), Yangon Region on 28 September and entered into a contract.

Also present on the occasion were Directors, General of Labour Department U Myo Aung and officials. Making a speech, Director General U Myo Aung stressed the need for Myanmar workers to use legal route in going abroad for works in order to be able to avoid human trafficking and not to be complacent with the status of workers but to study technology, knowledge and language abroad. Only then, will they become skilled workers.

The Labour Department relaxes the time and work process in the official dispatch of labourers to Thailand. Due to convenience in work process and swift issue of passports at border towns, workers could save the cost of meal and accommodation. The direct singing of contract between overseas employers and Myanmar employees contributes to prevention of human trafficking.
Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham visits Yangon University of Foreign Languages

YANGON, 30 Sept — Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Dr Sai Mauk Kham called for upgrading the standards and improving the quality of the Yangon University of Foreign Languages during his visit to the university today.

At the meeting with the rector and faculty members of the university, the Vice-President highlighted the importance of the role of the university in nurturing the human resources serving the country directly or indirectly.

He stressed the need for improvement of the management skills and capacity of faculty members and role of students to improve the university.

On his visit to the university, the Vice-President was accompanied by Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsan, Union Minister for Construction U Kyaw Lwin, Chief Minister of Yangon Region U Myint Swe, deputy ministers and Yangon region ministers. Dr Lwin Lwin Soe, Rector of the university, reported the Vice-President on strength of the staff and faculty members of the university, the number of students who are working on thesis, languages and teaching and learning, courses for foreign students, number of students and graduates, courses for Human Resource Development, services, students-centered teaching methods, talks, sports activities, research works, workshops, security and discipline enforcement, greening and beautifying of the university.

The Vice-President also stressed the importance of the six languages: English, French, Russian, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese used at the UN and languages of ASEAN nations and neighboring countries of Myanmar.

He urged the rector and faculty members to draw a plan to provide the university with necessary teaching aids and to learn sustainably so that they can be quality ones who can produce qualified students.

He stressed the need for inviting native speakers via relevant embassies in Yangon.

He also called on faculty members for turning out qualified doctoral degree holders.

After the meeting, the Vice-President and party visited the Language Laboratories (3) and (5) and observed the skills of students.

He also viewed students learning Thai language at the e-Education Resource Centre and the library.

The Vice-President also met with faculty members at the assembly hall of the university and urged them to work hard to be able to teach the new generation students to become intellectual ones and pledged the government’s assistance for the university.

The Vice-President and his entourage inspected the construction of four-storey building.

Afterwards, the Vice-President visited lecture rooms, computer training centres and the Chinese department and gave instructions to officials concerned.—MNA

Township LBVD opened in Hinthada

Hinthada Township Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department was opened on 24 September morning, with a speech by Ayeyawady Region Minister for Mines and Forestry U Soe Myint.

World School Milk Day observed in Pinlebu

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Khin Maung Aye attended the ceremony to mark World School Milk Day at Myoma 1 and 2 Basic Education Primary Schools in Pinlebu on 26 September and viewed offering milk and snack to schoolchildren.

News in Brief

Holding Kayah State Day discussed

Coordination meeting to organize 61st Kayah State Day was held at the Kayah State government office on 28 September, with an address by State Chief Minister U Khin Maung Os. The meeting focused on sales of souvenirs for the Kayah State Day, publishing of magazine, holding of sports events and entertainment of concerts and theatrical dramas.

Education development seminars held

The Consultation Meeting with Development Partners for the Improvement of Education Sector was held at Ministry of Education on 28 September. Next, Basic Education Sector Improvement Seminar, the Higher Education Sector Improvement Seminar and programmes of educational donor groups to contribution to the education sector followed.

Women’s tailoring course commences

Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation opened the women’s tailoring course No 1 at its office in Nay Pyi Taw on 28 September afternoon. The trainees will be provided basic tailoring course and women ware tailoring course from 1 to 26 September.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon and Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua cut commemorative cake. (News on page 16)—MNA
Good governance and international assistance

In fact, there is correlation between good governance and development aids/assistance. International Monetary Fund-IMF, World Bank, Asian Development Bank-ADB and other international and regional financial institutions demand the materialization of good governance in the countries that receive financial aids, concessional loans or cheap loans and grants from them.

Normally, these institutions provide monetary assistance only to countries actually practice good governance, as their concept is “Money follows good governance”. Accordingly, grants and aids, concessional loans and cheap loans, and capital and investments flow into countries where good governance flourishes, thereby increasing the volume of public financing.

The correlation between good governance and international assistance has two views. The first view is that because of international assistance and aids, governments of recipient countries can focus more on strategic programmes for national development. The second is that international assistance will be more effective only with functioning good governance. There is another assumption saying that governments of the developing or poor countries can give greater concentration on matters such as the rule of law and stability through international assistance or loan write-offs.

On the other hand, international aid sometimes breeds bribery and self-seeking leading to hinder and delay development process. Accordingly, there should be development-oriented management mechanism of the governments for the effectiveness of international aids.

Since early 1990s, international aids have been focusing on reducing centralism or central control, and judicial and legislative reforms in developing countries. The result is the prevalence of political-economic view over international aids. And this political-economic view is the cornerstone of the idea of good governance that is the dominant factor in developing countries.

A good administrative machinery calls for a competent government, a functioning regular legislative body or the parliament, an independent judicial sector, and the separation of power as they are the requirements for the emergence of democratic governing model.

6 Red Snooker Open 12 October

YANGON, 30 Sept—Sports and Physical Education Department of the Ministry of Sports, Myanmar Billiards and Snooker Federation, Asia Billiard and Snooker Centre (Than Market) will jointly organize the 6 red Snooker Open and Snooker Federation, Asia Billiard and Snooker Centre (third floor) at Lanmadaw and fourth award winners. (Than Market) will jointly organize the 6 red Snooker Open and Snooker Federation, Asia Billiard and Snooker Centre (third floor) at Lanmadaw and fourth award winners.

For your life’s longevity. Shelter under Mandalay Hill’s sanctuary. Caressed by cool clear water, Of Emerald lake Nandar. Resounding sounds of bells so sweet, Vibrating echoes of golden Bhubo drum’s beats. Driving out all dangers to retreat.

The above old Myanmar folk song conjugates the geography, geology, ecology, legend and history of Mandalay Hill. With a height of 776 summit above the sea level outcropping from the ground “which is even like the face of a drum”. Mandalay Hill is oval in shape, a mile and a half furlong from north to south and 6 furlongs from east to west. The Hill is a jewel by itself. As if attending on this majestic sacred Hill are nine minor hills, surrounding, whose names suggest the minerals they have in store and they tell the legends associated with them. These surrounding hills are (1) Shwe Taung (gold hill) (2) Ngwe Taung (silver hill) (3) Patanyua Taung (ruby hill) (4) Sedyan Taung (yellow opinent hill) (5) Myin-thi-lar Taung (realgar or red opinent hill) (6) Dut-hta Taung (copper sulphate crystal or blue vitriol hill) (7) Yey Hlae Taung (Spring or sprout hill) (8) Kyey-ni Taung (copper hill) and (9) Belo-ja Taung (Ogress hill).

Since Mandalay Hill is in the centre of these nine surround- ing hills, it is said that the Hill originally was called “Man- da-la Hill” [the central hill]. There are many stories of Mandalay Hill told by oral history and legends. History of Mandalay Hill compiled by U Khanti, the Hermit who developed, renovated and embellished the Hill as the British Colonial period and after and published in 1933, March, contains facts and figures about this Hill. One oral history tells us that a certain young king named “Uggag Thama Dhamma Yaza” from Hanthawaddy came to Upper Myanmar in search of a suitable site for building a town. To the north of Mandalay Hill, he founded a town with the help of his hundred Amats [high officials of the court]. The town came to be known as “Mat Tayr Myo” [Town built by 100 Amats]. This king regularly visited the nearby wooded hill for religious practices and observances such as keeping sabbath and meditation. The local people also went up the Hill for the same purpose. Because the young king frequented it, the public called the hill “Min Ga-lay Hill” [Young King’s Hill]. In course of time “Min Ga-lay Hill” corrupted to sound “Manda-lay Hill”. The stone inscription of Yatana Myitza Pagoda which was built by the forefathers of King Shwe Nandar and his son, An Kyaw Shin [1819-1837 A.D.] on the summit of Mandalay Hill, says that it was very enchanting and it gave peace and tranquility to the visitors.

Buddhist legends provide different names of Mandalay Hill in different periods. During the lifetime of Kakusanda Buddha the Hill was called “Khintha Thawa Pur Harbour”. In the time of Konagamanna Buddha it was called “Way Lar Pur”. It was called “Par-da-tha Pura” during Kassapa Buddha’s time. It was only in the lifetime of Gotama Buddha that the Hill acquired the name “Mandalay Hill”.

Legend has it that Lord Gotama Buddha and his cousin Monk Ananda, accompanied by five hundred arahat disciples made an arche journey to Mandalay Hill and sojourned on its summit. When Ananda saw Lord Buddha smile, he asked the Buddha the reason of his smile. Lord Buddha explained that the Hill was the abode of seven previous lives—a lion, a stag, a spail, an iguana, a hunter, an elephant and a rooster. At that time there dwelt on Mandalay Hill an ogress named “Sanda Mukhi”. When she saw Lord Buddha she felt so happy and peaceful that she worshipped him, and in a frenzy of devotion arched her two breasts and placed them at the feet of Lord Buddha in offer- ing. Whereupon Lord Buddha gave her his Dhamma teach- ings and told her his divine prophecy that “in the 2460 of Buddhist Era, this place [that is the site of Mandalay Palace city] which he pointed at with his forefinger of his right hand, which was evenly flat like the face of a drum would become a big city named “Yatanapon” [the city of Gems] and “and there as a sister of his, Buddha Thama Dhamma (the first king of the Universe) shall be born”.

The Hill, so the leged says, is sacred and sublime, very fair in its shape and formation and it possessed any quality that is good and it is suitable for the abode of noble kings. Because of that divine prophecy of Lord Gotama Buddha, a pagoda was built on its summit and was named “Su Taung Pyi” Zedi [the Pagoda that fulfills your wishes]. The Hill was regarded sacred and taken care of by Myanmar kings.

Myanmar chronicles have records of maintenance, renovation and embellishment works carried out on Mandalay Hill by pious kings. King Datta Bagon of Sri Kestra City kingdom who ascended the throne in the 101st of Buddha Era, was in search of his exiled queen “Saw Mya Waddy”. When he came upon a spot, not far from Mandalay, he saw Mandalay Hill and he was so fascinated by its sublime beauty that he built “Su Taung Pyi” Zedi on its summit. He also built some rest houses and stairways on the west and south sides of the Hill. King Anawrahta of Bagan [1044-1077 A.D.] on his return from a pilgrimage to the sacred Tooth Relic of Gotama Buddha in Gandayadit [China], made a halt at Mandalay Hill and built a pagoda on its summit. In 1472 A.D., King Thiba Thura of Iinya dynasty renovated Su Taung Pyi Zedi on its summit and built some rest houses and stairways. In 1805 A.D. the Crown Prince Maha Uppa Raja, father of King Bagyidaw [1819-1837 A.D.] renovated the zedi on the summit and embellished it by gilding it and putting a golden hti (decorated umbrella) on it. Its a great gift and ornately carved roofed stairways were also built. When the pagoda and other monu- ments on the Hill fell into ruin, King Bagyidaw repaired and renovated them. He also added four rest houses, one at each of the four sides of the pagoda. At the foot of the east stairway a water tank was dug to supply fresh water for the pilgrims.

When King Mindon [1853-1878 A.D.] decided to found a new capital on the site near Mandalay Hill, it was believed and hailed that the divine prophecy of Gotama Buddha had come true. The legendary ogress Sanda Mukhi had been reborn a human prince who became King Mindon. On Fri- day, the 13th February 1857, the construction of a new pal- ace was commenced. From then onwards, the king of Amarapura to the construction site to supervise personally the construction work. During supervision, he found time to visit Mandalay Hill and carried out many development and embellishment works. In the 18th year of Jotho era, 1859, the new palace was completed and in May 1859, the moat and battlements were finished.

In that year, the King gave order to the Minister of Gummery, Lord of Mya Taung Myo to make a lifesize statue of a standing Buddha “Gottama” with the right hand raised and the forefinger pointing at the site of Mandalay palace down below, in the posture of divine prophecy and a lifesize statue of Ananda in the manner of attention and atten- tion. The two statues were each carved out of a single enor- mous teak log and sheltered in the exquisitely carved image house with a gilded wooden spire on its roof located on the peak of the Hill. So these wooden statues were very much larger than life size. The King’s son Prince Salin was assigned to the building of a huge gilt and glass mosaic devotional hall in the precincts of Su Taung Pyi Zedi. In 1883 a great fire which broke out in the neighbourhood of Shwe Kyin Myin Pagoda in downtown Mandalay spread to Mandalay Hill and consumed all buildings and statues of Mindon’s time.

The modern period of the history of Mandalay Hill was associated with the life of one Buddhist hermit named U Khanti [1866-1948 A.D.] because he was the pioneer and main architect of Mandalay Hill development and embell- ishment. The name of the Hill in the British colonial time and after was renamed “Su Taung Pyi Zedi”. Born of parents U Shwe Hla and Daw Kho U of Ywathya village near Yamethin town, future U Khanti was named (See page 9)
The world—Thailand, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, India, China, Myanmar, but also from the four corners of the Hermit's control. When U Khanti appeared on the scene, reconstructing the Hermit worked arduously to make Mandalay Hill a place of sanctity and beauty. At the beginning, U Khanti the Hermit was encoun-
tered by two rivals. There were at that time one monk named U Nandiya and one influential lady named San Si Khin Lay. Both were then managing the construction of a statue of self-worshiping Buddha, whereas hermits are not so rigidly bound by religious rules. Discipline] are extremely rigid and strict for monks especially in the handling of money and wearing of yellow robes, discipline is also very strict in the wearing of yellow robes, of nature and natural disasters. The rules of Vinaya [monk's discipline] are extremely rigid and strict for monks especially in the handling of money and wearing of yellow robes, whereas hermits are not so rigidly bound by religious rules. Encouraged and supported by Minister Kin Wun Mingyi, Governor, Sir Harcourt Butler pays a yearly visit to see 'his hill', providing cool green shade, flowers, fruits and green food for humans and animals. Mandalay Hill of the two classical ditties Mya Man Giri and Maung Taung Let Yar has now re-emerged to provide “shelter for those who wish to live long".

**POEM**

**A TRIBUTE TO GRANDPA**

* O Grandpa!
You've walked a long and stormy way
Become old, infirm and frail today
You've done the best and earned the rest
Ne'er forget your lap where we have slept.
* O Grandpa!
Present days are not to brood
May you always be in cheerful mood
Though you're in your evening of life
Most of us still value your might.
* O Grandpa!
Your experiences are regarded as gold
The service you did was bright and bold
You've left polished imprints on the young
Your living days are always precious ones.
* O Grandpa!
Though you're excluded from global development, Myanmar provides you with humanitarian assistance
We show sympathy in Myanmar community
To do so are fine traditions in society.
* O Grandpa!
Care services are given to the aged
Through home, family and community based
It's in conformity with Thirty-Eight kinds of Blessing
Also in keeping with the Buddha's Teaching.
* O Grandpa!
International Day of Older Persons has come around
It's been celebrated a decade long
Older persons are vibrant and essential
More can be done to utilize their potential.
* O Grandpa!
Caring for the aged is for ever
It bespeaks the Myanmar character
Senior citizens are still young at heart
Have due regards with true love.
May thou live long on this Earth!

**Table Tennis Turneys wraps up in Pathein**

NAY PYI TAW, 30 Sept.—The prize presentation for the Ayeyawady Region Chief Ministers’ Table Tennis Tournament was held at Kothein Gymnasium in Pathein on 27 September.

On behalf of the Chief Minister of the region, Region Minister for Defence's portfolio Affairs U Kyaw Win of NLD presented championship trophies to Pathein Township women's team and Pantaung Township men's team.
**Greece sure to get next aid tranche: German magazines**

**Berlin, 30 Sept.—**Greece will receive its next tranche of international aid despite budget shortfalls and slow progress on reforms because the euro zone does not want the country to leave the common currency, two German magazines reported on Saturday.

Athens will resume talks with the ‘troika’ of international lenders next week on a tranche worth 31 billion euros ($39.88 billion) needed to avert bankruptcy and a possible euro zone exit.

The Greek government needs a deal so it can push an austerity package through parliament before the next meeting of Eurogroup finance ministers on 8 October.

“The Greeks will receive a list of reforms which must be approved by their parliament by a fixed date. The money will be released as soon as lawmakers have voted,” a Eurogroup source told the Wirtschaftswoche business weekly.

It did not say what new reforms would be proposed but said the euro zone was now focused on avoiding a Greek exit.

“The fear of a ‘domino effect’ in the euro zone is too great (not to release the funds),” a senior EU official told the magazine. The troika comprises the International Monetary Fund, the European Commission and the European Central Bank.

Asked to comment on the reports, a German finance ministry spokesman said there had been no change in the situation and that the Berlin government was still awaiting the troika report on Greece.

Germany, Europe’s biggest economy and paymaster, has long criticized Greece’s failure to sort out its public finances and restructure its economy, but Chancellor Angela Merkel and senior members of her center-right coalition have recently started to stress the dangers of pushing Athens out of the euro zone.

Greece, in its fifth year of recession, wants a two-year extension of its bailout plan, something finance minister said has said would cost up to 15 billion euros of extra funding.

**Qatar says worried about value of dollar, euro — CNBC**

**Riyadh, 30 Sept.—**Wealthy Qatar, a major investor in US and European assets, worries that haphazard attempts by countries to shore up their economies could weaken the dollar and the euro, its prime minister said.

“What should happen is we should have a full package with a full strategy to solve the problems,” Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim al-Thani, who also heads the country’s sovereign wealth fund, Qatar Investment Authority (QIA), told US financial broadcaster CNBC in an interview aired on Saturday.

This month the US Federal Reserve announced a programme of heavy purchases of mortgage-backed securities in an effort to boost employment, but the US government has so far failed to reassure financial markets that it has an effective plan to cut its budget deficit and boost economic growth.

The European Central Bank has also said it will buy bonds to protect economies from the euro zone debt crisis, but governments of weak countries such as Greece and Spain have not persuaded investors their debts can be cut to safe levels.

Sheikh Hamad said the central banks were right to act to prevent worse crises, but added: “With more printing money, without having a strategy, I believe the value of the money will go down very soon.”

He did not give details of the economic measures which he believed Western countries should be taking, but said the risk of further volatility in markets was making investors such as Qatar cautious.

Analysts have estimated the size of Qatar’s sovereign wealth fund at around $100 billion (61.8 billion pounds).

“There are some questions with no answer up to now,” he told CNBC.

However, Sheikh Hamad added that Qatar would retain holdings of strategic stocks and buy when prices dropped, and that it would continue to make new investments in promising assets.

**Israel PM tells coalition partners to back budget or face poll**

**Jerusalem, 30 Sept.—**Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has told his coalition partners he will have to call an early election if they do not back a “responsible” budget he must present by the end of the year.

Netanyahu said he would start meeting coalition partners after he returns home from New York on Sunday. Failure to pass the budget by 31 December would mean bringing forward a national ballot currently scheduled for October 2013.

“I am sorry to say that it depends on each and every (coalition member),” Netanyahu told Israel’s Channel 1 television in an interview recorded in New York on Friday and aired in Israel on Saturday night.

Netanyahu travelled to the United States where he addressed the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday, with Iran’s nuclear programme the highlight of his speech.

“I need a responsible budget and I am saying to my coalition partners: if you want to go all the way (with me) and don’t only pay lip service ... then there will be a responsible budget, but if I will see that this is not the case we will have to call elections,” he said.

“I hope that they will follow the responsible (option),” the Israeli leader said.

**Iranian currency value further depreciates under sanction pressure**

**Tehran, 30 Sept.—**Iran’s currency further lost its value against foreign currency on Saturday.

One US dollar was traded for about 28,800 rials Saturday in Tehran’s street market compared with Sunday’s rates when one dollar was exchanged for about 28,400 rials.

Iranannounced on Monday that it had opened a center under the supervision of the central bank to stabilize the depreciating value of its currency.

The centre started with 24,040 rials as a base value for one dollar on Monday — the rate was set to be 2 percent below the street market deals. Dollar at the designated value was supposed to be only offered to the import of the country’s needed goods.

Since 2012, Iran’s currency value has significantly plunged against foreign currencies due to heavy pressure in January brought by the US sanctions on Iran’s central bank.

Earlier this month, Iran’s currency value depreciated further against foreign currencies in the street market of Tehran as one dollar was exchanged for about 26,000 rials, the lowest since the beginning of the new Iranian year which started on 20 March, whereas a year ago the same amount was traded for 13,000 rials.

According to analysts, Iran’s rial’s value suffers further depreciation due to the mismanagement of the country’s economic and financial sector and as Western sanctions tighten against Iran’s financial, energy and petrochemical sectors over the Islamic republic’s disputed nuclear programme.
**Regional News**

**China's most advanced research vessel delivered**

The 87.5-million-US dollar ship, manufactured by the Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Co, Ltd based in Hubei Province, was handed over to the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

Weighing 4,711 tonnes, the vessel is 99.8 metres long and 17.8 metres wide. With a cruising capacity of 15,000 nautical miles and a top speed of 15 knots, it can travel with 80 members for 60 days. Kexue features better stability and a larger laboratory space as well as having more manoeuvrability in comparison with other Chinese research vessels, said Sun Song, director of the IOCAS. He added that the vessel is among the world's most advanced research ships.

The construction of the ship began in 2010 and was launched in November last year for trials.

Photo taken on 29 Sept. 2012 shows the comprehensive research vessel, the Kexue (Science), in Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province. The 99.6-metre-long and 17.8-metre-wide ship was put into service on Saturday. Powered by a podded electric propulsion system, the Kexue consumes less power, creates less noise and vibration, and is able to move at continuously varying speeds of up to 15 knots.—Xinhua

**Small states need stable, peaceful international system**

**United Nations, 30 Sept.—**Singapore on Saturday stressed the importance of creating a stable and peaceful international system for small states to feel a collective sense of security.

At this time, “the global governance structure is fragmented and coordination is difficult,” said Singaporean Minister of Foreign Affairs K Shanmugam at the General Debate of the UN General Assembly, which opened here on Tuesday.

“Singapore is a small state that is vulnerable “even at the best of times. And these are not the best of times,” he said.

Therefore, it is important to be “in an international environment where international law and institutions based on law can flourish” and dialogue can be used because “the parameters of the dialogue among states become crucial,” he added.

The minister noted that it is also the responsibility of small states “to speak up against its violations,” to achieve a collective sense of security.

There are “major beneficiaries of a stable international system,” he said. “We need a predictable and stable, rule-based international system in order to survive.”

According to him, this year, the 105-member Forum of Small States (FOSS) will commemorate its 20th anniversary with a High-Level Conference on Small States on 1 Oct, which will discuss the role of small states in international relations, peaceful settlement and commitment to the rule of law.—Xinhua

**Two killed after ship with 52 people on board sinks in Indonesia**

**Jakarta, 30 Sept.—**A wooden ship with 52 people on board sank in waters of Indonesia on Friday evening, killing two people, Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesman of the national disaster management and mitigation agency said.

The newly-made ship sank during a test for sail in waters off Paheue town of East Nusa Tenggara after it was hit by huge waves, Sutopo told Xinhua by phone.

Fortunately, the rest 50 people were rescued by local sailors, the agency staff and volunteers, he said.—Xinhua

**Explosions at chemical plant in western Japan kill one**

**Okayama, 30 Sept—**Explosions at a chemical factory in Hyogo Prefecture of western Japan, killed one person and injured dozens of others on Saturday afternoon, local press reported.

The explosions occurred as firefighters were trying to control a fire that broke out at Nippon Shokubai Co’s plant in Himeye, Hyogo Prefecture at around 2:05 pm local time.

A 28-year-old firefighter died of burns all over his body, while more than 30 others were injured. Among the injured, several sustained serious injuries.

The first explosion occurred at around 2:40 pm at a tank for manufacturing acrylic acid, and was followed by another blast shortly afterward, according to the report.—Xinhua

**Pakistan foils 25 kg heroin smuggling to Britain**

**Islamabad, 30 Sept—**Pakistan's anti-narcotics officials on Saturday seized 25 kilograms heroin that were being smuggled from Islamabad, officials said.

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) said the heroin was concealed in garments and crockery.

The consignment was booked in cargo at Benazir Bhutto International Airport Islamabad, they said.

Three persons, including Cargo Booking Agent Bashir Ahmed, were arrested who were sent to the ANF center for interrogation.

Identity of two other suspects was not disclosed in view of preliminary investigation to find out if they have other accomplices, officials said.

According to the anti-narcotics body, the heroin being smuggled is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars in the international market. This is the second seizure for the ANF at the Islamabad airport. Nearly six kg of heroin was recovered from a passenger earlier this month.—Xinhua

**16 Taleban militants killed in one-day operations in Afghanistan**

**KABUL, 30 Sept—**A total of 16 Taleban militants have been killed in military operations in Afghanistan within the past 24 hours, the Afghan Interior Ministry said on Sunday.

Afghan national police, Afghan army, intelligence agency and the NATO-led coalition forces launched 10 joint cleanup operations in Sar-e-Pul, Kundahar, Uruzgan, Wardak, Logar, Herat, Farah, Ghor and Helmand Provinces, killing 16 armed Taleban insurgents and detaining 22 others over the past 24 hours,” the ministry said in a statement.

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

The Taleban insurgent group, which announced the launching of an annual spring offensive from 3 May against Afghan and about 100,000 US and NATO forces, has not to make comments yet.—Xinhua

**Philippines**

**Philippine govt strengthens security in Metro Manila amid fresh travel warning from US**

**MANILA, 30 Sept—**The Philippine government assured on Saturday that foreign nationals, particularly Americans, shall remain safe in Metro Manila despite a fresh travel advisory released by the United States embassy calling its citizens to exercise extreme caution while in the metropolis.

Deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte, in an interview over state-run radio station, said the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) has further beefed up security in Metro Manila to ensure peace and security.

“We spoke with General (Leonardo) Espina of the NCRPO yesterday and security has been augmented since yesterday. So, even before that news came out, the NCRP has already augmented the security, particularly to the US facility along Roxas Boulevard,” Valte said.

The US Embassy in Manila has advised its citizens that a threat against American citizens in metropolitan Manila, specifically the Pasay City neighbourhood, has been detected by reliable security forces. The US Embassy said in its statement that the threat remains in effect until 10 October, 2012.—Xinhua

**Neighbour**

**QINGDAO, 30 Sept—**China’s most sophisticated research vessel — named Kexue, or Science — was delivered to its operator on Saturday in Qingdao, a port city in eastern Shandong Province, was handed over to the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

The 87.5-million-US dollar ship, manufactured by the Wuchang Shipbuilding Industry Co, Ltd based in Hubei Province, was handed over to the Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS).

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Photo taken on 29 Sept. 2012 shows the comprehensive research vessel, the Kexue (Science), in Qingdao, east China’s Shandong Province. The 99.6-metre-long and 17.8-metre-wide ship was put into service on Saturday. Powered by a podded electric propulsion system, the Kexue consumes less power, creates less noise and vibration, and is able to move at continuously varying speeds of up to 15 knots.—Xinhua

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

Up to 10 insurgents were also injured in the raids, it said.

However, the Taleban insurgent group, which announced the launching of an annual spring offensive from 3 May against Afghan and about 100,000 US and NATO forces, has not to make comments yet.—Xinhua
China calls for dynamic balance in trade with France

BEIJING, 30 Sept—China on Saturday called for stronger pragmatic cooperation with France and a dynamic balance in bilateral trade.

"China and France should deepen pragmatic cooperation in the fields of high-tech, health and urbanization, as well as on particularly big projects, and help bilateral trade move toward a dynamic balance," Vice Premier Li Keqiang said in a meeting with the French president's diplomatic advisor Paul Jean-Ortiz on Saturday.

Jean-Ortiz is leading a delegation to Beijing for the annual China-France consultations, which he and Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo co-chaired on Saturday morning.

Li conveyed the greetings of Chinese President Hu Jintao and other Chinese leaders to French President Francois Hollande.

China and France are two important countries in the world, with extensive common interests and ground for cooperation, Li said.

"Under the circumstances of a changing international order and a sluggish global economic recovery, stronger China-France cooperation and new progress in the countries' all-around strategic partnership will go beyond the bilateral scope," Li said.

The vice premier called on the two countries to take a long-term perspective, respect each other's core interests and major concerns and expand common ground and coordination on international issues.

Li said China is glad to see the European Stability Mechanism, an international organization that provides financial assistance to eurozone members in financial difficulty, to take its role in rescuing the region.

Li expects France to exert its power within the European Union and promote the development of China-Europe relations.

Spain debt rises on aid to banks, regions, finance cost

MADRID, 30 Sept—Spain's debt levels are set to rise next year, piling pressure on the government to apply for aid as it pours funds in to cash-strapped regions, an ailing banking system and rising refinancing costs, its budget showed on Saturday.

Spain's debt as a ratio of gross domestic product will reach 90.5 percent by end 2013, according to the document presented to parliament for approval, almost three times that registered before the property bubble burst in 2008.

The budget aims to make savings of around 13 billion euros ($16.7 billion) next year, largely by deepening already unpopular cuts in public sector wages, education, health and social services, fuelling anti-austerity protests.

"This is an austerity budget, but will serve to help us get over this long economic crisis and once again show that Spain is a trustworthy partner within Europe," said Spain's Treasury Minister Cristobal Montoro.

Spain's Treasury Minister Cristobal Montoro stands in front of a screen showing a document with a Quick Response (QR) code, representing the first draft of Spain's 2013 budget, during a ceremony at Parliament on 19 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

the streets of major cities have stoked doubts Spain can fix its problems without help.

Thousands of protesters gathered on Saturday in Madrid's Neptune plaza, between the Prado Museum and Parliament, for a third time this week to vent anger at politicians they accuse of pillaging the welfare state to bail out badly-run banks.

"This has to change. We have to show them we are not an anti-system minority but represent Spain's discontent and we are many,"—Reuters

Netizens to snub visitor attractions despite price cuts

SHANGHAI, 30 Sept—China's top economic planner has released a second group of visitor attractions that will have their entrance fees cut, a day before the eight-day holiday. However, the move has received the cold shoulder from Chinese netizens who have complained that tickets remained exorbitant.

The second list, released Saturday, includes 94 sites nationwide with 14 classified as 5A areas, China's top scenic spots. The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) released the first group of 80 sites earlier this week.

Famous scenic spots like the Yulong Jokul, the Wudang Mountain and the Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden will lower their ticket prices during the holiday period, according to the NDRC.

The commission said the move is to ensure the public enjoy the holidays of the National Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival starting from 30 September. However, netizens vented their anger online, complaining that most of the sites on the list are not popular ones.

"I've never heard of some of the sites on the list except the Bagong Mountain," said a netizen from east China's Anhui Province with the screen name of "Kubidoxingquan" at the Sina Weibo, a popular Twitter-like microblogging service.

Criticism appeared shortly after the release of the first list, which was ironically dubbed a "brochure of China's unknown scenic spots."

Netizens found that some spots on the first list were already free. The NDRC had said sites on the second list would be "more recognized" but it still excited few.—Xinhua

Nigerian parliament speaker: diplomatic row with Saudi Arabia to be resolved amicably

KERRI, 30 Sept—Speaker of Nigeria’s parliament Aminu Tambuwal on Saturday said the ongoing diplomatic row with Saudi Arabia over deportation of some female pilgrims would be resolved amicably.

Tambuwal who heads the government’s delegation appointed to resolve the matter told reporters here that concerted efforts were being made for the Nigerians to still perform the pilgrimage.

"I will be heading to Saudi Arabia on Saturday night to ensure the dispute is resolved as soon as possible," he said, adding the cordial relations between Nigeria and Saudi Arabia will pave way for peaceful resolution.

Appealing to the prospective pilgrims to exercise patience as the matter would be resolved to enable them to attend the religious function, Tambuwal said government of both countries had been meeting on the dispute.

More than 750 Nigerian female pilgrims in Saudi Arabia adjudged by the authority to be without male companion have been detained in Jeddah and Madinah in the past one week.

The deportees were returned to the West African country through Med-View and Max Air airlines, which had earlier transported them to Saudi Arabia for the exercise.

Xinhua

Visitors watch black paper fans at the first China fan art festival in Hangzhou, capital of east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 29 Sept, 2012. The festival which kicked off here on Saturday displayed more than 2,000 items including handmade fans and tools.—Xinhua

A model presents a car at the 2012 Nanjing International Auto Expo in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, on 19 Sept, 2012. The seven-day exhibition, which kicked off here on Saturday, showcased more than 900 vehicles from 65 manufacturers.—Xinhua

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“Cowboy Rides Away” as George Strait announces final tour

Singer George Strait performs at the 43rd Annual Academy of Country Music Awards show in Las Vegas, Nevada on 18 May, 2008. Reuters

“I’ve decided I’m not going to tour anymore after these next two years,” Strait, 66, told a news conference at Nashville’s Country Music Hall of Fame. “Don’t think I’m retiring because I’m not. I’m still going to make records as long as the label will let me. I’m going to write,” the “Easy Come, Easy Go” singer said.

He added that he might do one-off performances and special events in the future, but said that “as far as a structured tour goes, after the last date in 2014 that will be it for the touring.” The “Cowboy Rides Away” tour will kick off on 18 January in Lubbock, in the singer’s home state of Texas. It ends its first leg in Strait’s hometown of San Antonio, Texas on 1 June. Country singer Martina McBride will join Strait on the 2013 leg of his tour. Dates for 2014 have not yet been announced.

Strat has notched up 59 number one country singles, including “Unwound,” “I Saw God Today,” and “Don’t Think I’m retiring and going to tour anymore after these next two years, said he wasn’t retiring and would go on making records for as long as he could.

French centenarian wins 100 km cycling challenge

LYON, 30 Sept—A French centenarian became the fastest cyclist of his age on Friday when he covered 100 km (62 miles) at an average speed of just over 23 km/h.

Robert Marchand, a former fireman and boxing enthusiast from Paris, who will celebrate his 101st birthday in November, had been training every day for months to cross the finish line in under five hours.

“I did better than expected,” he told reporters at the velodrome in Lyon, southeast France, where he completed the 300 laps in 4 hours, 17 minutes, 27 seconds, averaging 23.305 km/h.

Marchand’s uncommon vitality has piqued the interest of scientists at the Inserm public research institute who have examined him every three months to try to understand the secret to his longevity.

The wiry centenarian, who weighs in at just 51 kg (112 lbs), says he never smoked, but otherwise indulged a healthy appetite for wine and women throughout his life.

“Winter of the World” debuts on top of US bestseller list

NEW YORK, 30 Sept—Kelley Talbott’s “Winter of the World” debuted at the top spot on Publishers Weekly’s bestseller list on Thursday.

The list is compiled using data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

Hardcover Fiction

1. “No Easy Day” by Mark Owen 1

2. “The Price of Politics” by Dinesh D’Souza 5

3. “Severe Clear” by Stuart Woods 4

4. “Delusion in Death” by J.D. Robb 4

5. “Low Pressure” by Sandra Brown 5

6. “Gone Girl” by Gillian Flynn 6

7. “Zoo” by James Patterson/ Michael Ledwidge 8

8. “The Time Keeper” by Mitch Albom 8


10. “Guinness World Records 2013” by Bob Woodward (Simon & Schuster, $30.95)

“Free Market Revolution” by Steve Forbes (Regnery, $27.95)

French centenarian Robert Marchand reacts after he set a record for the fastest 100-year-old to cover 100km (62 miles) at the outdoor Tete-d’Or Velodrome track in Lyon on 28 Sept, 2012. Reuters

Lyons, 30 Sept—A Swiss-based art foundation has launched a version of the world’s most famous painting that it says is Leonardo da Vinci’s original “Mona Lisa,” while critics have rejected any suggestion the painting is a copy.

The foundation’s version — which has been owned since 2008 by a private seller — is said to have been of the same provenance as the Louvre’s famous Mona Lisa. It is the latest in a series of claims to have been made by owners of other alleged versions of the painting.

The foundation’s version, which has been examined by a specialist and a top Italian expert on the Renaissance genius, argues is Leonardo da Vinci’s original “Mona Lisa,” backing its claim with evidence from the artist’s preferred medium. The foundation’s version — which has been examined by a specialist and a top Italian expert on the Renaissance genius, argues is Leonardo da Vinci’s original “Mona Lisa,” backing its claim with evidence from the artist’s preferred medium.

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A Swiss lawyer Markus Frey, president of the private Mona Lisa Foundation which owns the document from 1503 and which he had long been seeking, said Vezzosi.—Reuters

Professor Alessandro Vezzosi, Director of the Museo Ideale Leonardo da Vinci, points to details on a painting attributed to Leonardo da Vinci and representing Mona Lisa during a presentation in Geneva on 27 Sept, 2012.—Reuters
Hodgson knighted in Finland for services to football

**Soccer**

**Chelsea’s Terry is not a racist, says Mourinho**

Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho has jumped to the defence of the club’s captain John Terry, saying he is not a racist.

Terry was give a four-game ban by the English FA on Thursday after being found guilty of racially abusing Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand in a Premier League match last season.

Former England skipper Terry, who retired from international football last Sunday, is yet to decide whether to appeal.

“Chelsea has a squad in which we had 12 African players.” Real Madrid manager Mourinho, who led Chelsea to two Premier League titles, said in an interview with CNN shown on Saturday.

“It was a fantastic squad and he had always a great relation with every one of them. Please don’t say he is racist, because I know what I am saying,” the Portuguese coach said. “Terry had high results and we look to our opponents in the wrong way. But to pay, he has to be punished.”

Terry played in league leaders Chelsea’s 2-1 victory at Arsenal on Saturday because his ban will not take effect until he has decided whether to appeal.—Reuters

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**Tennis**

**Petrova stuns Radwanska to win Tokyo**

Tokyo, 30 Sept—Russia’s Nadia Petrova upset defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska 6-0, 6-3 in the Pan Pacific Open final on Saturday to complete a sensational run at the Tokyo tournament.

It was the 30-year-old’s second title of the year after winning a Wimbledon warm-up event in Den Bosch, the 12th and also most prestigious of her career.

The first and third sets were perfect tennis from my side,” Petrova told reporters after winning the WTA premier five event, which featured nine of the world’s top 10 women.

“It’s the biggest tournament I’ve ever won,” added the Russian, who is set to rise from 18th in the world to 14th. “I never expected I would be in this position. It feels amazing.”

**Schumacher to take time over future — Brawn**

Brackley, 30 Sept—Michael Schumacher could play a role with Mercedes next season but will probably take time to consider his options after losing his Formula One race seat to Lewis Hamilton, principal Ross Brawn said on Friday.

Mercedes announced earlier that Hamilton, McLaren’s 2008 champion, had signed a three-year deal and will replace 43-year-old Schumacher in 2013.

The news may have signalled the end of Schumacher’s unremarkable comeback but Mercedes refrained from saying the seven times world champion would be retiring as a result of the decision.

“I think Michael’s going to take a few months to think about things and reflect on things, to decide what to do in the future,” Brawn told Reuters Television in an interview at the team’s factory in central England.

“Michael’s been undecided for some time now in what to do,” added the Briton. “As Michael has been contemplating what he was going to do, then the opportunity came up and he’s decided to step up his training and work in the team gradually increased, gradually grew to the point where we had to come to a conclusion.

“Michael’s very happy for the team but I think he is going to spend the next few months thinking about what never know what is going to happen so you have to fight until the end.”

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“Woods back in lineup at Ryder Cup**

MEDINAH, (Illinois), 30 Sept—Tiger Woods was recalled to the US Ryder Cup lineup for Saturday afternoon’s fourball matches after being benched for the morning session.

The former world number one and his playing partner Steve Stricker were given the morning off after losing both of their matches on Friday.

But US captain Davis Love III gave the pair another chance after the American team opened up a commanding 8-4 lead halfway through the second day at Medinah Country Club.

With the luxury of being in front, Love was able to keep all his pairings together over the first two days and give each partnership at least one session off to conserve their energy for Sunday’s concluding singles.

Woods and Stricker will take on Spain’s Sergio Garcia and Englishman Luke Donald in the second of Saturday’s fourball matches. Like the Americans, Donald and Garcia were also beaten in their first two matches.

Ryder Cup rookie Jason Dufner and former Masters champion Zach Johnson will be chasing their third win of the week when they pair up against world number one Rory McIlroy and Ian Poulter of England.

Poulter has been one of the few shining lights in the European team, winning both of his matches with Justin Rose, but McIlroy, who has played with his fellow Northern Irishman Graeme McDowell, has won just one of three.

Rose was paired with Italian Francesco Molinari against reigning Masters champion Bubba Watson and US Open winner Webb Simpson.

In the other match, Dustin Johnson and Matt Kuchar will take on Belgian rookie Nicolas Colsaerts and Scotland’s Paul Lawrie.
**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

- Earth?
- News
- Myanmar Global Investment Forum: Progress, Potential and Promise
- News
- Show 'Twin Home For Aged
- News
- Famous Pagodas of Staging
- Up & Coming Art Show 2012
- *Myanmar Movie* "Heartbroken Lady"

**MYANMAR TV**

*Barcelona's team celebrate a goal against Sevilla.*

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(1-10-12 09:30 am - 2-10-12 09:30 am) MST

- News
- Ecology of Life
- News Trend of Myanmar Car Market
- News
- Carnatic Music Nite
- News
- Nature's Hidden Treasure (Mushroom & Mushroom Specific Production)
- News
- One Stop Treatment Medical Team
- Sweety Home & Living Expo-2012
- News
- The Eldest Woman on Earth

**GENERAL**

**Soccer**

Barcelona's team celebrate a goal against Sevilla. — Reuters

Barca have 18 points, three parked cars went off nine months ago after the 2009-10. They have achieved four times straight victories, a feat they means Barca equalled their triumphs. Saturday’s success means Barca equalised their best start to the season of six straight victories, a feat they have featured four times previously and most recently in 2009-10. They have 18 points, four ahead of Malaga, who thumped 10-man Real Betis 3-2, and will be at least eight ahead of Real when they host their arch-rivals next weekend.

Deportivo Coruna on Sunday.

“I don’t think a draw would have been a fair result as we had more chances than during the game as a whole,” Vilanova told a news conference after Barca’s dramatic win in Seville. “It’s always better to have a points advantage than not to have one but there is a long way to go,” he added when asked about the early lead over Real. Barca were perilously close to slipping up for the first time this season when Sevilla went 2-0 up at their Sanchez Pizjuan stadium through Piotr Rekalski and Alvaro Negredo.

With Carles Puyol and Gerard Pique injured, Vilanova deployed Alex Song at centre back alongside fellow converted midfielder Marc Formos. Mascherano and they were both at fault for the Sevilla goals. Mascherano failed to clear a 26th-minute effort by Gary Medel - who was dismissed 20 minutes from time after clashing with Fabregas and Trochowski picked up the loose ball and smashed an angled shot past Victor Valdes. Former Germany midfielder Trochowski had netted Sevilla’s winner in this month’s surprise 1-0 success at home to Real, and was given a rousing ovation when he went off injured shortly before halftime.

Sevilla were two ahead within three minutes of the restart when Negredo left Song trailing and chipped the ball over the onrushing Valdes before Fabregas pulled a goal back for the visitors with a fierce left-foot drive in the 53rd minute. After sustained Barca pressure, the former Arsenal captain levelled at 2-2 in the 89th when he latched onto a Lionel Messi pass and lifted the ball into the net. The stage was set for Villa, only recently returned from a broken leg, and Spain’s record scorer to work through deep into added time and sent a left-foot shot past Andres Palop.

Reuters

**DISTRICT NEWS**

**Fingerlings set free into Duya Lake**

HINTHADA, 30 Sept—With the aim of ensuring plenty of water resources and developing fish production, Duya Marine Product Trading Cooperative Ltd and local people released 596,000 fingerlings into Duya Lake in Duya a Village of Hinthada Township, Ayeyawady Region, on 22 September. —Myanmar Alin

**Soccer**

Barcelona’s team celebrate a goal against Sevilla. — Reuters

**Golf**

become Ryder Cup rock stars

Medinah, (Illinois), 30 Sept—The Ryder Cup has seen many great partnerships but never one quite like Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley, who have turned a May-September bromance into golf’s dynamic duo. Bradley, a fiery rookie and Mickelson, the most experienced member of the American brigade making his ninth appearance at the biennial competition, have developed the type of chemistry rarely seen on a US Ryder Cup team.

With three wins from three matches at stately Medinah Country Club, Mickelson and Bradley have become Ryder Cup rock stars whipping the massive galleries into a frenzy with every high-five and fist-pump. Europe has produced the Ryder Cup’s most memorable and enduring partnerships with the pairing of Spanish giants Seve Ballesteros and Jose Maria Olazabal at the top of the list. — Reuters

US golfer Phil Mickelson (L) slaps hands with teammate Keegan Bradley after Bradley’s approach shot to the 11th green during the morning foursomes round at the 39th Ryder Cup matches at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Illinois, on 29 September, 2012. — Reuters

**String of Iraq blasts kills at least 32**

BAGHDAD, 30 Sept—Coordinated bomb attacks killed more than 32 people across Iraq on Sunday, the latest violence in an insurgency the government has failed to quell since nine months after the US troops withdrew. Violence in Iraq has eased since the carnage of 2006-2007, but Sunni Islamists still launch frequent attacks and goaded by the Shite-led government’s claim to provide security and prove they remain a potent threat.

No group claimed responsibility for Sunday’s string of attacks, but a local al Qaeda affiliate and other Sunni Islamist groups have carried out at least one major assault a month since the last American troops left in December.

In Tiiji, 20 km (12 miles) north of Baghdad, bombs in three parked cars went off separately, killing 11 people and wounding 24, including several policemen. Taji has one of Iraq’s largest military airbases but the bombing hit a civilian neighbourhood.

Resters footage of the scene of one of the explosions showed the remains of an exploded car surrounded by several completely and partially destroyed houses and cars.

“A car bomb entered the garden of a house in the Esenboga suburb near Ankara’s international airport with no report of casualties on the ground. The co-pilot, with serious injuries, was rushed to a nearby hospital. The plane was registered to an Istanbul-based aviation club.” — Xinhua

**Pilot killed in small plane crash in Turkish capital**

ANKARA, 30 Sept—A small civilian plane on Saturday crashed in Turkey’s capital of Ankara after hitting power lines, killing the pilot and wounding the co-pilot, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported.

The Cessna 170 plane crashed into the garden of a house in the Esenboga suburb near Ankara’s international airport with no report of casualties on the ground. The co-pilot, with serious injuries, was rushed to a nearby hospital. The plane was registered to an Istanbul-based aviation club. — Xinhua

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President U Thein Sein gives interview to BBC World News

NA VPY TAW, 30 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein, who was in New York of the United States of America, gave an interview to the BBC World News at the hall of the Mark Hotel in New York at 11.15 am local time yesterday.

The President answered the questions raised by Mr Stephen Sackur of the BBC World News.—MNA

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham felicitates Chinese counterpart

NA VPY TAW, 1 Oct—On the occasion of 63rd Anniversary of the Founding Day of the People’s Republic of China, which falls on 1 October 2012, Dr. Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Mr. Xi Jinping, Vice-President of the People’s Republic of China. MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun felicitates Chinese counterpart

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Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife attend reception to mark 63rd anniversary Founding Day of China

Y ANGON, 30 Sept—Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife Daw Nan Shwe Hmon attended reception to mark 63rd anniversary Founding Day of China at Sedona Hotel here this evening.

The ceremony was also attended by the Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw and wife, the Union Minister for Sports, the Union Minister for Construction, the Yangon Region Chief Minister and wife, the Commander of Yangon Command and wife, deputy ministers, Yangon region ministers, senior military officers, departmental heads and officials, ambassadors, charge d’affaires ai and military attaché of foreign missions in Yangon and invited guests.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham and wife are welcomed by Chinese Ambassador Mr Li Junhua at reception to mark 63rd anniversary of Founding Day of China at Sedona Hotel. MNA

GSAT-10 placed in intermediate orbit by ISRO

WHO says only severely ill should be tested for new virus

China’s most advanced research ship delivered

Petrova stuns Radwanska to win Tokyo

Flood warning for Ayeyawady, Dokhtawady rivers

Y ANGON, 30 Sept—According to the 12.30 M.S.T observations today, the water level of Ayeyawady River at Sagaing is observed as 15 cm (about 0.5 foot) below its danger level.

It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours commencing this noon. The water level of Dokhtawady River at Myitnge is observed as 24 cm (about 9 inches) below its danger level.

It may reach its danger level during the next 48 hours commencing this noon, announced by Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA