New Ngamoeeyeik (Parami) Bridge, ready to provide service

Yangon, 6 Oct—As Ngamoeeyeik (Parami) Bridge has completed 100 percent, preparations are being made for holding the ceremony to commission it into service soon.

Nowadays, some parts of the roads are blocked with traffic jams. To be able to solve such problem, a new Parami bridge on the traffic block area was built across Ngamoeeyeik Creek to link Dagon Myothit (North) Township and South Okkalapa Township.

In 1997, Public Works built a Ngamoeeyeik (Parami) Bridge at the place for the first time. Due to growing number of passengers and vehicles, the traffic jams have occurred along the roads. The passengers wasted their precious times in the cars.

The newly-built Ngamoeeyeik Bridge (Parami) is 600 feet long plus 700 feet long approach road on either side, totaling 2000 feet long. Its motorway is 28 feet wide flanked by three feet wide pedestrian way on both sides. The clearance of the bridge is 10 feet high at highest level of water.

The bridge is of steel frame, beam and RC type. The lower structure is of RC bored pile type. The facility can withstand 75 tons of loads.

As the bridge has completed 100 percent in the construction sector, vehicles are allowed to pass through the bridge without waiting for opening ceremony so as to ensure convenience in the travelling of local people.

At present, two bridges are located in parallel to provide transport services to the local people. The vehicles use two ways drive on the bridges by overcoming traffic jams.

Local people from Dagon Myothit (North) and South Okkalapa townships are enjoying fruits of better transport facilities thanks to new Ngamoeeyeik (Parami) Bridge.

Myanmar Amin

Photo shows on Buddha Sasana

Yangon, 6 Oct—The Myanmar-Japan Buddha Sasana Friendship Photo Show will be staged for the second time at Chanthagyi Prayer Hall on the platform of Shwedagon Pagoda from 3 to 18 November.

The show will be jointly organized by photographic professional Sakirasan of Japan and Myanmar photographer U Than Zaw.

The first time of the show was held in November 2006. The Japanese professional will display the works of photos on pagodas and monasteries, significant statues and monks from Southeast Asian countries and Myanmar professional, Buddha Sasana and religious edifices, totaling 100.

Any enthusiast may enjoy the photo show.

Kyemon

Preventive equipment for natural disaster provided

Monghbat, 6 Oct—A ceremony to hand over natural disaster preventive equipment presented by Myanmar Red Cross Society was held at the hall of Basic Education High School in Monghbat on 2 October morning.

At first, Township Administrator U Naing Aye made a speech, and General Staff Officer Grade-II U Sai Tun Oo of District Red Cross Brigade explained the purpose of providing disaster preventive equipment. Next, Head of District Fire Services Department U Aung Min and officials presented the equipment to Headmaster U Tin Zaw Myint, teachers and trainee students.

MRCS will provide nine items of equipment to Monghsat BEHS and Mongtwam BEMS and 11 items of equipment to Pabaw, Menin and Pukywe-2 villages.

Myanmar Amin

Press conference on rumors of private banks held

Yangon, 6 Oct—There are the widespread rumors about private banks in recent days. Under the supervision and guidance of the Central Bank of Myanmar, private banks have to submit their daily accounts and transactions to the Central Bank of Myanmar and are running in accord with laws, rules and regulations. People should not worry about the private banks. The Central Bank takes full responsibility of the private banks. Authority concerned has dealt with that matter. It has returned to normal. People should not believe such rumors,” said Deputy Director-General U Win Aung.

Chairman of KBZ Bank U Khin Maung Aye delivered a speech on the occasion. President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) U Win Aung said that the recent rumors are just fabrications that might cause a hamper to State’s development and economic development. People should not believe it.

Chairman of Kanbawza Bank Ltd is serving as UMFCCI’s patron and providing assistance for the country’s economic development in all aspects. People should have reasoning power as regards the rumours. Vice-Chairman (2) of KBZ Bank U Than Lwin said that there are preemptive measures for such rumors since the 2003 crisis. He is very regrettable to hear that these rumors bother customers. Customers should rest assured as BKZ Bank is operating its service by following the laws, bylaws, rules, regulations and directives set by the Central Bank.

The KBZ Chairman himself explains about it through TV, newspapers and journals. Authority concerned has solved this (See page 8)
Launching ceremony of 500 megawatt gas-fired combined cycle power plant project (Thaketa)

YANGON, 6 Oct— The launching ceremony for 500 megawatt gas-fired combined cycle power plant project (Thaketa) between Electric Power Department under the Ministry of Electric Power and Korean companies— Busan Korea Biotechnology Co Ltd, Korea Western Power Co Ltd, Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co Ltd, Hana Daetoo Securities Co Ltd and Hexa International Co Ltd took place at the project here this morning. Yangon Region Electric and Industry Minister U Nyan Tun Oo, Chairman of Yangon City Electricity Supply Board U Aung Khaing, CEO Mr. Chang Seung Chul of Hana Daetoo Securities Co Ltd, CEO Mr. Chaung Si Woo of Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co Ltd cut the ribbon to open the ceremony.

Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo, President and CEO Mr. Kim Moon Duk of Korea Western Power Co Ltd and President and CEO Mr. Jung Soo Hyun from Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co Ltd pressed the button to open the ceremony.

Region chief minister made a speech on the occasion. He said that sufficient electricity supply is needed with the arrival of industries together with foreign investment for development of the State; the Electric Power Ministry is in the process of generating electricity with the use of gas-fired and coal-fired plants for firm base load electricity. He pointed out to put emphasis is placed on proper generation mix. Plans are underway to implement energy security in the future by systematically using natural resources of the State, he added. The main purpose of implementation the project is to supply electricity for Thiawwa Industrial Zone, one of the special economic zones in Myanmar, he said.

President and CEO Mr. Jung Soo Hyun of Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co Ltd explained facts about 500 MW CCPP project and President and CEO Mr. Kim Moon Duk of Korea Western Power Co Ltd spoke words of thanks.

Then region chief minister and officials inspected site chosen for implementation of the project.—MNA

Prize-presenting ceremony of 19th Myanmar National Races’ TPAC of Shan State held

NAWPHIN, 6 Oct—A prize-presenting ceremony of 19th Myanmar National Races’ Traditional Performing Arts Competition of Shan State, took place at City Hall in Taunggyi on 5 October, with an address by Shan State Chief Minister U Sao Aung Myat.

State ministers and officials presented cash awards to panel of judges, Wa, Pa-O, Dana, Palaung and Kokang Leading Bodies of Self-Administered Division/Zone Dance troupes and national races cultural dance troupes.

Afterwards, the chief minister awarded first, second and third winner traditional dance troupes. A total of 17 troupes were awarded K 100,000 each.

Industrial zones could generate jobs for locals in Kachin State

MOHNYIN, 6 Oct—Establishment of industrial, hotel and breeding zones in Kachin State would produce more job opportunities for local people, U Sai Maung Shwe, Kachin State Electricity and Industry Minister, said in industrial development workshop held in Myitkyina on 4 October. The ceremony was also attended by Director-General U Soe Hlaing from Industry Supervisory and Inspection Department under the Ministry of Industry explained the purpose of holding the workshop, procedures, industrial zone development, development of small and medium enterprises.

The minister said industrial zone and trade zone near Mongna village of Myitkyina, industrial zone and trade zone in Bhamo, agricultural and breeding zone in Mohnyin and hotel zone in PutaO could be established.

According to local businessmen, the state has the huge opportunity of achieving rapid growth through border trade with both China and India. —MNA
Romney closes gap with Obama to 2 points after debate

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct—President Barack Obama’s lead over challenger Mitt Romney has narrowed to just two percentage points since the Republican’s strong performance in their first debate, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Friday.

In more bad news for Obama, one in five voters said the Democrat’s performance in the contest in Denver on Wednesday made them feel more negative about his Republican challenger. “Romney did well, he was perceived as doing well, and we’re seeing the effect of that today,” said Ipsos managing director Cliff Young. “Definitely in the short-term now, he’s picking up people because of his performance in the debate.”

The online tracking poll conducted between Monday and Friday showed 46 percent of likely voters backed Obama, versus 44 percent for Romney. Obama had led Romney by 6 percentage points in the poll released on Wednesday in the edge-narrowing poll, and the 48-43 percent lead for Obama—in polling up to Thursday. That was the first poll to include a day of interviews after the meeting in Denver.

It remained to be seen whether his weak performance in Denver will become a long-term problem for Obama. He has two more chances to redeem himself in debates—a second is set for 16 October and the third is on 22 October. The narrowing could just reflect the effect of a flood of coverage after Romney’s impressive debate performance, Young said. “The big question is whether this is just a debate effect, or whether the race will get back to status quo,” Young said.

Al-Qaeda local wing says responsible for Iraq bombings

The remains of car bombs used in a string of attacks are loaded on a flatbed truck in Taji on 30 Sept, 2012.—Reuters

WASHINGTON, 6 Oct—Al Qaeda’s Iraqi wing, the Islamic State of Iraq, claimed responsibility on Friday for coordinated bomb attacks that killed more than 32 people across the country last Sunday.

In a message posted on a website used by Islamist groups around the world, the group said it had targeted the attacks as several part of its campaign against the government. “Al-Qaeda’s local wing said it aimed to target government offices and security and military centres across the country, including the Iraqi government was doing to its Sunni brothers in different provinces, without being specific.

The authenticity of the message could not be verified by Reuters immediately. The group said it would release more details about its operations later.

A series of bomb attacks had hit targets in the capital Baghdad and several other towns on Sunday.

Security had been tightened in Baghdad and elsewhere since dozens of inmates, including convicted members of al-Qaeda, escaped from a prison in the northern City of Tikrit last Friday. While violence in Iraq has eased since the carnage of 2006-07, Sunni Islamists still launch frequent attacks to undermine the Shi’ite-led government’s claim to provide security and to prove they remain a potent threat.

Al-Qaeda’s Iraq wing said in June it planned a resurgence after being weakened in a sustained assault by US troops and other Sunni militant groups in 2007. The Islamic State of Iraq, along with other Sunni Islamist groups, have carried out at least one major assault a month since the last US troops left in December.

Turkey warns Syria more strikes would be fatal mistake

Turkey’s prime minister said on Friday his country did not want war but warned Syria not to make a “fatal mistake” by testing its resolve, and its army retaliated for a third day running after more mortar rounds from Syria landed on its soil.

In a belligerent speech to a crowd in Istanbul, Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan warned Syrian President Bashar Assad that Turkey would not stay away from war if provoked.

“We are not interested in war, but we’re not far from war either. This nation has come to the point where it is today having gone through intercontinental wars,” Erdogan said in his speech.

“Those who attempt to test Turkey’s deterrence, its decisiveness, its capacity, I say here they are making a fatal mistake. At least two mortar bombs fired from Syria landed in farmland in Turkey’s southern Hatay Province on Friday, one of them around 50 meters from Turkish territory, and a military unit responded immediately, Hatay Governor Celalben Lekenci was quoted as saying by the state-run Anatolian news agency.

A government official told Reuters there had been similar incidents over the past ten days due to intensifying skirmishes on the Syrian side of the border, and that the Turkish army had been responding in kind. But he said Wednesday’s fatal strike on the town of Akcakale had been of a different magnitude.

“If there was gunfire, we returned the gunfire, if there was a shell we returned two or three shells, to warn them and deter them. Until Akcakale we were not very concerned that they were deliberate,” the official said, asking not to be identified.

Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have told Russian to stop drills in the former Soviet empire after NATO troops leave it in 2014.

Russia extends Tajik base to curb militant threat

DUSHANBE, 6 Oct—Russia extended its military presence in Tajikistan for 30 years on Friday in a deal to secure the southern fringes of its former Soviet empire after NATO troops leave Afghanistan.

The countries’ defence ministers signed an agreement prolonging Russia’s lease on a military base in the former Soviet republic until 2042 during a visit by President Vladimir Putin. In return, Russia will admit more Tajik labourers to earn cash crucial to the Central Asian state’s fragile economy.

Russia has chosen relatively loyal Tajikistan as its main line of defence against a new wave of radical Islamists spreading from Afghanistan, as well as drug trafficking. Russia has the least influence in Tajikistan’s neighbours Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, which also border Afghanistan.

More than 6,000 soldiers stationed across three towns in Tajikistan comprise Russia’s Base 201, the Kremlin’s biggest troop deployment abroad and a bulwark against any spillover of Islamist militancy into its post-Soviet hinterland. “This base is needed by us, and is needed by Tajikistan,” Putin’s foreign policy aide, Yuri Ushakov, said. Ushakov said Russia would pay a symbolic sum to extend its lease, which had been due to expire after a decade on 1 January, 2014, the same year NATO troops are due to leave Afghanistan. Russian soldiers and their families will receive diplomatic immunity.

Putin, a critic of many US and NATO moves, has expressed regret at the drawdown and backed Russian cooperation with NATO on Afghanistan. His trip to Tajikistan follows visits to neighbouring Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in September.

The Russian leader has sought to boost the Kremlin’s presence in Central Asia, where the United States and China are also vying for influence, by providing political support to its authoritarian leaders and offering lucrative economic deals. Russian military and economic support is particularly important to Tajik President Imomali Rakhmon, whose government won a 1992-97 civil war with Moscow’s backing against a loose opposition that included many Islamist militants.

Turkey starts drills in Pacific

Russian navy starts drills in Pacific

Moscow, 6 Oct—Russia’s Pacific Fleet on Friday started large-scale exercises involving submarines and surface warships in the Far East.

Fleet spokesman Roman Martov told reporters here that the drills would be conducted in the Avacha Bay off the Kamchatka Peninsula.

“The drills include joint operations (of submarines and surface vessels) to test their viability skills. Later, there will be exercises of missile submarines and anti-aircraft and anti-submarine operations,” Martov said.

The navy would also carry out over 15 artillery and missile firings against sea-based targets, he added.

Small’s was submari–ships of MKP-82, small missile ships of Moroz and Smerch, and sea-mine–sweeping vessels of MT-264 and MT-265 will also participate in the war games this year.

In 2011, the Russian Pacific Fleet held similar sea drills in the Sea of Okhotsk.

Russian army—Pakistan

Turkey Turkish military and the Pakistan military will start large-scale exercises in the Sea of Marmara on Sunday, 7 October, 2012.

Turkey’s Defence Ministry said that the joint exercises will be conducted in the Sea of Marmara as part of a series of international joint exercises.

The joint exercises are expected to be conducted in close coordination with the Turkish military and the Pakistan military.

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World’s fastest radio telescope starts up in Australian outback

The Australia Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder (ASKAP), with an array of 36 antennas each 12 metres (40 feet) across, started peering into the universe from a far-flung cable station in Western Australia state.

The AS152 million ($155.18 million) telescope will “listen” to radio waves from the cosmos that might give astronomers insights into the beginnings of the universe.

“Radio waves tell us unique things about the cosmos, about the gas from which stars were formed, and about exotic objects, pulsars and quasars, that really push the boundaries of our understanding of the universe,” Brian Doyle, the director of the project at Australia’s national scientific research organization, told reporters this week.

Radio telescopes are ideal because it is “radio quiet”, or lacks man-made noise, an area of 50,000 square kms (19,300 square miles), which will be based in both Australia and South Africa.

Construction of the SKA will begin in 2016 and Australia will add another 60 antennas to its current 36 as part of the project.

The ability of the ASKAP telescope to scan so much of the universe will generate immense amounts of data. On its first day in full operation, ASKAP will collect more data than is currently contained in all current radio astronomy archives or the US Library of Congress.—Reuters

Scientists tune into blue whale songs with defence technology

A logo of Huawei Technologies Co Ltd is seen at the 13th China Hi-Tech Fair in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province on 16 November, 2011.—Reuters

HONG KONG/SINGAPORE, 6 Oct—China’s Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, the world’s No 2 telecomunications equipment maker, has been in race with investment banks about a possible initial public offering but has not made any decisions about proceeding with a listing, sources said on Friday.

The Wall Street Journal reported earlier that Huawei had reached out to investment banks for advice on an IPO, which is seen as a way of making itself more transparent, providing a big contract in markets like the United States, although it had not chosen any banks and nothing had been decided.

“We haven’t ruled out the possibility of a listing. We’ve always been in touch with banks, but I don’t think anything has been decided,” a source close to the company told Reuters, declining to be identified because he is not authorised to speak to the media. Huawei has been watching the negotiations in the tech industry and the current IPO climate carefully.

Huawei, also the world’s sixth-biggest handset maker, said in an emailed statement that it declined to comment about market rumours.

Huawei and domestic rival ZTE Corp have been successful in selling handsets in the United States, but they have hit roadblocks trying to sell their flagship telecommunications equipment products due to opposition from US lawmakers over security concerns.

Sources close to Huawei’s US defence technology business have also said Huawei’s access to big contracts in Australia and elsewhere is critical to the company’s growth.

The Australian government last year cited cyber-security concerns when it barred Huawei from bidding for contracts to build the national broadband network.

A man tries out Sony Corp’s Xperia tablet displayed at CEATEC JAPAN 2012 electronics show n Chiba, east of Tokyo, on 2 Oct, 2012.—Reuters

Sony halts Xperia tablet sales after defect found

Tokyo, 6 Oct—Sony Corp said it had halted sales of its Xperia tablet PCs, a month after its launch, after discovering gaps between the screen and the case that make that some of the machines susceptible to water damage.

A source close to the company told Reuters, declining to be identified because he is not authorised to speak on the media. Sony has not yet decided when it will resume sales, she added.

Sony began selling its latest Android tablet on 7 September in the United States followed by launches in Japan, Europe and elsewhere. So far it has shipped around 100,000 of the devices. The company said it will fix any of the tablets sold and expects the cost of the recall to have no significant impact on earnings.

The latest tablet from Sony, which like its smartphone has been branded Xperia in a bid to unify its mobile devices under one name, joins a crowded market for tablets that is still dominated by Apple Inc’s iPad. Samsung Electronics, Motorola and Microsoft have all made recent forays into the market. Sony makes its tablet PCs in Japan.

Motorola wins German patent case against Huawei

FRANKFURT, 6 Oct—Mobile phone maker Motorola achieved a rare victory against smartphone giant Microsoft (MSFT.O) in a patent case before a German court on Friday, the latest in a wave of patent lawsuits by technology firms fighting over market share.

The regional court in Mannheim ruled that Motorola Mobility, part of Google (GOOGL.O), did not infringe a Microsoft patent which enables applications to work on different handsets.

This allows developers to avoid writing separate codes for each handset saving time and development costs.

Motorola has become a major battleground in the global patent war between makers of mobile phones, tablet computer devices and their operating software because court actions there have proved relatively cheap and quicker than in other jurisdictions. Microsoft has won three patent cases against Motorola in Germany.

As a result of these rulings, smartphones with the disputed technology are no longer available on the German market.

“The decision does not impact multiple injunctions Microsoft has already been awarded and has enforced against Motorola products in Germany,” said David Howard, associate general counsel at Microsoft. Google bought Motorola Mobility for $12.5 billion last year, in its largest acquisition ever, aiming to use the company’s patents to fend off legal challenges against its Android mobile platform and expand beyond its software business.

Other technology companies have also invested billions of dollars in building up patent portfolios that they can use against rivals.

Motorola could not immediately be reached for comment.—Reuters
Air France KLM traffic slightly up in September

PARIS, 6 Oct—Traffic of France’s major airline Air France-KLM recorded a tepid growth last month on falling cargo activities, the company said on Friday.

Leaving airline reported a 0.9 percent rise in its passenger traffic. It numbered 6.9 million passengers, up 0.5 percent from September in 2011.

Passenger activity slightly grew to 85.2 percent over the period.

A 21.9 decline in cargo traffic to European markets drove the group’s total segment activity down by 6.6 percent to 869 million euros (1.13 billion US dollars) in a sign that eurozone’s trade-exchange is witnessing a setback on flagging growth in the region.

The load factor lost 1.4 point to stand at 63.2 percent.

Air France Airlines A330 according to the company’s figures.

“In line with the transform 2015 plan...Air France confirmed it will invest several hundred million euros to reposition its product and services at the highest level within the industry,” it said. (1 euro ~ 1.303 US dollar) —Xinhua

S&P 500 dips after four days of gains; earnings eyed

NEW YORK, 6 Oct—The S&P 500 broke a four-day string of gains, ending slightly lower on Friday as an unexpected drop in the US unemployment rate was overshadowed by concerns about the coming earnings season, which begins with Alcoa next week.

All three major US stock indexes came off session highs by afternoon, with the S&P 500 dropping for the first time this week, as investors braced for weak corporate results.

The Nasdaq was pressured by Apple Inc (AAPL O), which fell 2.1 percent to close at $652.59.

S&P 500 earnings for the third quarter are forecast to have fallen 2.4 percent from the year-ago period, which would be the first decline in three years, according to Thomson Reuters data.

“On the negative side, the speed with which the market will get overbought on continued strength may pose a problem,” said Ralph Edwards, director of derivatives strategy at ITG in New York.

Traders work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange at the opening of the trading session in New York on 5 Oct, 2012. —REUTERS

“The market never had a truly ugly day since the highs registered on 14 September.” Most of the market’s gains this year have been prompted by easy monetary policies. The improvement in US hiring last month is one bright spot as manufacturing around the world has been showing signs of softness in recent months.—Reuters

Spain insists economy will improve in 2013

MAURO, 6 Oct—The Spanish government on Friday insisted its economy would improve in 2013, according to the statement by Spanish Economy Minister Fernando Jimenez Latorre, Jimenez Latorre told parliament while analysing the 2013 general state budget.

“Spain is faced with the task of reducing its budget deficit to 6.3 percent in 2012 and 4.5 percent in 2013 from its current 7.4 percent,” he told Reuters insider television.

But he added risk could never be gotten rid of and that predictions were difficult to make. “So far, the Spanish economy has shown signs of resistance,” which is why the government will not change its prediction now, Jimenez Latorre stated. The Spanish government predicts GDP will contract by 0.5 percent in 2013, while international organizations put the figure closer to 1.5 percent.

To meet Brussels’ rules, Spain is faced with the task of reducing its budget deficit to 6.3 percent in 2012 and 4.5 percent in 2013 from its current 7.4 percent.

German industrial orders fall in August on weak domestic demand

BERLIN, 6 Oct—German industrial orders dropped 1.3 percent in August largely due to weak domestic demand, official statistics released on Friday showed. According to figures from the Economy Ministry, monthly domestic orders for industrial products dropped 3 percent despite a 2.4 percent increase in orders from other eurozone countries, while overall foreign orders remained unchanged. “Orders for German industry have weakened, as expected in an overall weaker economic environment,” the ministry said in a statement.

The drop in orders is a reverse from July’s 0.3-percent-rise, giving more evidence that the eurozone crisis is hitting home for the bloc’s strongest economy. German economic growth slowed to 0.3 percent in the second quarter from 0.5 percent in the first one. Earlier surveys by Ifo economic institute showed that German business confidence also continued to fall in September, the fifth successive decline in a row. As the biggest economy and main exporter in Europe, Germany has not shielded itself from the ongoing eurozone debt crisis. Its economy contracted by 0.2 percent in the last quarter of 2011, and is expected to grow by only 0.7 percent this year, according to the government forecast.

The Bank of Spain

Reuters

Creativity to the government forecast.
**WORLD**

**Pakistan**

Pakistan foils terror plan, arrests 7 members of banned group

ISLAMABAD, 6 Oct—Pakistanis law enforcement agencies have foiled terror plans in the port City of Karachi and arrested a local leader of a banned extremist group and its six other members, officials said on Friday.

The Crime Investigation Department (CID) also recovered weapons including seven suicide jackets, rockets, 125 kilograms explosive, hand grenades and automatic guns from the positions of the suspects, an official told a news conference.

Kamran Afzal, a senior official of the CID, said that the suspects planned attacks on the Karachi central jail to set free the group’s detainees, who are imprisoned for their involvement in terror attacks.

All the arrested men belong to the banned outfit Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, which the authorities blame for attacks on Shiites Muslims in Karachi and other parts of the country.

The group routinely claims responsibility for attacks on Shiite Muslims.

The official said that the group leader Mehmood Babar alias Dogar is among those arrested during police raids from different areas in Karachi.

The suspects also planned attack on the bus of a Shiite school in the city, adding that the arrested men are involved in sectarian killings.

**Venezuela**

Nervous Venezuelans stock up on supplies before election

CARACAS, 6 Oct—Venezuelans packed supermarkets on Friday to stock up on food and other essentials in case of trouble around Sunday’s presidential vote, which was shaping up as the biggest electoral challenge of Hugo Chavez’s 14-year rule.

Energetic young state governor Henrique Capriles has gained momentum in the closing days of the campaign and he seemed to have the opposition’s best chance of unseating Chavez since the socialist president came to power in 1999.

Many among the South American oil exporting nation’s 29 million people fretting that tight results could bring accusations of fraud and protests in an already highly polarized society awash with illegal arms.

“I have to think about my family, there could be violence, anything is possible in this country,” said housewife Dayana Alvarez, 38, among scores of shoppers buying cooking oil, powdered milk, candles and flour in a teeming Caracas supermarket.

Some stores and pharmacies have run short of staples like pasta, coffee, toilet paper, rice and milk.

“I’ve been buying a little every day. You have to be prepared. Who knows what is going to happen?” Maria Eugenia Madure, a 38-year-old administrator at a computer company, said at another store in a wealthy district where Capriles’ support is strong and nervousness over potential trouble is high.

**US forces kick off training programme in the Maldives**

COLUMBUS, 6 Oct—The United States will conduct a 10- day military training programme with Maldivian forces on Gan Island, a statement from the US embassy in Sri Lanka said here on Friday.

The US Marine Corps and Maldivian National Defence Force will participate in Coconut Grove 2012, a bilateral, biannual exercise on Gan Island on 4-14 Oct, the statement said.

“The recurring, ongoing exercise will increase mutual understanding and enhance professional and amicable relations between the two militaries,” it added. The exercise will focus on general military skills and enhancing interoperability between the two forces, and will help advance common regional security interests between the United States and Maldives.

The 10-day exercise will include several days of medical training and combat lifesaving techniques, as well as convoy operations and general military skills training. The participating US units primarily come from 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Pendleton, California, with support from the Maritime Sealift Command, the embassy said.

**Kenya**

Kenyans can sue UK over colonial-era torture

LONDON/NAIROBI, 6 Oct—Three elderly Kenyans tortured by British colonial forces were told they can sue Britain, in a London court judgment likely to encourage other claims dating back to the days of the British Empire.

The government, which had tried for three years to block their legal action, said on Friday it planned to appeal as the judgment could have far-reaching legal implications.

Paulo Nzili, 85, Wambui Wa Nyangi, 84, and Jane Muthoni Mara, who is about 73, suffered castration, rape and beatings while in detention in the 1950s during a crackdown by British forces and their Kenyan allies on the Mau Mau movement fighting for land and freedom.

The trio want Britain to apologize and to fund welfare benefits for Kenyan victims of torture by colonial forces.

“As the people they impressed and put in the detention for seven years (resulted in Kenya) losing a generation,” Gitu Wa Kahengeri, Mau Mau War Veterans Association secretary general, told reporters in Nairobi.

Nearby, about 40 Mau Mau veterans and relatives cheered, hugged and performed a traditional dance in the midday heat when the news came through.

The veterans said British authorities should stop using legal technicalities to fight the case, and instead, negotiate a settlement speedily as the claimants were frail and elderly.

“What could be more despicable, what could be more immoral than Her Majesty’s Government than to bide time simply to wait for all these victims to die one by one before tasting justice,” Paul Muite, a lawyer advising Mau Mau Veterans, told reporters in Nairobi.

Britain had first said that responsibility for events during the Mau Mau uprising passed to Kenya upon its independence in 1963, an argument which London courts rejected.

The government then said the claim was brought long after the legal time limit.

**China**

Death toll climbs to eight in central China’s ship collision

CHANGSHA, 6 Oct—The death toll has climbed to eight and four others remained missing after two ships collided on Friday afternoon on the Yuanjiang river in central China’s Hunan Province, local government said.

Around 4 pm on Friday, 22 people, including two owners of both ships, fell into the Yuanjiang river in Yuanjiang city after the two ships collided with each other, according to the Press office of the city.

As of 10 pm, rescuers salvaged 18 people, and eight of them have been confirmed dead. The other ten have been sent to hospital and are out of danger. Searching efforts for the missing people are ongoing.

**Pakistan**

The authorities are questioning them for their plans and other accomplices operating in Karachi, which has been in the grip of sectarian killings in recent days. Officials said they expect more arrests of terror suspects on the tips of the arrested men. The authorities also showed the weapons seized from the suspects and said the suspects planned to carry out major terrorist attacks in Karachi.

**New Light of Myanmar**

Hon Hai wants Sharp to spin off small, mid-size LCD business

OSAKA, 6 Oct—Sharp Corp’s Taiwanese business partner wants the struggling Osaka-based electronics maker to spin off its small and medium-size liquid crystal display business to make it a joint venture by the two companies, sources close to the matter said Saturday.

Hon Hai Precision Industry Co appears to be making the request as a precondition for its capital injection into Sharp, the sources said.

It is also seeking to send the Taiwanese firm’s executives to the proposed new venture, they said.

**Venezuela’s President and presidential candidate Hugo Chavez throws his microphone after speaking during his closing campaign rally in Caracas on 4 Oct, 2012.**—Reuters

Rescuers arrive at the place near the Yuanjiang river where two ship collided in central China’s Hunan Province, on 5 Oct, 2012.—Xinhua

**A wounded man receives treatment in a hospital in Bayan County, south China’s Guangdong Province, on 5 Oct, 2012.** Seven people died and another three were injured in a nine-vehicle pile-up early on Friday, authorities said. The accident happened after midnight, when a heavy semi-trailer hit six cars and another two trucks waiting in lines along a section of the Beijing-Hong Kong-Macao Expressway in Bayan County, Shuangyu City, said a spokesman with the provincial emergency response office. —Xinhua

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**The Kenya Human Rights commission official Mathioni Wanyeki, the Mau Mau war veterans association spokesman, Gitu wa Kahengeri, the association’s Deputy Secretary Augustine Kamunde and assistant secretary general Francis Mutiso take part in a news conference in Kenya’s capital Nairobi on 21 July, 2011.**—Reuters

**Rescuers arrive at the place near the Yuanjiang river where two ship collided in central China’s Hunan Province, on 5 Oct, 2012.**—Xinhua

**The group routinely claims responsibility for attacks on Shiite Muslims. The official said that the group leader Mehmood Babar alias Dogar is among those arrested during police raids from different areas in Karachi. The suspects also planned attack on the bus of a Shiite school in the city, adding that the arrested men are involved in sectarian killings.**
**WORLD**

**Russia’s Putin in charge at 60, but facing threats**

MOSCOW, 6 Oct—Russian President Vladimir Putin turns 60 on Sunday, his grip on power weaker than in the past but under little immediate threat if the oil price stays high.

Adoring supporters will celebrate in cities from Siberia to Rostov-on-Don in southern Russia, where the ruling party’s loyal Young Guard will unfurl a banner on a bridge which they say symbolises Putin’s role by uniting Asia and Europe.

Opponents will make their feelings known much closer to home, protesting near Moscow’s Red Square under the banner: “We’re sending the old man into retirement”. The organizers plan to send their own symbolic message by asking protesters to bring gifts suitable for a pensioner, anything, perhaps, from morning glasses to a pipe. The man himself will be relaxing with his close family and plans no special celebrations, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said. Just a few months into a third term as president, he may be reaching retirement age, but has no plans to retire.

After Ulyanov’s Russia’s paramount leader, opinion polls show Putin enjoys higher ratings than most Western politicians, but they are down from their peak during the oil-fuelled economic boom of his first presidency from 2000 until 2008.

In August the independent Levada polling group said 48 percent of Russians had a positive view of him compared to 60 percent in May when he began a new six-year term. But a poll published this week showed one in five Russian women would still be happy to marry him, even though he is about to reach an age at which he can collect his pension. “Age, I guess, it’s what Vladimir Putin does or does not do,” said Konstantin von Eggert, a political commentator, adding that Putin’s views had changed little since he came to power.

“His vision is rather pragmatic and reduces a person to two functions: he can either be a friend or a foe.”—Reuters

**Israeli FM urges Netanyahu to hold early elections**

JERUSALEM, 6 Oct—Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman on Friday urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to hold general elections as early as possible.

Lieberman, leader of the Yisrael Be’teynu party, made the call when meeting with Netanyahu earlier Friday, according to Israeli media. The party is a partner of Netanyahu’s Likud party in his coalition government. The Knesset (parliament) is dissolved on 15 Oct, the earliest possible time to hold an election would be 15 Jan, 2013, the reports said.

The mandate of the current coalition is due to expire at the end of 2013. The foreign minister was quoted as saying on Friday that, in order to avoid having the government’s economic and security achievements, elections must be held at the earliest possible date.

Netanyahu has warned that he would dissolve the Knesset and call early elections if the legislature fails to pass the 2013 state budget, which includes sweeping austerity measures.

A budget must be submitted by 1 Nov, at which point the Knesset has two months to pass it.—Xinhua

**Border agent in Arizona may have been killed by friendly fire**

US Border Patrol agent Nicholas Ivie is shown in this US Customs and Border Protection photograph released to Reuters on 2 Oct, 2012.—Reuters

PHOENIX, 6 Oct—There are strong indications that a Border Patrol agent killed in Arizona near the Mexico border earlier this week may have been killed by friendly fire in an accidental shooting involving other agents, the FBI said on Sunday.

“While it is important to emphasize that the FBI’s investigation is actively continuing, there are strong preliminary indications that the death of United States Border Patrol Agent Nicholas J Ivie and the injury to a second agent was the result of an accidental shooting involving only the agents,” the FBI said in a statement.

Xinhua

**US pilot freed after detained for transgressing Indonesian airspace**

US pilot freed after detained for transgressing Indonesian airspace

The US pilot said he was not properly checked before entering Indonesia. “In the case of Renato Seabra, crazy really means crazy,” Rubin Sinins, Seabra’s lawyer, told the jury at the criminal court in Manhattan.

This case is about mental illness.”

Sinins said that Seabra was diagnosed that night at Bellevue Hospital in New York with manic and bipolar disorder, a diagnosis that was affirmed by other doctors, including at the jail where he was held without bail. Sinins told the jury that Seabra believed he was on a mission from God and that the castration was a sort of exorcism.

“He told the police they were the demons and that by pulling them out, by cutting them out, over and over, you will be right with the world,” Sinins said.

He added that his client told the police he believed that by “putting the testicles on each wrist he could harness the power of Vladimir Castro’s testicles. Ladies and gentlemen, this is insanity.”

**Model was insane when he killed Portuguese journalist: lawyer**

New York, 24 Feb, 2012, Reuters

REUTERS

A Boyd was arrested on 15 Oct, the earliest possible time to hold an election would be 15 Jan, 2013, the reports said.

The mandate of the

Xinhua

**15 tons of marijuana seized in SE Turkey**

ANKARA, 6 Oct — Turkish security forces seized a total of 15 tons of marijuana on Friday in an operation to combat drug trafficking in the southeastern province of Diyarbakir, local newspaper Today’s Zaman reported.

Security forces carried out the operation at a location in the Lice town of Diyarbakir, said the report, adding that they also detained five suspected smugglers during the operation. The banned Kurdish Workers’ Party (PKK) is suspected to have links to the marijuana cache as drug trafficking is a major source of income for the PKK, the added the report.

Turkey has long been a key transit point in the drug smuggling route from Asia and Middle East to Europe. The PKK, listed as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the United States and the European Union, took up arms in 1984 in an attempt to create an ethnic homeland in southeastern Turkey. Since then, over 40,000 people have been killed in conflicts involving the group.

**US to send their own symbolic message by asking protesters to bring gifts suitable for a pensioner, anything, perhaps, from morning glasses to a pipe. The man himself will be relaxing with his close family and plans no special celebrations, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said. Just a few months into a third term as president, he may be reaching retirement age, but has no plans to retire.**
Curses of the nature

Most parts of our country, Myanmar, are becoming more and more vulnerable to natural disasters, especially floods and storms. Recent surveys show that Myanmar is ranked second in the list of countries which suffered heavy losses of lives and property by natural disasters. Three cyclonic storms—Marlar, Nargis, and Golf—were the worst disasters to hit Myanmar in the last decade had devastating consequences for livelihoods and socio-economic status of affected areas. Now the country is encountering more catastrophes than ever before.

Heavy rains in long rainy season period had caused floods in some towns and villages in Kachin, Kayin and Shan States and Ayeyawady and Mandalay Regions. Some experts said that flash floods in most parts of the country may bring a devastating blow to the nation with a brighter future that looks promising for foreign investors. Though natural disasters are unavoidable and unstoppable, proactive actions should be taken to protect the people from natural disasters and to mitigate losses and damages of lives and property to a certain extent.

Nothing can be done to prevent most natural disasters, but we can do something to limit the damage they cause. An alarming rise in water level of major rivers of the country may be the result of lacking in maintaining the river courses and taking care of forests. There are also more droughts in central part of the country while other areas are affected by serious flooding. If we fail to tackle causes and effects of natural disasters in a smarter way, we will run into trouble more and more. It is very important to focus on green growth and green economy on the plight of the people.

To sum up, more efforts have to be made to protect people from natural disasters. Giving a helping hand to victims of natural disasters in the aftermath of natural disasters is not an ultimate answer. It is required to be in the state of being ready to avert another disaster. It is essential to have more infrastructures and enough money for our preparedness to stand firm in the encounter with natural disasters.

Bago Region Chief Minister inspects regional development tasks

NAY PYI TOW, 6 Oct—Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyun Win inspected the construction of three-storeyed building being built by Nay Kyaw Oo Co at Pyay University on 3 October.

In the evening, the Chief Minister offered flowers, water and candle to Shweindaw Pagoda in Pyay.

The following day, the Chief Minister looked into South Nawin dam in Paukkaung Township and private teak plantation of Phyoshithu Trading Co Ltd. Afterwards, he met with local farmers at post-primary school in Shwezatun-Ngweinvaung village of Ottwin township, Toungoo District and donated cash for the school.

The Chief Minister inspected the construction of retaining walls between mile post No.64/65 on Paaukkaung-Ottwin road, maintenance of Pyay-Paukkaung-Toungoo road and water supply of Khaung dam. He also met with local farmers.
Different Levels of the Sangha Organizations of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

According to the historical records of Buddhism, the Sangha Organizations of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar have existed for over 2556 years. In fact, the main aims and objectives for convening the Buddhist Synods are to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Buddha Sasana (the teachings of the Buddha) throughout the Universe.

The Sixth Buddhist Synod was held in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in 1954. The Six Buddhist Synod was actively participated in and attended by the learned and chief monks (Maha Theras) from the Five THERAVADA Buddhist Nations, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. It was found that some isms and views which were incompatible with and contradictory to the essence of the real teachings of the Buddha, appeared and endangered the teachings of the Buddha although the Six Buddhist Synods had been convened. And also, different sects and schools of the Sangha Orders appeared in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Many sects and schools of the Sangha Orders were not united and they parted from each other.

According to the situation of the different sects and schools of the Sangha Orders, the Buddhists People and the previous Government of the Union of Myanmar tried to hold the Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders in 1965 in order to get the unity of the Sangha of All Orders in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the first time, but it was not successful.

However, the Buddhists People and the previous Government of the Union of Myanmar did not give up the situation of getting the union of the Sangha of All Orders in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The Buddhists People and the previous Government of the Union of Myanmar tried again to hold the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders in 1980 for purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana, and to get the unity of the Sangha of All Orders in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

In order to be able to hold the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana, the necessary arrangements and requirements were made by leading chief monks and the previous Government of the Union of Myanmar.

Firstly, the Council Working Committee of the Sangha comprising the respectful and learned sixty-six members of the Sangha throughout the country was formed to make necessary arrangements and requirements for successfully holding the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The sixty-six members of the Central Working Committee of the Sangha actively and effectively carried out the noble task of holding the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders.

According to the Fundamental Rules of the Sangha of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the sixty-six members of the Central Working Committee of the Sangha toured the whole country, and discussions and suggestions were made among the members of the Sangha of the respective regions to prepare and draw the drafts relating to the principles, rules, and regulations for holding the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. According to the agreement and decision of the whole members of the Sangha (Bhikkhu), the principles, rules and regulations for holding the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were approved and passed by the plenary meeting of the Central Working Committee of the Sangha of the sixty-six members of the Sangha.

And so, the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders for the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was attended by 1500 representatives of the Sangha throughout the country and supported by the previous Government was successfully held in 1980.

In accordance with the resolutions of the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the very first unity of the members of the Sangha of All Orders in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar could be established within one-hundred year in the history of Buddhism. The Nine Sects (Ganas) of the members of the Sangha of All Orders throughout the Republic of the Union of Myanmar were officially recognized by the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in accordance with the resolutions of the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders. They are as follows:

1. Suddhamma Sect (Gana)
2. Shiwekyin Sect (Gana)
3. Dhammanu Dhamma Mahadwara Nikaya Sect (Gana)
4. Dhammavayunayunomuladwara Nikaya Sect (Gana)
5. Anauckaung Dwara Sect (Gana)
6. Velavan Nikaya Sect (Gana)
7. Catuboomnika Mahanatsupatha Ngettwin Sect (Gana)
8. Gannavimmotti Kuto Sect (Gana)
9. Dhammayotti Nikaya Mahayin Sect (Gana)

These different schools and sects of the Sangha unitedly carry out the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana under the guidance of the different levels of the Sangha Organizations which have been formed throughout the country.

A need was felt that without the unity of the Sangha, it was impossible to execute the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana. If different schools and sects of the Sangha of All Orders appeared separately, they were not able unitedly to implement the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Sasana.

In fact, all the members of the Sangha and devotees really want the ever-lasting unity of the Sangha of All Orders. They firmly believe that it only can be done to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Sasana by the unity of the Sangha. The Buddha Himself urged the members of the Sangha to be united to carry out His teachings.

The Sixth Buddhist Synod was held in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in accordance with the resolutions of the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders held in 1980. And also, the Sixth Buddhist Synod was held in order to purify, perpetuate and propagate the Theravada Buddha Sasana throughout the world. Without the unity of the Sangha, it is impossible to promote the Sasana. An old saying goes “Whenever religion is pure, the society is prosperous”. The situation of the nation is well developed and prosperous in these golden days when the members of the Sangha of the Order unanimously practice the law and fulfill their religious duties.

According to the fundamental rules of the Sangha Organizations of 1980 approved and adopted by the First Congregation of the Sangha of All Orders of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Organizations of the Sangha at different levels were formed as showing in the following organizations chart:-

The disputes and misunderstanding arising among members of the Sangha of different sects and schools are solved and settled by respective Sangha Courts only not by any civil courts.

The different levels of the Sangha Organizations representing the whole members of the Sangha in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar are actively and effectively implementing the Sasana affairs which lead to the purification, perpetuation and propagation of the Buddha Sasana throughout the world.
French hostage in Somalia pleads for his life on video

A French intelligence officer from the DGSE agency was kidnapped by the al Shabab rebel group in Somalia in November 2009. In March, a Palestinian woman took the hostage’s video to a restaurant, where it was recorded on a camera. The video shows the hostage, who has blond hair and is wearing a white shirt, asking for help from the French government. He says he is being held by al Shabab and pleads for his release, expressing his desire to return home. The video has been widely circulated on social media, raising awareness of the hostage situation and putting pressure on the French government to secure his release. It is a reminder of the ongoing conflict in Somalia and the challenges faced by families and individuals in the region. It is also a reflection of the broader impact of terrorism and political instability on civilians and their loved ones. The hostage’s plea for help highlights the importance of international cooperation and efforts to support those affected by conflict and violence.
**REGIONAL**

**Indonesia**

**Jakarta, 6 Oct**—The Indonesian government said that that infrastructure development in Bali for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit is on schedule and that the country is going to be fully prepared to host the event in November 2013, a media report held on Friday.

“Airport development is on track and the sea bridge, toll roads and underpass will be ready before October 2013,” Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Economy Hatta Rajasa was quoted by the Jakarta Post as saying in a meeting in his office.

Also present at the meeting were Trade Minister Gita Wijanarka, Public Works Minister Djoko Kirmanto, Tourism and Creative Economy Minister Mari Elka Pangestu and State-Owned Enterprise Minister Dahlan Iskan.

Minister Hatta said that Indonesia would also host several ministerial-level meetings for APEC member nations starting in January in several major cities in Indonesia, including Jakarta, Surabaya, East Java; and Medan, North Sumatra.

The minister said the venue for the APEC summit would be in Nusa Dua and not in the Bali International Park (BIP) area, as previously announced.

The Indonesian government changed its plans following protests from local residents and the Badung Legislative Council that said that the BIP was a green area and should not be exploited for developing infrastructure.

APEC, established in 1989, is an international forum comprising 21 states in the Asia-Pacific region with the aim to promote free trade and cooperation between member nations.

The population of APEC’s member states accounts for about 40 percent of the world’s population. The forum’s members also comprise 54 percent of the world’s gross domestic product and account for 44 percent of global trade.

During APEC’s most recent meeting in Vladivostok, Russia, in September, ministers forged a consensus to include 54 environmental products on a list of products to be subject to tariff caps by 2015. The list covers more than 300 items, including chopsticks, bicycles, turbines, generators and bamboo products.

**Singapore**

**Singapore, 6 Oct**—The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), the city-state’s central bank, said Friday that it will restrict the tenure of loans granted by financial institutions for the purchase of residential properties, aiming at “avoiding a price bubble and fostering long-term stability in the property market.”

Effective from Saturday, the MAS will set a cap at 35 years for the maximum tenure of all new residential property loans, which apply to both private properties and government built flats.

“Financial institutions have been lengthening the tenures of residential property loans,” said the MAS, adding that the average tenure for new residential property loans has risen to 29 from 25 years during the past three years.

The proportion of loans with tenures over 30 years has passed 45 percent. Some residential property loans that up to 50 years had once been the hot topic in Singapore recently. The country’s Ministry of National Development Khaw Boon Wan said that at this time called on the public to treat it carefully when they apply for such long-term loans, considering the uncertainty of the global economy environment.

“There is now some gimmick, a bank offering 50-year loans. Please don’t fall for that, it doesn’t make sense,” he said.

**Tokyo**

**Tokyo Bank meeting**

**Tokyo, 6 Oct**—A separate entry lane will be set up at Tokyo’s Narita International Airport for guests attending the upcoming meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, airport officials said on Saturday. About 20,000 people from 188 countries are expected to attend the event, which is scheduled to open Tuesday. VIPs are estimated at 4,000 to 5,000, of whom about 90 percent are expected to arrive at Narita airport, according to Japan’s Finance Ministry.

The measure is intended to offer guests smooth entries at the nation’s biggest international gateway, as the majority of the participants are expected to arrive on commercial flights along with other travelers and visitors, according to airport officials.

On arrival, IMF-World Bank visitors will be transferred from the regular passenger terminals to a separate airport facility for customs and immigration procedures. It will be the first attempt to offer such service at Narita airport, said airport officials.

**Cambodia**

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**Indonesia**

**Jakarta, 6 Oct**—Rescue team on Friday found the bodies of the pilot and the passenger of an airplane that went missing in Indonesia’s eastern-most Province of Papua on Wednesday, the Antara News Agency reported.

“The local search and rescue team, with help from locals, reached the wreckage of the plane this evening. No one survived in the crash,” said Robinhood Ratuntiga, the manager of the Tariku Aviation Foundation which operated the plane on Friday. Robinhood added that the evacuation of the remains would be conducted Saturday morning due to the poor weather condition using a helicopter.

The plane, which was carrying a pilot and a passenger, lost contact on Wednesday at about 11 am local time, just few moments after taking off from Koropku heading toward Dekai, Yahukimo, Papua. The local search and rescue team spotted the wreckage on Thursday morning.

It is not clear yet about the cause of the crash in the country’s most remote region geographically and politically. Plane accidents have been rampant in Papua, particularly small plane crashes, due to the unfavorable mountainous terrain.

**Cambodia**

**Phnom Penh, 6 Oct**—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen publicly warned on Friday that tropical storm Gaemi would impact the whole of Cambodia during 7-9 Oct, especially northeastern and northern provinces.

“These provinces will suffer from winds and strong rains that could cause flash floods,” he said.

He also warned that at the coastal area, seas will be as high as three meters.

The premier advised ministries, related institutions and local authorities, especially in the above mentioned provinces, to be on high alert and instructed them to be ready in advance to minimize possible dangers and damage.

**Singapore PM calls for actions before arrival of tropical storm Gaemi**

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GREEK PM SAMARAS WELCOMES MERKEL VISIT

Merkel’s visit Athens next week, her first since Greece’s international bailout two years ago. “It is a very positive development that Ms Merkel has accepted our invitation,” Samaras told reporters in Athens. “We will welcome her as belitting a leader of a great, friendly nation such as Germany,” he added. 

Merkel will fly to Athens on Tuesday. Greece’s two main labour unions and one opposition party have already called rallies in central Athens that day to protest her visit.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR ANGELA MERKEL (L) CHATS WITH GREEK PRIME MINISTER ANTONIS SAMARAS DURING A WELCOME CEREMONY BEFORE TALKS IN BERLIN ON 24 AUGUST

Pakistan cuts rate to 10 pc on improved inflation outlook

In January, 6 October—the central bank of Pakistan cut its policy rate by another 50 basis points to 10.0 percent, a move that was expected by economists, reported local media on Friday.

It meant a total of reduction of 200 basis points this year following the central bank’s cut of its policy rate by 150 basis points in August.

A consistent deceleration in inflation since May 2012, to 8.8 percent in September 2012, is more than earlier estimates. Thus, the overall inflation outlook has improved,” the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) said in a statement.

With the decline in inflation to 8.9 percent from 9.10 percent in August, inflation hit its lowest rate since December 2009, which fueled hopes the central bank would cut rates today. The bank said it was increasingly likely that it would meet its 9.5 percent inflation target for fiscal year 2013 (2012 July to 2013 June).

The bank called for comprehensive fiscal reforms and a lower government deficit, which would have a positive influence on commercial banks that currently find it easy to avoid lending to the private sector by extending credit to the government without any risk.

“A declining interest rate environment should lead towards a rethink of this strategy,” the central bank said, noting that lending to the private sector declined to an annual rate of 0.7 percent at the end of fiscal year 2012 from 22.4 percent in fiscal year 2008.

A persistent shortage of energy is also holding back the private sector and the central bank called for an overhaul of the governance of the energy sector, which would also help lower the amount of subsidies and thus the borrowing requirements.

“There, at a broader level, the effectiveness of SBP’s current monetary policy stance continues to weigh upon improvement in the fiscal position, better availability of energy, and an increase in foreign financial flows,” the bank said.

Pakistan’s gross domestic product expanded by an annual rate of 3.67 percent in the second quarter from 3.04 percent in the first quarter.

The central bank said it would also strengthen its liquidity management framework and issue details of these measures separately.

IMF to lower global growth forecasts—German paper

A Germany newspaper reported on Friday that the IMF expects the euro zone economy to shrink by 0.4 percent this year and then grow 0.2 percent in 2013, business daily Handelsblatt said in a preview of the fund’s latest forecasts which are due to be released next week.

Chinese growth for 2013 is seen at 8.2 percent, versus a previous IMF estimate of 8.4 percent, Indian growth is seen at 6 percent versus a previous forecast of 6.6 percent and Brazilian growth at 4 percent versus 4.7 percent, the newspaper reported.

“The further cooling of global economic growth this year and next year is accompanied by a significant increase in downward risks,” it quoted the IMF as saying. It added that the global growth outlook depended on “whether decisive political steps to stabilise confidence are taken in the euro zone and US”—Reuters

Hungarian FM calls for international cooperation at cyberspace conference

Budapest, 6 October—Hungarian Foreign Minister Janos Martonyi on Friday called for continued international cooperation in creating and maintaining a free and secure cyberspace.

Closing the two-day Budapest cyberspace conference, Martonyi said it was important to find a balance between enjoying the advantages of cyberspace while minimizing the risks.

Cybercrime does not recognize national boundaries, he said, adding that cybercrime offenses had increased to unprecedented levels and that the victims often were just simple users. Therefore, he called for transparency in personal data management to protect private users.—Xinhua

Green energy transition cost “no horror scenario”

Says

“no horror scenario”

Vienna, 6 October—While switching from traditional energy sources to green ones does involve financial cost, there would be no “horror scenario” with regard to prices, Minister-President of the German state of Baden-Wurttemberg Winfried Kretschmann said on Friday.

Addressing an event organized by the German Chamber of Commerce in Vienna, Kretschmann said energy prices rise over time regardless.

He stated that energy transition — a process involving a move to greener, more sustainable forms of energy — brings not only ecological but also economic advantages, having added 20,000 full-time jobs in Baden-Wurttemberg.

Dieter Hultd, president of the German Chamber of Commerce in Austria, said German business supports energy transition but that its implementation was rushed and not properly coordinated on a European scale.

Hence, the switch cost 0.1 percent to 0.2 percent of economic growth, the Austrian Press Agency reported.

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Meryl Streep donates USD 1 million to New York theatre

NEW YORK, 6 Oct—Actress Meryl Streep has handed New York’s Public Theater USD 1 million in honour of the company’s founder Joe Papp and late producer-director Nora Ephron.

The Oscar-winning star made her Broadway debut in the theatre’s production of Trelawny of the Wells in 1975, and was mentored by late impresario Papp, who set up the Public in 1954, reported New York Post.

A representative for the company announced Ms Streep has donated the generous amount in memory of Papp.

“I give this gift in honour of the founder of The Public Theater, my friend and mentor Joseph Papp, and in the theatre’s Board members and greatest supporters, my friend Nora Ephron,” Ms Streep said. —PTI

Can Angelina Jolie, Jennifer Aniston be friends?

LOS ANGELES, 6 Oct—Jennifer Aniston is Brad Pitt’s ex-wife, while Angelina Jolie is his current partner.

Actresses Jennifer Aniston and Angelina Jolie are known to be arch-rivals in Hollywood, but their lookalikes have presented a spoof showing them as best friends.

Jennifer Sullivan and Tiffany Claus, lookalikes of Jennifer and Angelina, respectively, have a piece of advice for the actresses.

“They should do what Jennifer and I did and meet for lunch,” Touch magazine quoted Claus as saying.

“They’re both getting married. They should give up the ego game, swallow their pride and get on with it,” she added.

Angelina Jolie and Jennifer Aniston share a bitter relationship over actor Brad Pitt.

Jennifer is Brad’s ex-wife, while Angelina is his current partner. —PTI

Daryl Hannah has been arrested in Texas

NEW DELHI, 6 Oct—The Kill Bill actress was taken into custody for criminal trespassing and resisting arrest and held at the Wood County Jail after she and a landowner stepped in front of machinery to halt the construction of an oil pipeline.

Daryl and 78-year-old Eleanor Fairchild were hoping to stop the progress of TransCanada’s Keystone XL pipe through the latter’s farmland in Winnisboro—which was subject to a compulsory purchase order for the project—almost a hundred miles east of Dallas. The pipeline is designed to bring crude oil from Canada to the Gulf Coast. Daryl’s agent, Paul Bassis, said the protesters were “putting their own safety and the safety of others at risk”. —PTI

Entertainment

Picasso, Warhol works expected to sell for $35 million each

NEW YORK, 6 Oct—A 1932 portrait by Pablo Picasso of his young lover and a pioneering 3-D Andy Warhol painting of the Statue of Liberty are expected to sell for at least $35 million each, but could fetch much more when they are auctioned next month. The two works, Picasso’s “Nature morte aux tulipes,” and Warhol’s “Statue of Liberty” will be the highlights of New York autumn sales at Sotheby’s and Christie’s.

The Picasso masterpiece is one of several renderings of his muse Marie-Thérèse Walter and considered by art experts to be one of his most important works. It carries a pre-sale estimate from $35 million to up to $50 million ahead of the November 5 sale at Sotheby’s.

“The young woman, with her Grecian profile and athletic, statuesque frame, inspired Picasso’s greatest achievements in a variety of media,” said Simon Shaw, Sotheby’s Impressionist and Modern Art department in New York.

“Nature morte aux tulipes is exceptional within the series for its double-mediation on this subject, demonstrating the influence of Surrealism on his output: the artist builds a sculpture of Marie-Thérèse, and then paints that sculpture as a sexually-charged still life, allowing him to dissect her form on many levels,” he added in a statement. —Reuters

John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John reunite for Christmas album

LOS ANGELES, 6 Oct—John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John are all set to recreate the Grease magic by getting together for a festive album out in time for Christmas.

Their chemistry in the now legendary 1978 musical film made them worldwide stars and their duet You’re The One That I Want became the best-selling duet in history. The idea to get together and record songs came from the memory of the success of that song, reported ABC online. “From the moment we decided to do this, magic happened. Everyone we contacted agreed to do it,” said Travolta in a statement.

“It just fell into place. With our busy schedules, I don’t know how we got it done. John and I have always connected. That’s never gone away. When we’re together, we have a good laugh and feel bonded to one another. We’ve been through some amazing experiences together,” said Newton-John.

The disc will also contain guest appearances from songs from the memory of the success of that song, reported ABC online. “From the moment we decided to do this, magic happened. Everyone we contacted agreed to do it,” said Travolta in a statement.

“The streets of Winnisboro will be much safer tonight now that they’ve gotten that 78-year-old great grandmother off the streets,” Daryl has previously been arrested for protesting against the pipeline in Washington DC in 2011.

She and other activists believe it will carry heavy, acidic crude oil that could corrode a metal pipeline and lead to a spill.

They also claim that by not refining the oil, it would further contaminate the air in a region that struggles with pollution.

TransCanada counter that the pipeline will be the safest ever built. The issue has even been debated by President Barak Obama. Speaking of Daryl’s arrest, TransCanada spokesman David Dodson said: “It is unfortunate Ms. Hannan and other out-of-state activists have chosen to break the law by illegally trespassing on private property.” He added protesters were “putting their own safety and the safety of others at risk”. —PTI

All songs will be Christmas staples bar one, a new one called I Think You Might Like It written by Jay Farrar who wrote the pair’s famous hit. —PTI
Soccer

**New Light of MYANMAR** Sunday, 7 October, 2012

No Sneijder and Robben in Dutch squad

ZERRE, (The Netherlands), 6 Oct—Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal had to leave our captain Wesley Sneijder for the forthcoming World Cup 2014 qualification matches against Andorra and Romania on October 12 in Rotterdam and four days later in Bucharest.

Internationally multi-faceted Sneijder is suffering from a thigh injury. Arjen Robben, Jetro Willems, Bas Dost, Joris Mathijsen and Tim Krul are also on the absentee list due to injuries. Feyenoord forward Ruben Schaken and Ajax goalkeeper Kenneth Vermeer make their debut in the Dutch squad.

Van Gaal decided to let Jordy Clasie (Feyenoord), Adam Maher (AZ) and Lank de Jong (Borussia Monchengladbach) represent the Under-21 team in the final European U-21 Championship qualifier against Slovakia. “It’s very important for Dutch football, we qualify for that final tournament”, he said.

However, Van Gaal could decide to call up some U-21 players or players who are coming back from injuries after the Andorra match. “Injured players could return, like Joris Mathijsen,” Van Gaal said. “We still have a week to go. If Arjen Robben says he is fit, I’ll select him.”—Xinhua

**SPORTS**

**Tennis**

**Istanbul WTA Championships**

Chinese star Li Na booked a place in Sunday’s final against Williams, where she will have the chance to win her first WTA title. She leads the head-to-head record against her opponent, 5-1.

**Mortor Racing**

**Suzuka (Japan), 6 Oct—** Michael Schumacher crashed out of Japanese Grand Prix practice on Friday, a day after announcing his retirement, while Australian Mark Webber set the pace for Red Bull. Schumacher, a seven-time champion and winner at Suzuka, went wide into the Spoon corner and lost control with the car slewing sideways into the tyre wall.

The 43-year-old German removed the steering wheel, extricated himself from the cockpit, patted a marshal on the back and helped tidy up some debris before walking away. He had been fastest in the morning.

“I had to go to the medical centre but I’m 100 percent okay,” said Schumacher. “I think I was already concentrating on too much on the corner ahead of me and therefore had a wheel on the dirt and went off.”

**Li Na beats Radwanska to book berth in Istanbul WTA Championships**

**BEIJING, 6 Oct—** Chinese star Li Na booked the final singles place at WTA championships-Istanbul with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska in the quarter-final of the China Open on Friday.

**Schumacher crashes, Webber sets the pace**

**SUZUKA (Japan), 6 Oct—** Michael Schumacher crashed out of Japanese Grand Prix practice on Friday, a day after announcing his retirement, while Australian Mark Webber set the pace for Red Bull. Schumacher, a seven-time champion and winner six times at Suzuka, went wide into the Spoon corner and lost control with the car slewing sideways into the tyre wall.

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**Resta had earlier gone off at the same place, a slip that left him without a timed lap in the afternoon session. His team mate Nico Hulkenberg was fourth fastest. Webber’s best lap of one minute 32.493 seconds was the quickest of the day after McLaren’s Jenson Button and Lewis Hamilton had led the opening session at one of the classic drivers’ tracks.

**Button, last year’s race winner in Japan but with a five-place grid penalty for Sunday’s race after a gearbox change, set a time of 1:34.507 on a sunny morning at the Honda-owned figure of eight circuit.**

**Mortal Racing**

**Chinese star Li Na**

**West Indies crush Australia to reach final**

**COLOMBO, 6 Oct—** Chris Gayle and Kieron Pollard lit up the second semi-final with scintillating power-hitting as West Indies crush Australia by 74 runs on Friday to reach their first World Twenty20 final. Gayle ignored a side strain to blast six sixes and five boundaries in his unbeaten 41-ball knock to help West Indies post a mammoth 205 for four wickets at the R Premadasa Stadium. Down the order, Pollard (38) hit three successive sixes in the final over of the innings to take West Indies past the 200-run mark.

**Dwyane Bravo (37) celebrated his return to the side hitting three sixes in his 31-ball knock, while Marlon Samuels chipped in with brisk 26 runs. For Australia, Pat Cummins claimed two wickets for 36 runs. Chasing such a huge target, Australia needed handsome contributions from their big-hitters but that did not happen. Skipper George Bailey hit a desperate 63 off 29 deliveries but Ravi Rampaul (3-16), Samuel Badree (2-27), Sunil Narine (2-17) and Pollard (2-6) struck regular blows to bow out West Indies seven wickets down in the morning, a position filled by team mate and double world champion Sebastian Vettel in the afternoon.

“It was a smooth one for us today and we completed all the runs we wanted to,” said Webber. “We have areas in which we can improve, mostly with the balance,” Vettel, who clinched his second title at Suzuka last year, has won two of the last three Japanese Grand Prix after starting all of them from pole. Button was seventh after lunch with Hamilton second.—Reuters

**West Indies Chris Gayle plays a shot during their Twenty20 World cup semi-final cricket match against Australia in Colombo on 5 Oct, 2012.**

**Reuters**
LONDON, 6 Oct— The Football Association has released their report explaining why they rejected Chelsea captain John Terry’s defence and found the player guilty of racially insulting Queens Park Rangers defender Anton Ferdinand last year.

The FA published a 63-page document on Friday giving the reasons that led them to impose a four-match ban and 220,000-pound ($355,600) fine last week for an incident that occurred during a Premier League game.

In the document, the FA said there was “no credible basis” for the Chelsea skipper’s defence that he was only repeating words he believed the QPR player had said to him. Terry admitted using the words “black” surrounded by highly offensive swear words during the match but claimed he had only been repeating words he thought Ferdinand had accused him of saying.

In its full written report on the verdict, the FA’s independent regulatory commission said it was satisfied the words were intended as an insult by Terry.

The document states: “The commission is quite satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that there is no credible basis for Mr Terry’s defence that his use of the words black were directed at Ferdinand by way of forceful rejection and/or inquiry.

“Instead, we are quite satisfied, and find on the balance of probabilities, that the offending words were said by way of insult.

“We are able to arrive at that decision without needing to make any adverse findings against Mr Terry arising out of his decision not to give evidence.” Commenting on the character references that were provided by his Chelsea team-mates, the FA conclude that “it is accepted by everyone involved in the criminal and disciplinary proceedings that Mr. Terry is not a racist”. The FA decided to ban the 31-year-old on the basis that the commission was satisfied the words were intended as an insult.

Washington state man jailed for stealing $1 million from 107-year-old woman

SEATTLE, 6 Oct— A Washington state caregiver received a 10-year prison sentence on Friday for stealing $1 million from an 107-year-old woman who was left living in feces-strewn squalor while he spent her money on guns and tractors, prosecutors said.

John Herbert Friedlund, 79, was sentenced by Stevens County Superior Court Judge Al Nielson, a day after jurors convicted him of first-degree theft, local deputy prosecutor Lech Radzimski said.

Friedlund lived on a Kettle Falls home filled with horse trailers, Radzimski said.

Friedlund of the theft with vulnerability and his position as a fiduciary. He was convicted of playing good golf lately,” said Moore, who two weeks ago tied for third in the final event of the PGA Tour’s regular season, the lucrative Tour Championship in Atlanta.

Moore flirts with jackpot of 59 in Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, 6 Oct— American Ryan Moore flirted with golf’s magical jackpot, a 59, before he bogeyed his penultimate hole on the way to a sizzling 10-under-par 61 in Thursday’s opening round of the Las Vegas Open.

He started out at the par-four 10th, missed the green to the left with his tee shot at the short eighth but was otherwise delighted with his spectacular form in near-perfect soothing conditions in the Nevada desert.

“Yesterday was one of those days that you just keep putting it in play,” said the 29-year-old Las Vegas resident, who started out and par-four 10th, missed the green to the left with his tee shot at the short eighth but was otherwise delighted with his spectacular form in near-perfect soothing conditions in the Nevada desert.

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Uncensored discs destroyed

YANGON, 6 Oct—Uncensored pornographic VCDs/DVDs, pirated discs of Myanmar Karaoke, Myanmar video, boxing and Dhamma and uncensored discs of foreign movies were destroyed at the office of Video Censor Board of Myanmar Motion Picture Enterprise here this morning.

The number of discs seized by 33 township police stations in Yangon Region between 25 August and 3 October amounted to 77935.

Director (Admin) of MMPE Secretary of Film Censor Board U Thein Tun Aung, Chairman of Myanmar Motion Picture Association U Zin Waiing and Secretary of Video Censor Board U Myint Wai elaborated on destruction of the discs before officials started destroying them.

A total of 79047 discs were destroyed in four installments in 2010, 167459 discs in seven installments in 2011 and 633676 discs in nine installments up to September in 2012.— MNA

YANGON, 6 Oct—Ministry of Electric Power has allowed private entrepreneurs as independent power producer on a manageable scale.

“It is aimed at increasing power supply volume in the nation by inviting private entrepreneurs. They have to submit their investment, work proposal and proposed area for supply of electricity to get permission from the ministry,” said an official of the Ministry of Electric Power.

Only when the entrepreneurs engaging in small and medium scale power supply exactly calculate type of electricity to be generated, use of equipment, supply systems, balance in actual generating of volt and actual consumption, reserve volume for power cutout situation and collection of meter bill, will the Ministry of Electric Power allow them to do such business under disciplines.

As an important point, the entrepreneurs are to generate 230 KV and 66 KV standardized by the ministry and to supply electricity in line with the prescribed volume,” said the official.

The interested private entrepreneurs are to sign agreements with the ministry and then submit the agreements to the Attorney-General of the Union’s Office, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and the Government step by step.

“Such system should be realized for past years. Such as, work competitiveness will create better services. However, scrutiny is to be undertaken not to give a favour to a company to avoid monopolizing the supply of electricity and to encourage competitiveness in works,” said an entrepreneur who sells locally-made transformers.—Myanma Alin

Private entrepreneurs invited to supply electricity

City beat Sunderland to maintain unbeaten league run

LONDON, 6 Oct—Premier League champions Manchester City maintained their unbeaten start to the season and consigned Sunderland to a first defeat with a 3-0 win at the Etihad Stadium on Saturday.

City, with seven changes from the side outplayed by Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League on Wednesday, took an early lead with a blistering free-kick from Aleksandar Kolarov after five minutes.

Substitute Sergio Aguero doubled the lead after an hour, smashing home a Kolarov cross and James Milner completed the scoring with an inswinging free-kick after 89 minutes which he curled in with ferocious spin from the left of the penalty area.

David Silva also cracked a shot against the Sunderland bar as City dominated their visitors who had won one and drawn four of their matches prior to this defeat.

The victory took City, who have won four and drawn three of their opening seven games, up to second in the table on 15, a point behind Chelsea.

Everton, who started the day in second place, play at Wigan Athletic later (1400 GMT) and can regain second place with a win.

The afternoon’s other games feature Chelsea at home to Norwich City (1400), Swansea City at home to Reading (1400), West Bromwich Albion against Queens Park Rangers (1400) and West Ham at home to Arsenal (1630).

Four matches are scheduled for Sunday including Newcastle United against Manchester United at 90 James’ Park.—Reuters