Central Census Commission meets, census to be taken in four steps

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Ministry for Immigration and Population will act as the focal ministry of nationwide census compilation project in 2014, Patron of Central Census Commission Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said at the commission meeting No (3/2012) at the ministry here this afternoon.

He said the census would be taken in four steps: preparation, data compilation, preparing statistics, and assessment and review. He went on to say that only the cooperation of the focal ministry with other ministries, related ministries, organizations and civil societies would help accomplish the last three steps although the ministry alone could complete the preparation tasks.

The meeting was also attended by the chairman, vice-chairmen, secretary and members of the commission, the chairman, secretary and members of central census committee, Union ministers, chairman of Hluttaw Social Development Committee, deputy ministers, departmental heads, UNFPA resident representatives and officials.

Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said the nationwide census compilation in Myanmar was carried out twice in 1973 and 1983. The need of experiences, funds, staff and equipments was challenging in the census compilation in 30 years after the last compilation, he predicted.

The preparation started since May, 2011, had been completed in 16 months, he said. Questionnaires and census laws should be prepared to be commensurate with the current age in compiling census in 2014 and supervisory committees might be formed, he said.

Census would be taken in four steps: preparation, data compilation, preparing statistics, and assessment and review.

Pakistan local authorities fight brain-eating parasite

ISLAMABAD, 10 Oct—Local authorities in Pakistan are taking emergency measures to protect residents from a water-borne, brain-eating amoeba that has killed 10 people in the last five months in the Karachi area, a doctor with the World Health Organization’s Disease Early Warning System in Pakistan said Tuesday.

Shakeel Malik told Kyodo News that the victims, ranging in age between 4 and 45, died from a disease triggered by swimming or other activities that caused them to nasally inhale polluted water containing the single-celled microscopic creatures of the species Naegleria fowleri.

Malik said that after being inhaled through the nostrils, the amoeba immediately attacks the brain, causing a quick death.

Simply drinking water has not been demonstrated as a source of infection, according to the WHO.

The latest death occurred last week.

The health department of Sindh Province has directed the Karachi Water Board to increase chlorination of water. Similarly, the residents have been advised to use boiled or chlorinated water and cleanse overhead and underground water tanks.—Kyodo News

Free health care provided to the aged

YANGON, 10 Oct—Administrator’s office of Mahlwagon Htaykywe (A) Ward and Ward Maternal and Child Welfare Association give free health care services to 600 persons under 60 every Saturday.

Dr Nay Myo Ohn presented K 300,000 provided by Bago Region Government and Police Col Mya Win K 200,000 by Bago Region Police Force to Red Cross Staff Officer and Commander of Bago Region Red Cross Brigade Commander of Region Police Force Col Mya Win made speeches.

Dr May Marlar of Central MMCWA and Chairperson of Yangon Region MCWSC Daw Aye Aye Kyi and party inspected the delivery room of Tamway Township MCWA.—Myanma Alin

SpaceX rocket glitch puts satellite in wrong orbit

SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launches from Space Launch Complex 40 at the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Florida in this 7 Oct, 2012. A prototype satellite was sent into the wrong orbit because of a problem.

The cruise liner Queen Mary 2 passes the Burbo Bank offshore wind farm as it heads to Liverpool, northern England on 15 September, 2011.

Government warned that investors could pull plug on green energy

The Ministry for Immigration and Population will act as the focal ministry of nationwide census compilation project in 2014, Patron of Central Census Commission Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham said at the commission meeting No (3/2012) at the ministry here this afternoon.
NATIONAL

Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia makes field trip to Rakhine State

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—The Ministry of Border Affairs and Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia, a humanitarian social organization from Malaysia have undertaken rehabilitation tasks in coordination for two communities in Rakhine State regardless of race and religion. On 30 September, humanitarian aids—132 tons of potable water, 9 tons of tinned food, 18 tons of biscuits, 275 tons of kitchen utensils and toiletries, three tons of medicines and related materials, one ton of clothes, 50 tons of 5-kg rice bags, 10 tons of 2-kg sugar packages, totaling 498 tons arrived in Yangon, which were then transported to Rakhine State and arrived in Sittway on 8 October.

Deputy Minister for Border Affairs Maj-Gen Zaw Win together with 46-member group of Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia led by Sangha Raja of Malaysia Ven Datsuk Kirinde Dhammaratene Thero, Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad and Chairman of Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia Mr Datuk Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim arrived in Sittway from Yangon.

In the evening seven invited Sayadawes from Myanmar side led by Abbots of Pathein Monastery from Pathein Baddhanta Pandita and five monks from Malaysian side led by Ven Datsuk Kirinde Dhammaratene Thero met at Maha Wayan Sasana Beikman in the precinct of Lawka Nanda Pagoda. The Deputy Home Affairs Minister, Malaysian Ambassador Dr Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, Chairman of Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia Mr Datuk Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim.

A ceremony to provide aids to families in relief camps by Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia was held at the meeting hall in Rakhine State Hluttaw on 8 October. The chair of Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia said the group was to provide humanitarian assistance and the people with various faiths are living in peace in Malaysia which is adopting 1 Malaysia Policy. The chair also said the donations were bound for all the victims of different religions and races.

The Malaysian ambassador said the group that visited Rakhine State was formed with the members of different religions and they would disseminate their optimistic views on what they witnessed in the area. The ambassador vowed for cooperation in long-term projects for socio-economic development in Rakhine State.

The deputy minister for Border Affairs said the Union government and the state government had planned to build 1584 make-shift tents and 770 (45 x 34 ft) 10-room tents and 278 tents have been built. More tents would be constructed. Humanitarian aids in health, education and sanitation would be provided. The most important to reconcile the two communities which engaged in conflicts is trust. He tipped the mission for success in reconciliation of these two groups.

Kelab Putera 1 Malaysia viewed round Sittway and visited Yenwesa temporary relief camp, Shwe Zedi relief camp, Mingan temporary relief camp, Thakhekyin temporary relief camp, Bawdupa temporary relief camp and Ohndawgyi temporary relief camp where they provided aids.—MNA

Coord meeting on drawing up budgets held

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—In his speech at a coordination meeting on drawing up budgets for Union level organizations and the ministries for 2013-14 held at the auditorium of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue this morning, Deputy Minister Dr Lin Aung stressed the need for drawing budget in accord with financial rules and regulations, underscoring that the main aim of the ministry is to issue fair and accurate statistics and figures that shows national development. For ensuring right and accurate State budget, more efforts are needed in collecting and examining figures not only by the Budget Department but also by all ministries.

Myanmar Alin, the Mirror, the New Light of Myanmar

Myanmar Alin, the Mirror, the New Light of Myanmar papers are published in colour daily

In Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay

Myanmar Alin and the Mirror papers will be published in colour at every other week

In Yangon

Publication of all newspapers in colour will be in mid-December.

There will be no change in prices. Agents are requested not to rise the original paper prices. Colour advertisements are invited.

Myanmar Rice Mill and Farming Machinery Fair-2012 5-7 Dec

YANGON, 10 Oct—A Myanmar Rice Mill and Farming Machinery Fair-2012 will kick off at Myanmar Convention Centre (MCC) on Mindhamma Road in Yangon from 5 to 7 December. The Ministry of Commerce conducts the fair with the help of departmental officials and organization members. It was learnt that the fair’s purpose intends to renew Myanmar’s rice in the international market, to double Myanmar’s rice production and farm value-added products, to create job opportunities and to generate more earnings ensuring development of rice mills in Myanmar and industrial development in rural areas.

Those interested companies may contact the Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading General Manager Technological Branch (2), the International Trade Promoting (branch) of the Directorate of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce, the Myanmar Rice Dealers Federation and Myanmar Rice Industry Association and the exhibition department of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, not later than 7 November.

Governor of Central Bank of Myanmar Chairman of Myanmar Banks Association U Than Nyen speaking at 143rd meeting of executive committee of Banks Supervisory Committee and MBA. (News reported).—MNA

Myanmar Railways deals with railroad sections

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct—Managing Director U Thein Swe of Myanmar Railways under the Ministry of Rail Transportation dealt with along Yangon circular railroad as well as the condition of railroad section between Toegyungkalay Station and Yangon Station by train on 8 October. He stressed the needs to not only beautify works among railway stations but maintain railroad sections.

He then met the upgrading circular railroad committee supervised by the general manager (Lower Myanmar) at the meeting hall of Yangon Station and fulfilled the needs.—MNA
IMF seminars, speeches with monetary policymakers

Tokyo, 10 Oct — The following are highlights of International Monetary Fund seminars and speeches on Wednesday featuring global monetary policymakers.

Takehiko Nakao, Vice Minister of Finance for International Affairs

"There is a lot of focus on the European case and the fiscal cliff in the US, but Japan is in a sense a frontrunner in the fiscal problem because we had slow growth for 20 years. The lesson from Europe is that if there is a reversal in the market the effect can be damaging for the economy and even fiscal sustainability." Ngai said that the Hong Kong Financial Secretary in a speech in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 9 Oct, 2012. — Xinhua

China calls for unified standards on combating terrorism

UNITED NATIONS, 10 Oct — Unified standards should be upheld in combating international terrorism, China’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Wang Min said here on Tuesday. Wang’s remarks came as he addressed the 67th session of the UN General Assembly on the theme of “Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism.” He noted that double standards must be rejected in the effort to combat terrorism. “Adopting inconsistent positions on the basis of one’s own interest will serve only to shield or connive with terrorism, defeating the purpose of counter-terrorism and undermining international cooperation in that regard.”

"The symptoms and the root causes of terrorism should be addressed simultaneously. ‘Measures to combat terrorism should focus on promoting development, eliminating polarization and social injustice, and appropriately resolving regional conflicts,’ he said. ‘Relying solely on military and law enforcement measures may very well prove to be counter-productive.’ In addition, the UN should play a leading role in strengthening international cooperation on counter-terrorism, Wang said. “China supports the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy which serves as the guidelines for the international cooperation on counter-terrorism,” he said. The Chinese UN envoy pointed out that the international community should further advocate dialogue and exchange among various civilizations, religions and ethnicities with the aim to promote mutual respect, understanding and tolerance. Furthermore, counter-terrorism activities must comply with the UN Charter and the international law, respect the sovereignty of individual states, their independence and territorial integrity, Wang said. — Reuters

Vice presidential debate could be a tale of two Ryans

ST PETERSBURG, Fla., 10 Oct — Republican Congressman Paul Ryan is a changed man. Presidential candidate Mitt Romney’s running mate made a name for himself as a bold fiscal crusader, willing to make big, unpopular cuts to entitlements to US finances in order. But since Romney tapped him in August to join his campaign, the vice-presidential candidate has become more prudent, avoiding detailed discussion of his budget plan and earning the nickname “mini-Mitt” for displaying a cautious streak like his boss.

For Vice President Joe Biden, a major question heading into his debate with Ryan in Kentucky on Thursday is “achoice of which Ryan we’re going to see,” a Biden adviser said. Instead of promoting his own budget plan, which includes caps on future Medicare spending, Ryan is talking up Romney’s more voter-friendly version, which has no spending limits, at campaign events. “The vice-president has been studying up on (Ryan’s) real positions and is prepared to call him out on his actual positions,” the adviser, who warned that “maybe there will be some dishonesty,” from the Republican.

The stakes are high for Ryan, who is charged with righting a listing ship after President Barack Obama’s disastrous first debate against Romney in Denver last week, which lost him the momentum in polls ahead of the 6 November election.

Democrats have targeted Ryan’s budget, a series of spending cuts, as proof that he would hurt seniors and the middle class. One top Republican strategist said the best way for Biden to battle his opponent is to tease out the “wonky” Ryan, the congressman who loves to talk about economic theory.

China’s central bank governor and the international law, respect the sovereignty of individual states, their independence and territorial integrity, Wang said. — Reuters

Japan over their competing claims to sovereignty of some islands in the East China Sea.

The row has been marked by bitter attacks on Japan, which is now the world’s biggest car market. “We were informed two days ago that Governor Zhou’s schedule might require him to cancel his lecture in Tokyo,” an IMF spokeswoman said. “It has now been confirmed that his deputy Yi Gang will represent him.” Zhou had been set to deliver what amounted to a closing keynote on Sunday. A Japanese government official said Zhou’s absence would be “regrettable.”

The IMF comments confirm a report on Tuesday by Chinese state news agency Xinhua that China’s delegation will not be led by its most senior finance officials. According to Chinese protocol, only the most senior officials usually lead such trips. China’s delegation will be led by Yi Gang, vice head of the People’s Bank of China, and Vice Finance Minister Zhu Guangyao, Xinhua said.

The disputed group of islands, called Senkaku in Japan and Diaoyu in China, are located near rich fishing grounds and potentially huge oil and gas reserves. Taiwan also asserts its sovereignty over the uninhabited islets.

Japan is scheduled to host the IMF and World Bank annual meetings for the first time in nearly half a century. About 20,000 people are expected to attend the event, making it one of the world’s largest international conferences. “If he (Zhou) is not coming, it’s regrettable that a representative of the Chinese side is not coming,” a Japanese official said.

China makes plans to back Turkey over Syria spillover

HACIYAPASA, Turkey, 10 Oct — NATO said it had drawn up plans to defend Turkey if necessary should the war in Syria spill over their border again as dozens of people were killed in clashes between Syrian rebels and government forces on Tuesday. Fighting between Syrian rebels and government forces could be heard from this town of Azmarin was expected soon.

In Damascus, rebel suicide bombers attacked an Air Force Intelligence compound used as an interrogation centre — the latest attack to bring the conflict closer to President Bashar Assad’s power base. “Assad...is only able to stand up with crutches,” Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan told a meeting of his ruling AK Party. “He will be finished when the crutches fall away,” Erdogan, reacting to toxic consecutive days when shells fired from Syrian soil have landed on Turkish territory, has warned Ankara will not shrink from war if forced to act.

But his government also stressed it would be reluctant to mount any big operation on Syrian soil and that it would rely on international support. It was not clear whether the shells hitting Turkish territory were aimed to strike there or were due to Syrian troops overshooting as they attacked rebels to their north. — Reuters

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen (2nd L, front) addresses the NATO Defence Ministers Meeting at its headquarters in Brussels, capital of Belgium, on 9 Oct, 2012. — Xinhua

Vice President Joe Biden (R) speaking in Charlotte, North Carolina on 6 Sept, 2012, and Republican vice-presidential nominee Paul Ryan, speaking in Tampa, Florida, on 29 Aug, 2012, are shown in this combination photo. — Reuters
Facebook pitches new $20 million ‘Sponsored Stories’ settlement

SAN FRANCISCO, 10 Oct.— Facebook Inc has proposed a revised $20 million settlement in a class action lawsuit accusing it of violating the rights of users through its “Sponsored Stories” advertising feature after a US judge rejected an earlier accord.

The new agreement, filed Saturday in US District Court in San Francisco, drops provisions setting aside up to $10 million for plaintiffs’ lawyers’ fees and allows users to apply for a cash payment of up to $10 each.

US District Judge Richard Seeborg rejected an initial settlement proposal on 17 August after questioning why the agreement provided no cash for Facebook users. The initial agreement provided no money to class members and instead set aside up to $10 million for plaintiffs’ lawyers’ fees and allows users to apply for a cash payment of up to $10 each.

The new agreement, which is also subject to Seeborg’s approval, allows for some of the funds to go to charity, but only if there is a court order and not allowed to go to charities involved in Internet privacy issues.

The new agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

BRUSSELS, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.

China rejects US accusations against telecoms firms

STEVE WOJTCHE, 10 Oct.— China rejected on Tuesday as “groundless” US accusations that two top Chinese telecoms equipment makers posed a security risk.

The US House of Representatives’ Intelligence Committee has urged American companies on Monday to stop doing business with Huawei Technologies Co Ltd and ZTE Corp. The UK’s government has already warned British companies against doing business with the two Chinese companies.

“I believe the revised settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and responds to the issues raised previously by the court,” Andrew Noyes, a Facebook spokesman, said on Monday. Richard Arnes, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“Filed in 2011, the lawsuit alleged that the social networking site’s ‘Sponsored Stories’ feature violated California law by publicizing users’ ‘likes’ of advertisers without any compensation or a way to opt-out. As part of both settlement proposals, Facebook also agreed to give users more control over how their names and likenesses are used.

Facebook’s revised agreement also provides new terms on targeting children.
More evidence flu shot is safe for the egg-allergic: study

MONTREAL, 10 Oct— With flu season approaching, a Canadian study offers more reassurance that children with egg allergies can be safely vaccinated against the flu virus. Because the flu vaccine is made in chicken eggs, there have traditionally been concerns about the safety of flu shots for people with egg allergies, most of whom are young children. But today’s vaccine has only tiny traces of egg protein, and studies have shown that children with egg allergies can be vaccinated without any serious reaction.

The researchers, whose findings appeared in The Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, followed 367 egg-allergic people, mostly children, who got the flu shot over five years. Almost one-third of them had a history of anaphylaxis after eating eggs—that is, serious allergy symptoms such as trouble breathing or a drop in blood pressure. None of the patients, however, had a serious reaction to the flu vaccine, and only 13 of the patients with egg allergy to be vaccinated like all other individuals, without requiring administration by an allergist,” wrote lead researcher Anne Des Roches, of Hopital Sainte-Justine in Montreal, and colleagues.

Des Roches and her colleagues also reviewed 26 past studies that involved close to 4,000 egg-allergic people who got the flu shot. None of those patients developed a severe allergic reaction.

About 1.5 percent of US children have an egg allergy, according to the American College of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology. It’s thought that many of them have never gotten the flu shot over worries about an allergic reaction. “I think parents of children with egg allergy should be reassured about the safety of the influenza vaccine for their child, and understand that the benefits and the United States in May 2011, allegedly “the most comprehensive study to date” of its kind. “Chinese direct investment in the United States is soaring, both in value and number of deals. Businesses from China have established operations and created at least 35 of the 50 US states and across dozens of industries in both manufacturing and services,” says the report. “This is the beginning of China’s direct investment will flow worldwide by 2020, a

Wall Street falls in tech-led sell-off, Alcoa up late

New York, 10 Oct—US stocks fell on Tuesday, led by losses in technology after brokerage downgrades of Intel and other major companies is worries increased about third-quarter US earnings.

Shares of Intel, the world’s largest semiconductor maker, lost 7.7 percent after negative earnings reports by at least two brokerage houses. Robert W. Baird & Co cut its price target on the stock to $26 from $32, citing weak demand for notebooks.

The news triggered selling of large-cap technology shares, including Oracle and Apple. Microsoft shares lost 1.7 percent to $29.28 and ranked as the biggest drag on both the Nasdaq and the S&P 500. "It’s a good bet that companies aren’t significantly expanding their tech projects at this point,” said Kim Forrest, senior equity research analyst at Fort Pitt Capital Group in Pittsburgh. Analysts expect quarterly earnings for S&P 500 companies to decline about 2.3 percent from the year-ago period, according to Thomson Reuters data.

At the close, the S&P 500 was 9.7 percent below its all-time closing high of 1,565.15, reached five years ago on this day. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 110.12 points, or 0.81 percent, to 14,414.48. The Nasdaq Composite dropped 47.33 points, or 1.52 percent, to close at 3,065.02.
WASHINGTON, 10 Oct — The US government filed a civil mortgage fraud lawsuit on Thursday against Wells Fargo & Co, the latest legal volley against big banks for their lending during the housing boom. The complaint, brought by the US Attorney in Manhattan, seeks damages and civil penalties from Wells Fargo for more than 10 years of alleged misconduct related to government-insured Federal Housing Administration loans. The lawsuit alleges the FHA paid hundreds of millions of dollars on insurance claims on thousands of defaulted mortgages as a result of false insurance claims on FHA paid hundreds of loans. The lawsuit alleges the fourth-biggest US bank as measured by assets. “As the complaint alleges, yet another major bank has engaged in a longstanding and reckless triad of deficient underwriting and deficient disclosure, all while relying on the convenient backstop of government insurance,” said Manhattan US Attorney Preet Bharara.

Wells, the largest mortgage lender, denied the allegations and said in a statement it believes it acted in good faith and in compliance with FHA and US Department of Housing and Urban Development rules. The bank said many of the allegations have been previously addressed with HUD and added that its FHA delinquency rates have as low as half the industry average.

In a regulatory filing in August, the bank said it was being investigated for possible violations of laws and regulations relating to mortgage origination practices, including FHA loans. — Reuters

Mexico

MEXICO CITY, 10 Oct — The Mexican Navy has killed one of the most wanted drug cartel leaders in a clash in northern Mexico’s Coahuila state, but his body was later taken from a funeral house, Mexican authorities said on Tuesday.

The body, according to Mexican authorities, corresponds to Heriberto Lazcano, alias “El Lazca,” head of the Los Zetas Cartel. It was in a funeral home where he had been tested before forensic identification.

Early on Monday, a group of armed men raided the funeral home and took the corpse, the Coahuila state’s attorney general Homero Ramos said Tuesday.

The Mexican Navy, which conducted the operation against Los Zetas leader, said fingerprints and photographs had been used to identify the body as Lazcano’s before it was lost. In a message to Press, Ramos said Lazcano and another man were killed on Sunday in the Ballard park of the town of Progreso, as a result of a clash between them and the marines.

Several hours earlier, Mexican Navy had confirmed that one of the two criminals killed in confrontation in Coahuila was Lazcano, the founding leader of the criminal organization “Los Zetas.”

In a statement, the Navy reported that “after performing a search on the fingerprint database of fingerprints of the thumb, index and middle taken from the right hand of one of the criminals killed”, it is confirmed that the fingerprints belong to Heriberto Lazcano.

The Navy said the analysis of photographic images of criminal shot show that the facial features match those of Lazcano. Meanwhile, Mexican President Felipe Calderon on Tuesday also confirmed that Lazcano was killed because he resisted the authority during a military operation. At the opening of a prison in Guanajuato, Calderon agreed to a ceasefire with the Taliban in Swat in early 2009, effectively recognizing insurgent control of the valley whose lakes and mountains had long been a tourist attraction. The Taliban set up courts, executed residents and closed girls’ schools, including the one that Youssufzai attended. A documentary team filmed her weeping as she explained her ambition to be a doctor. “My friend came to me and said, ‘You are doing well, you honestly, is our school going to be attacked by the Taliban?’”, Youssufzai, then 11, wrote in a blog published by the BBC.

“During the morning assembly we were told not to wear colourful clothes as the Taliban would object.” The army launched an offensive and retook control of Swat later that year, and Youssufzai later received the country’s highest civilian award. She was also nominated for international awards for child activists. Since then, she has received numerous threats. On Tuesday, gunmen arrived at her school and asked for her by name, witnesses told police. Youssufzai was shot when she came out of class and went to a bus.Taliban spokesman Ehsanullah Ehsan said his group was behind the attack. When the Taliban were pro-West, she was speaking against Taliban and she was calling President Obama her ideal leader.” Ehsan said by telephone from an undisclosed location.

Reuters
Indian drug firm Piramal
Health set to unveil patented
drug in Europe

KOLKATA, 10 Oct — After 10 years of trials, Indian drug company, Piramal Healthcare is ready to roll out its first patented product in Europe next month, a company official said on Wednesday. Having sold its generic drugs business to Abbott, Piramal is now focused on discovering products with a patent of at least 10-15 years, said Swati Piramal, Vice-Chairperson.

The company has around 20 molecules under development; the first one crossed the finish line in April when it bagged the European drug regulator’s nod. “We are hopeful of launching in India in the next few months,” said Swati Piramal. This orthopaedic product is used to regenerate damaged cartilage in the knee joint. The substance is injected into the hole in the cartilage and is allowed to grow and close the hole in a few months. Previously, the cartilage had to be cut off, grown outside in a petri dish and then put back into the joint. The product has been developed in Piramal’s labs in Montreal and Toronto. It will be produced in Piramal’s facilities in Canada. (Piramal has an API facility in Toronto and bio-orthopaedic unit in Montreal.)

Piramal will market the product in 22 countries in Europe. The 23rd country, will be India, followed by Canada, Australia, South Korea and Brazil.—Xinhua

California gas prices stabilize, seen heading downwar

LOS ANGELES, 10 Oct — California’s record-high gas prices held steady on Tuesday and were expected to begin dropping later in the week, but a rise in wholesale prices suggested the decline could be more moderate than market analysts had previously anticipated. The average price of a gallon of regular gas in the state was up three-cents of a cent on Tuesday to $4.671, which marked the lowest one-day increase since prices began to spike at the beginning of last week, said Marie Montgomery Nordhues, spokeswoman for the Automobile Club of Southern California. Nevertheless, prices remained higher than $5 a gallon at many gas stations in the state. “The consensus seems to be they’re probably peeking and hopefully will be heading in the other direction real soon,” Nordhues said.

Retail prices surged by more than 50 cents a gallon last week and wholesale prices rose by almost a dollar a gallon after a series of refinery mishaps pinched supplies. Trading market sources said a possible “short squeeze” that came about when a big refinery was forced to buy fuel on the spot market may also have been a factor. The price spike ended after California Governor Jerry Brown on Sunday ordered that service stations be allowed to begin stocking cheaper and more plentiful “winter-blend” fuel three weeks ahead of schedule. Wholesale prices dropped by 60 cents a gallon Monday and analysts said a sharp fall in retail prices would follow within about a week barring further market disruptions.—Reuters

Latin America leads hunger reduction over past two decades

SANTIAGO, 10 Oct — The Latin America and Caribbean region has made the biggest progress in the world in hunger reduction over the past 20 years, according to a report released on Tuesday by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). In Latin America, better wages and more public spending has helped to alleviate hunger, though the region has one of the worst income disparities in the world, said the report entitled “the State of Food Insecurity in the World 2012.”

Hunger affected 14.6 percent of the population in the region from 1990 to 1992, or 65 million people, while in the 2010-2012 period, hunger affected only 8.3 percent of the population, or 49 million people, according to the report. The figure is an important step toward fulfilling the World Food Summit’s goals and the first of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, the report said. The region registered economic growth above that of the developed countries during the recent economic crisis, allowing it to reduce hunger, though at a slower rate than in the past, it said.

The Latin American countries, more than any other regions, reduced both proportion and the number of people affected by malnutrition over that period,” the report said, while noting that the reduction rate has slowed down from an annual rate of 1.9 percent in the 2002-2005 period to 0.9 percent in the 2006-2009 period.—Xinhua

Bolivia wins Chinese satellite scholarship programme

La Paz, 10 Oct — Bolivia Tuesday announced the winners of a Chinese scholarship programme which trains Bolivian experts for operating the Tupac Katari satellite, slated for launching at the end of 2013. The 64 experts, including six women, were screened carefully to ensure eligibility for the scholarship, Bolivian Space Agency (ISA) Director Ivan Zambrana said. “The winners have been chosen through a transparent and fair process. They are world-class Bolivian professionals,” said Zambrana. The one-year training programme, which kicks off at the end of October, includes control of satellite operations from ground stations, project design and satellite systems, and teleport for data networks. The Tupac Katari satellite, named after an 18th century indigenous hero who fought Bolivia’s Spanish colonizers, will help facilitate the country’s integration into the world, said Bolivian President Evo Morales during the presentation ceremony.

The ISA signed a deal with the China Great Wall Industrial Cooperation, a subsidiary of the China Aerospace Science and Technology Cooperation, in December 2010, to launch Bolivia’s first communications satellite into the orbit by the end of 2013 or the beginning of 2014. —Xinhua

Huawei faces exclusion from planned Canada government network

OTTAWA, 10 Oct — The Canadian government hinted Thursday it would exclude Chinese telecom equipment giant Huawei Technologies Co Ltd from helping to build a secure government communications network because of possible security risks. Huawei has a thriving business in Canada. It won a contract in 2008 to build telecommunications networks for domestic operators Telus Corp and BCE Inc’s Bell Canada, and it has even received C$6.5 million ($6.6 million) grant from the Province of Ontario towards security exception for the government network, Canada has not gone as far as Australia, which has barred Huawei from taking part in contracts to build the government’s $38 billion national broadband network. Bradley suggested the Australian decision was taken for other reasons. “Australia has made pretty clear direction that they are trying to cozy up to the United States right now in terms of their trade relationship,” he said, adding that Australia has also agreed to have 2,500 US troops stationed there. —Xinhua

David Skillicorn, Internet security expert at Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, said he supports the US recommendation not to deal with Huawei and said Ottawa should revisit its decision to let it operate in Canada. —Xinhua
Development dilemma

Following political developments that overwhelm the world and the people of the country itself, Myanmar is pursuing economic development with four policies in the second tier of the reform strategy announced by the President about four months ago.

The four guiding principles for Myanmar Comprehensive Development Vision target agricultural development, equitable economic development among regions and states, inclusive growth and statistical development as the country is seeking for high growth rate.

The government has been establishing more and more regional industrial zones in each corner of the country to provide locals with job opportunities and ensure balanced development. But some economists argue that the quest for balanced economic growth would have adverse effect on rapidity of the development, saying it would escalate poverty rather than catalyzing distribution of wealth.

They come up with the two-polar approach for economic development of the resource rich economy, with Yangon and Mandalay as economic centres, and then distributing the development to various peripheries. These economists argue that forced inclusive growth is costly in the country like Myanmar with poor transport infrastructures.

Another thing we need to consider in initiating economic reforms of our country, apart from economic theories, is the social impact on citizens of all races. Myanmar is home to more than 100 ethnic races dispersing in all parts of the country. The ethnic races in naturally unfavourable areas are being caught in the poverty trap. The economic development need to profit these national breathen significantly and help them out. If there is a trade-off between balanced and rapid growth, we need to seek a balance in itself.
Regional development tasks and health care services for Chin State gear up

NAY PYI TAW, 10 Oct — Union Minister at President Office U Hla Tun, Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries U Ohn Myint and Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin and Chin State Chief Minister U Hong Ngi inspected patient ward, operation theatre, X-ray room, labour room and child ward at 200-bed People’s Hospital in Falam, Chin State on 8 October.

In the evening, Union ministers U Hla Tun and U Ohn Myint met with breeders from Haka Township and gave instructions on requirements for development of livestock breeding sector. The following day, the Union ministers visited the Training School for Development of Nationalities Youth of Border Region in Haka, inspected the chosen site for construction of two-storey building for operation theater and labor room at Haka People’s Hospital, and attended the coordination meeting on development of livestock and fisheries, health and education sectors of Chin State and rural region.

Illegal goods and animal products seized in Tamu

TAMU, 10 Oct — An express driven by U Than Win Ko, son of U Win Myint that will leave Tamu for Monywa at 8 am on 4 October was searched by Monywa at 8 am on 4 October. Action is taken against driver Than Win under the law. Myanma Alin

Microfinance services of Central Cooperative Union marks 5th Anniversary

YANGON, 10 Oct — A ceremony to mark the 5th anniversary of microfinance services of Central Cooperative Union Limited was held at Saya San Plaza here this morning with an address by Chairman of Central Cooperative Union Limited U Khin Maung Aye. Then, Union Minister U Hla Tun said that he would like to see Chin State more developed. Only when peace and economic growth, will a certain region be developed. Peace will prevail across the nation as peace and economic growth will be allowed in the region soon.

Then, Union Minister U Hla Tun said that he would like to see Chin State more developed. Only when peace and economic growth, will a certain region be developed. Peace will prevail across the nation as all-out efforts are being made for eternal peace. He said that experts who can disseminate scientific methods to breeders had been brought. It is required to extend the cultivation of elephant yam and mulberry apart from tea. Tourism will be allowed in the region soon. He called on local businessmen to make necessary arrangements for tourism sector. He stressed the need for goodwill to be put on ensuring sustainable development of Chin State till posterity by local people including Chin State government.

Next, the Union ministers inspected tea plantation and mythum farm of Falam Township Agriculture Department on Haka-Falam road and cordially greeted locals.

Then, the Union ministers looked into Haka-Falam road section and development of villages along the road. MNA

News in Brief

Fertilizer broadcast in paddy field

Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint viewed broadcasting of fertilizer at five-acre farmland of Ayeyamin paddy strain in Ngatan Village of Taze Township on 7 October and donated anti-snake venom to the local people.

Outstanding students honoured in Hpa-an

A ceremony to honour outstanding students who passed the matriculation examination 2012 with flying colours was held at Zwegabin Hall in Hpa-an of Kayin State on 30 September. Chief Minister of the state U Zaw Min and officials presented prizes to distinction winning students.

Cooperatives College (Thanlyin) to be upgraded

Cooperative Degree College (Thanlyin) will be opened as University of Cooperative in November, said Union Minister for Cooperatives U Kyaw Hsaun in the meeting with departmental personnel, faculty members and staff at the hall of the university in Thanlyin on 8 October morning.

Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament commences

Union Minister for Sports U Tint Hsaun attended opening of Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men’s Volleyball Tournament at Paunglaung Gymnasium on 9 October. Altogether 28 volleyball teams are participating in the tournament.
Government warned that investors could pull plug on green energy

UK

LONDON, 10 Oct — A group of seven multinational companies has told the British government it could halt their investment in the UK green energy sector if state support for renewable energy wanes.

Britain is the world’s biggest offshore wind market in terms of capacity and has attracted interest from global players in the sector. But recent disputes within the coalition government over support for the sector has caused them concern about the risk of a political U-turn against green energy.

The seven big investors, including wind turbine producers Vestas and Gamesa, told the Secretary of State for Energy in a letter seen by Reuters that they could take their money elsewhere if they feel that the risk of the government turning its back on renewable energy is too great. “Historically the UK has benefited from being known as a country with low political risk for energy sector investments.”

Underscoring that reputation would have damaging consequences for the scale of future investments in the UK energy sector,” the companies said in the letter, a copy of which was also sent to Prime Minister David Cameron and finance minister George Osborne.

The group, which also includes Alstom, Doosan, Areva, Siemens and Mitsubishi Power Systems Europe, said that such investments depended on a stable policy framework because large-scale energy projects take a long time to build.

Osborne on Monday gave a boost to Britain’s offshore gas industry by offering hope of tax relief on such wells, a move that environmental groups say goes against the government’s promise to be the greenest ever. Wind turbine manufacturers GE Energy and Vestas have already backedtrack on setting up production facilities in Britain, showing that appetite for UK-based manufacturing was lower than the government expected.

Britain has one of Europe’s most ambitious wind power development targets, with a projected annual capacity growth rate of 13 percent until 2020, requiring huge investment for new plants. —Reuters

Russia intervenes to stabilize food prices

MOSCOW, 10 Oct — Russia decided to take intervention measures in the domestic grain market to stabilize rising food prices, Deputy Prime Minister Arkady Dvorkovich said on Monday.

During a government meeting with Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev, Dvorkovich said that 900,000 tons of grain would be sold weekly in a number of Russian regions.

The first batch of grain would be sold on 23 October in Siberia, the Urals and the Far East region, with the price 10-15 percent lower than market prices, Dvorkovich said.

The fourth grade grain would be sold at 7,200 rubles (232 US dollars) per ton and the third grade at 7,600 rubles (245 dollars), he added.

The government vowed to reach two goals with intervention measures: to prevent a sharp price rise for domestic consumers, to weaken export incentives so as to regain balance of supply and demand in the grain market, Dvorkovich said.

Medvedev announced the decision on commodity intervention last week and urged the government to sell grain from the previous harvest reserves intervention fund, the Kriment Press service reported.

Admitting Russian farmers failed to reach the estimated harvest this year due to drought in summer, Medvedev said “additional supply of grain” was needed to balance the situation in several regions.

Local experts estimate the harvest would cost Russia’s agricultural business some 33 billion rubles (1 billion dollars) this year.

Though the government previously lowered its grain export forecast, experts said the bad weather was unlikely to trigger an export embargo similar to that of 2010, as grain output and reserves were enough to offset the risk of damage. Russian Grain Union President Arkady Zlochevsky said in August that food prices in the country might rise 5 percent to 10 percent this autumn due to surging grain prices.

Russia lowered its harvest forecast this year from 80-85 million tons to no more than 75 million tons. The harvest could exceed 70 million tons this year, as a total of 68 million tons have already been secured, Dvorkovich said.

The cruise liner Queen Mary 2 passes the Burbo Bank offshore wind farm as it heads to Liverpool, northern England on 15 Sept., 2011. —Reuters

Argentina slams Britain’s maneuvers off disputed islets

PUNTA DEL ESTE (Uruguay), 10 Oct — Argentine Defence Minister Arturo Puricelli on Monday denounced British military maneuvers near the disputed Malvinas Islands, called the Falklands by the British.

Addressing fellow ministers attending the 10th Conference of Defence Ministers of the Americas, being held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, Puricelli warned that British “military exercises will begin that include the use of missiles, despite the prohibition of not just Argentine maritime space, but the American continent’s.”

“Puricelli said he regretted the military moves, especially as member countries of the conference have “agreed to continue developing measures to promote trust and security as a means to contribute to safeguarding the peace.”

A total of 1,145 Argentine civilians and 2,000 were killed, and 1,954 injured in conflicts in the first six months of 2012, according to a UN report released in capital Kabul on 8 Aug. Nearly half of the civilian deaths were caused by the improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks and suicide bombings. —Xinhua

Argentine conflict getting worse for civilian

KABUL, 10 Oct — The Afghan conflicts continue to getting worse for civilians, who often are the victims of the protracted war, and the trend is worrying, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) announced on Monday. “Since I arrived here in 2006, local armed groups have proliferated, civilians have been caught not just one but multiple front lines, and it is becoming increasingly difficult for ordinary Afghans to obtain basic healthcare,” Reto Stocker, the ICRC’s outgoing Head of Delegation in Afghanistan, told reporters there. He noted that in addition to the armed conflict, civilian suffering is also increased by other factors. “Hardship arising from the economic situation, or from severe weather or natural disaster, has become more widespread, and hope for the future has been steadily declining.”

However, he said that despite these challenges, there has been some progress. “Compared with previous decades, the plight of civilians is being made known more forcefully by the media and civil society,” Over the years, the ICRC has been able to raise its concerns more directly and candidly with the various parties of the conflict. The parties have shown a greater willingness to listen to them and to follow certain recommendations they have made concerning the conduct of hostilities and detention-related matters. That cannot be said about every war zone in the world today, he noted.

A total of 1,145 Afghan civilians were killed and 1,954 injured in conflicts in the first six months of 2012, according to a UN report released in capital Kabul on 8 Aug. Nearly half of the civilian deaths were caused by the improvised Explosive Device (IED) attacks and suicide bombings. —Xinhua

Afghan conflict getting worse for civilian

Argentina

Last week, Argentina lodged a formal complaint with the British government against the exercises and the British responded by saying they were “routine exercises.”

Due to a lack of consensus, the Malvinas issue was not included in the main agenda of the conference at the resort of Punta del Este, 140 kilometres east of the capital Montevideo. —Xinhua

700 kg of opium seized in S Afghanistan

USBAG DELGOOIJ, (Afghanistan), 10 Oct — Afghan National Police (ANP) seized about 700 kg of opium in the country’s southern Province of Helmand on Sunday, the provincial police chief said on Monday. —Xinhua

Visitors look at photos at an exhibition of World Press Photo 2012 in south China’s Hong Kong, on 8 Oct, 2012. The exhibition, as part of the 2012 Hong Kong International Photo Festival, will be held here from 7 to 21 October. World Press Photo (WPP) is one of the world’s most prestigious Press photo contests. The 167 award-winning journalistic images of World Press Photo 2012 will be exhibited in about 100 countries and regions including Hong Kong. —Xinhua

Three Afghan drug smugglers are handcuffed next to police officers after being seized by Afghan policemen in Helmand Province, south Afghanistan on 8 Oct, 2012. Afghan National Police (ANP) seized about 700 kg of opium in the country’s southern Province of Helmand on Sunday, the provincial police chief said on Monday. —Xinhua

Three Afghans have been arrested after being transported by police officers in the city of Helmand. The province is the largest in Afghanistan with a population of over 1.5 million people. —AFP
Chinese Internet choked by “fake broadband” providers

BEIJING, 10 Oct — Increasing numbers of internet users in China shelling out for faster broadband are complaining that they’re not getting what they paid for. Over half of Chinese Internet users are hindered by “fake broadband”, or slower download speed than advertised by internet providers.

According to a 2012 report by Data Centre of China Internet, a professional Internet survey organization and data platform, most users signed up for 2 to 4 megabyte Internet, a professional Internet survey organization and data platform, most users signed up for 2 and 4 megabyte bandwidth services (256kb/s and 512kb/s) in fact only clock at 142.2kb/s and 232.7kb/s respectively.

The root of the “fake broadband” phenomenon is the existing telecom oligopoly in China, which ultimately needs to be broken up in order to make progress, said the Beijing News. Increasing numbers of internet users in China shelling out for faster broadband are complaining that they’re not getting what they paid for. Over half of Chinese Internet users are hindered by “fake broadband”, or slower download speed than advertised by internet providers.

According to a 2012 report by Data Centre of China Internet, a professional Internet survey organization and data platform, most users signed up for 2 and 4 megabyte bandwidth services (256kb/s and 512kb/s) in fact only clock at 142.2kb/s and 232.7kb/s respectively. —Xinhua

New Zealand, Chinese scientists look to improve grain yields with seed development

WELLINGTON, 10 Oct — New Zealand and Chinese scientists have begun a joint study into how to improve seeds so that farmers can produce more and bigger grains to help feed the world’s growing population. University of Canterbury Professor Paula Jameson and senior research fellow Dr Jiancheng Song, of Yantai University, in east China’s Shandong Province, had published a paper finding the wheat genes that could be prime targets for increasing grain size and grain number, said a statement from the University of Canterbury on Tuesday.

“The beauty of wheat is that there are so many different varieties in the world. Now we have worked out what genes are important for changing hormone levels to increase grain size and number, we can use traditional breeding techniques to find the varieties of wheat that already have this feature,” Jameson said in the statement. Both Canterbury and Shandong had similar temperate climates, which would allow the wheat work to continue in China, where wheat was a main food crop and it was easier to obtain research funding for the work, she said.

Research would also continue at the University of Canterbury because the research group had been applying the knowledge to seed production. New Zealand was the eighth biggest exporter of vegetable seeds in the world, and the New Zealand seed industry was primarily based in the Canterbury region with exports of about 150 million NZ dollars (123.18 million US dollars) a year. —Xinhua

Cost of solar power can now match conventional electricity in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 10 Oct — The cost of installing and maintaining solar panels in Singapore is now on a par with that of using conventional electricity, a milestone known as grid parity, local media reported on Wednesday. Scholars said this means that an alternative form of energy could become viable without subsidies, which Singapore does not provide, the Straits Times reported. Singapore’s electricity tariffs are among the highest in the region, helping it achieve grid parity earlier than other countries, said Thomas Reindl, director of solar energy systems at the Solar Energy Research Institute of Singapore.

The cost of solar panels has been falling in recent years. In the past year or so, the cost of installed solar power in Singapore has roughly halved from 4 Singapore dollars (3.2 U.S. dollars) per watt to 2 Singapore dollars (1.6 US dollars) per watt. Installed solar capacity here has gone up to match, from 361.9 kilowatt peak, a measure of power output, installed at the end of 2008 to 3,546 kW at the end of last year, most of it non-residential. —Reuters

Aviation

India tests mission engine

NEW DELHI, 10 Oct — India has testfired its Mars mission engine for the first time, local media reported on Tuesday.

India’s Mars mission engine, known as the liquid apogee motor (LAM), was fired for about 670 seconds at the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)’s Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre at Mahendra Giri in southern state of Tamil Nadu on Monday.

The test was successful and will go on for about 45 days, the state-owned ISRO’s chief spokesperson Devi Prasad Karnik said.

LAM plays a key role in orbit-raising manoeuvres. The current mission profile of the mission envisages the orbiter operating in the Earth-bound orbit six times as its altitude is raised, before it sets off on its 300-day journey to Mars, the newspaper said. India’s Mars mission is scheduled for the end of October or beginning of November next year. —Xinhua

Boeing on course to achieve 787 production target

NAGOYA, 10 Oct — Boeing Co is on course to achieve a difficult production target for its fuel-efficient 787 Dreamliner jets, an executive said on Wednesday, after the company fell behind its initial delivery schedule due to development delays. “We made mistakes along the way. We are currently on path to achieve 10 a month,” Jeffrey Luckey, vice president in charge supply management for the 787, said on the sidelines of the Japan Aerospace International Exhibition in Nagoya.

Boeing now makes three a month from a half of the new carbon-composite jets a month. It plans to raise output to five a month by the end of the year and then to 10 a month by the end of 2013. The company now has 325 suppliers building parts for the 787 in 5,000 factories worldwide, Luckey said. Japanese companies including Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd are building the wings and other sections of Boeing’s latest passenger jet equal to more than a third of the plane. It is the first time the US company has asked foreign firms to build the wings for one of its jets.

Photo taken with a mobile phone on 10 Oct, 2012 shows rescuers working at the accident site after an expressway tunnel collapsed at the section of Najia Township in Debao County, along the expressway between Baise City and Jingxi County in southwest China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. —Xinhua

Six buried in tunnel collapse in S China

NANNING, Oct — Six people were killed, one was injured and one escaped in a tunnel collapse early Wednesday in south China’s Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, sources with the rescue command centre said.

The accident occurred around 4 am at the section of Najia Township, Debao County, along the expressway between Baise City and Jingxi County, which was under construction.

A total of seven people were working within the tunnel when the accident occurred. One escaped and six others were buried, including five who died and one who was injured, said Xie Deqiang, Communist Party chief of Debao County. The injured has been sent to a nearby hospital, according to the sources. An investigation into the cause of the accident is under way. —Xinhua

Rescuers attempt to stop a man from committing suicide on a bridge in Wuhan, Hubei Province, on 8 Oct, 2012. The man was rescued after he climbed onto the top of a bridge, attempting to jump off, over the Yangtze River and threatened his own life if his economic dispute could not be resolved. —REUTERS

India tests mission engine
BoE’s King says must face up to monetary policy’s limits

LONDON, 10 Oct — Monetary policy cannot prop up Britain’s economy forever, and export-driven growth will be hard to achieve at a time when much of the rest of the world is pursuing the same strategy, BoE Governor Mervyn King said on Tuesday. The bank has bought almost 375 billion pounds ($600 billion) of government bonds to support the UK economy after the worst financial crisis since the 1930s, and King said there was no immediate barrier to stop doing more. But ultimately policymakers could not be “entirely sanguine” about using loose monetary to bring forward economic demand indefinitely, King said in a question and answer session after a speech at the London School of Economics.”There is no technical limit on the asset purchases...but there is a deeper question about whether there are limits to what monetary policy such as this can do.”King added that the immediate consequence of this for Bank policy was not clear, and most economists expect the central bank to approve more stimulus at November’s meeting.

US meningitis deaths rise, prompting call for tighter drug rules

NASHVILLE, 10 Oct — A rare US outbreak of fungal meningitis linked to steroid injections has claimed four more lives with Florida the latest state to report at least one death linked to the illness in a widening health scare, authorities said on Tuesday. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed that two more people had died from meningitis in Tennessee, and one more in Michigan after receiving steroid injections. Officials in Florida meanwhile said late Tuesday that a 70-year-old man died in July as a result of the same outbreak, the first in that state, bringing the number of deaths nationwide to 12.

The widening outbreak has alarmed US health officials and focused attention on regulation of pharmaceutical compounding companies such as the one that produced the drugs, the New England Compounding Centre Inc in Framingham, Massachusetts. Some leading Democratic members of Congress proposed tighter regulation on compounding companies on Tuesday. In Michigan and Tennessee, the two states hit hardest by the outbreak, family and friends mourned the loss of victims. — Reuters

Shares fall, dollar rises, amid earnings gloom

SINGAPORE, 10 Oct — Asian shares fell on Wednesday, with Japan’s stocks sliding more than 1.5 percent to a two-month low, and the safe-haven dollar firmed on concerns that the corporate results season will reveal weaker earnings in the face of flagging global economic growth. Equity markets have been rality since hitting their 2012 low early June, with action from central banks to support fragile economies giving a renewed lift last month. Confidence has set in since the third quarter results season begins. “History is not on the side of those who expect the market to continue to prosper once the earnings cycle has turned,” said John Higgins, senior markets economist at Capital Economics, in a note.

The euro slipped, with a rise in Spanish bond yields as Madrid keeps guessing over whether it will request an international bailout and violent protests greeting German Chancellor Angela Merkel on a visit to Greece underlining how far the region’s debt crisis is from resolution. Growth-sensitive commodities such as oil and copper and currencies like the Australian dollar were under pressure, while the retreat from riskier assets boosted safe-haven government debt, with Japanese government bonds (JGB) following US Treasuries higher. Japan’s Nikkei share average fell 1.9 percent, while MSCI’s broadest index of Asia Pacific shares outside Japan fell 0.5 percent. — Reuters

Hunger, malnutrition down 40 pct in Brazil:

Brazil

In the past, King has said Britain’s economy faces a slow readjustment to a more export-oriented economy — even if loose monetary policy can ease some of the pain. He said on Tuesday he did not have power to do the same. King travels to the International Monetary Fund’s annual meeting in Tokyo on Wednesday, and he said that he wanted to bring up the issue of global imbalances between countries with trade surpluses and deficits when he was there. — Reuters

FAO attributed the significant decrease to Brazil’s social programmes, including the wealth transfer programme Bolsa Familia, which provides poor families with a monthly stipend, with both a fixed part and a variable part subject to adjustment when families have more children. The report praised the programme especially as it puts money directly into the hands of the women to empower them and raise their status within the house.

It added that Bolsa Familia “increased the labour participation of women by 16 percent.’”FAO also lauded efforts to reduce malnutrition in Belo Horizonte, Brazil’s third largest city, where government programmes managed to reduce child mortality by 60 percent and “substantially influenced Brazil’s national Zero Hunger Policy, using only 2 percent of the city’s annual budget.’” According to FAO, Latin America and the Caribbean in general registered progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition. The number of hungry or undernourished people in the region fell from 65 million in 1990-92 to 49 million in 2010-12.— Xinhua

Copies of Daily News Myanmar are distributed free of charge to 23,000 readers in a city with over 800,000 population.
for the American Music Awards with four apiece on Tuesday — edging out stiff competition from pop sensations Justin Bieber and One Direction.

Rihanna, 24, was nominated in the top category — artist of the year — where she will compete with Bieber, Katy Perry, pop-rockers Maroon 5 and Canadian rapper Drake.

She also won nods for female soul/R&B artist and album for “Talk That Talk,” and will battle Minaj, 29, in the female pop/rock artist category.

Minaj scored two nods for her album “Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded” in both the pop/rock and rap/hip hop categories this year, as well as a nomination for favorite rap artist, alongside Drake and American newcomer Tyga.

Minaj has been making headlines after joining the “American Idol” judging panel, where she was caught feeding on camera with fellow judge Mariah Carey in early audition rounds.

“Boyfriend” singer Bieber, 18, landed three nominations this year, tying with British boy band One Direction, Maroon 5, Drake and R&B star Usher.

Following in the footsteps of the Grammy Awards earlier this year, which hosted a tribute to electronic dance music, the American Music Awards introduced a new category in that genre, with David Guetta, Calvin Harris and Skrillex competing for the trophy.

Last year’s big winners, Adele and Taylor Swift, who both scored three awards each, received one nomination each this year. Swift scored a nod for female country artist alongside Carrie Underwood and Miranda Lambert, while Adele was nominated in the favorite adult contemporary artist category alongside Kelly Clarkson and Train.

The closely-watched new artist category will be a battle between R&B singer J Cole, indie-pop ban fun., Australian singer-songwriter Gotye, Canadian pop singer Carly Rae Jepsen and One Direction.

The AMA winners are determined by fans through online voting, which starts on Tuesday.

The American Music Awards will be celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and the ceremony and performance show will be broadcast live from Los Angeles on 18 November. Popstar and “The Voice” judge Christina Aguilera, who announced the nominees on Tuesday, will be the first performer to be announced for the live show.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Rihanna, Nicki Minaj lead American Music Awards nominations**

**Daniel Craig was grumpy before filming James Bond**

**Olympic act**

**Los Angeles, 10 Oct—**Actor Daniel Craig says he was feeling grumpy on the day he filmed a James Bond sketch with Queen Elizabeth II for the Olympics Opening Ceremony.

Craig, 44, said he used a day off from shooting new 007 movie Skyfall to film the sequence and as a result he was not on top form, reported Daily Star.

“She was fun, incredibly game. We had a short space of time and I was a bit grumpy as it was my day off and suddenly I am at the Palace with the Queen at her private chamber.

“And she improvises a little bit. She was supposed to be sitting at the desk and she asked if she could write, so she pretended to write,” he said.

The actor was filmed in character visiting Buckingham Palace to meet with the royal before climbing into a helicopter together and appearing to parachute into London’s Olympic Stadium during the sporting extravaganza in July.

**Meet Brad Pitt, the “super cool, super chill” guy**

**Los Angeles, 10 Oct—**Although the Hollywood hunk is engaged to actress Angelina Jolie and commands up to $20 million a movie, his Killing Them Softly co-star Scoot McNairy insists Brad is just a normal guy.

He told E! News: “He’s a guy’s guy. When you look up in the dictionary the word guy, you see a picture of Brad. He’s just super cool, super chill, super normal and super down-to-earth.

Scott revealed he was castigated by executives on the set of the movie when he drove a stunt car he and Brad were in at high speed but Brad wasn’t fazed by the incident.

The actor explained: “I peeled out with Brad in it. They were like, ‘Hey, Scoot, you got to understand, you got a 20-million-dollar actor in the car. Don’t ever do that again.’

I was like, ‘I got this, I got this. I’m from Texas.’

“Brad was loving it.” It was recently revealed down to earth Brad became obsessed by cleaning while he was in UK with his fiancee Angelina and their six kids as she filmed her latest movie Maleficent.

A source said: “Brad has always been an attentive father, but recently he’s becoming more domesticated, too. ‘The couple have a lot of help around the home, but Brad’s started getting quite into sorting out the washing and doing the ironing himself.’

**Robert Pattinson finds girls hard to understand**

**Los Angeles, 10 Oct—**The British actor — who is believed to have reconciled with Kristen Stewart following her admission she cheated on him — thinks it would be much easier to be a parent to a son rather than a daughter as males are so less complicated.

Asked if he would prefer to have a son or daughter, he said: “I think that I’d have a better understanding with a boy.

Girls are hard to understand. The instruction manual that comes with them is 800 pages long and written in Chinese!

“And if you know how to read it, you realise that you’re still missing 32 more chapters that are essential and you have to improvise. Whereas with a boy, it’s easy. Sports, TV, a video game, some Coke and he’s happy.”

While Robert is thankful to have landed the role of vampire Edward Cullen in the Twilight Saga movie series, he hates how much of his freedom he has had to give up and claims he won’t worry if he has no more film success. He told France’s Star Club magazine: “In the end, this role helped me improve my everyday life and my lifestyle. On the other hand, I lost what I cherished the most: my freedom. Some told me that it’s the price for success. I’m sorry to disagree but I feel like it’s a price too high to pay.

“It’s strange, I felt like releasing a big ‘phew’ of relief [now filming is over] but at the same time I felt sad. For now, I know that I’m successful. Will it last? I have no idea, but if tomorrow I encounter movie failures, I won’t cry about it.”
Nadal holds out slim hope for return this season

New York, 10 October—Rafa Nadal has no timeline for his return to competitive tennis but on Tuesday the world number four did not completely rule out the possibility of returning from injury in time for next month’s Davis Cup and ATP World Tour finals.

Nadal has not played since suffering a shock second-round Wimbledon defeat to Czech Lukas Rosol in June and has yet to return to the practise court, but the 26-year-old Spaniard left the door open for a comeback before the end of the season.

He conceded, however, that the chances of appearing at the ATP World Tour final in 26 days or helping Spain against the Czech Republic in the Nov. 16-18 Davis Cup final were remote.

“Impossible, no. But difficult, yes,” Nadal said during a conference call to promote his participation in an exhibition match against Juan Martin del Potro in March.

“I want to go day-by-day. I go every day to the gym, the swimming pool to continue with my recovery. I am trying not to think that far,” he added.

The winner of 11 grand slam titles, including a record seven French Opens, Nadal missed the London Olympics because I will arrive really early to Australia (and) I will be able to play three matches to prepare for the Australian Open,” the world number six, who will partner Mathilde Johansson, said in a release from the organizers.

“I heard that they built a new arena similar to Rod Laver Arena, so it’s going to be just perfect for me to play, it’s going to be fun.”

The Serbian pair of Djokovic and Ivanovic are the top seeds, ahead of the US team comprising multiple grand slam winners Williams and John Isner.

“I’ve played Hopman Cup three times in the last five years and I love the competition there; I love the atmosphere,” three-time Australian Open champion Djokovic said.

“Jonjo Shelvey

Jo-Wilfried Tsonga

World number one Rory McIlroy and 14-times major winner Tiger Woods .

Palace man hails star tracked by Arsenal & Spurs as Championship’s best

London, 10 October—Crystal Palace defender Damien Delaney believes Eagles team-mate Wilfried Zaha is the best player in the Championship.

19-year-old winger Zaha has been in unstoppable form for Dougie Freedman’s side this season, netting four goals and an assist in their last two games.

The England Under-21 international’s eye-catching performances have seen him linked with Premier League giants Arsenal, Tottenham, Liverpool and Newcastle.

And Delaney — speaking after Zaha’s brace in the 4-3 win over Burnley at the New Wanderers ground on Tuesday — hailed the starlet as the hottest property in the division.

“When asked if Zaha was the best in the Championship, the centre back said: “At the moment, yes, without question.”

As well as his explosive talent, Delaney has been impressed by the youngster’s attitude and work rate.

“He’s a good lad, he’s got a good head on his shoulders and what I like most about him is that he works hard for the team,” he said.

“There was a couple of times in the first-half [against Burnley] when we were under pressure and he’s back helping out the right back.

“And that’s a rare thing to have, sometimes players who are that talented will just stand on the half-way line and wait to be given the ball.

“But credit to him he’s got a great work rate and I think he can go as far as he wants in the game. I think he’s that special.”

Tsonga to warm up for Australian Open at Hopman Cup

MELBOURNE, 10 October—Jo-Wilfried Tsonga will make his Hopman Cup debut in Perth at the end of the year in what organisers boast will be the strongest ever field assembled for the mixed international tournament.

The Frenchman, who reached the Australian Open final in 2008, will join world number two Novak Djokovic, Venus Williams and Ana Ivanovic for the tournament at the new Perth Arena from 29 December to 5 January.

“It’s really good every day what I have do. “I am working to try to comeback to practice on the tennis court in a not very long period of time.”

Progress has been frustratingly slow but Nadal maintained he is not going to rush his return.

McIlroy and Woods lose on first day of World Golf Final

BELEK, Turkey, 10 October—World number one Rory McIlroy and 14-times major winner Tiger Woods slumped to opening-day defeats at the inaugural World Golf Final in Turkey on Tuesday.

Northern Irishman McIlroy was beaten by American Matt Kuchar in the invitational eight-man matchplay event while Group One rival Woods lost to 2011 US Masters champion Charl Schwartzel of South Africa.


The two top in each group go through to the semi-finals of the $5.3 million tournament.

Yorkshire beat Uva Next by 5 wickets in CLT20 qualifier

Johannesburg, 10 October—Yorkshire produced a clinically all-round performance to defeat Uva Next by five wickets in the Champions League Twenty20’s opening qualifying match here on Tuesday.

Chasing 151 for victory, English side Yorkshire completed the task with three balls to spare at the New Wanderers Stadium.

David Miller (90 not out) and Adil Rashid (67 not out) were the top scorers for the winners.

Opener Phil Jaques gave the chase right impetus after the early departure of skipper Andre Gale and Joe Root.

But after racing his way to 32 of 21 balls, Jaques offered a return catch to Dilshan Munaweera.

Miller, who came back after retiring hurt, along with Rashid, then finished the job for Yorkshire, giving them hope of qualifying for the main tournament that kicks off on Saturday.

Miller struck four fours and a six during his 29-ball knock while Rashid found the fence twice and cleared it once during his 30-ball innings.

Opting to bat, a disciplined bowling effort earlier helped Yorkshire restrict UvaNext to 150 for seven.

LONDON, 10 October—Charlton could be set for a welcome cash boost if Jonjo Shelvey makes his full England debut later this week.

The former Addicks youngster joined Liverpool in 2010 for an initial up front fee of £1.7m, although there were several add-ons to that deal, including an additional payment should the midfielder go on to represent his country at full international level.

Shelvey burst onto the scene with Charlton when he was selected for the first team at the age of just 16 years and 19 days in 2008.

He was still only 18 when he was sold to Liverpool by Phil Parkinson but having already represented England U16, U17 and U19 level by the time of his departure, it is no surprise the terms of his transfer factored in any possible future U21 and full England honours.

Now the Championship side are on the brink of getting their hands on more of Liverpool’s money after Roy Hodgson called up Shelvey for the World Cup qualifiers against San Marino and Poland, giving Charlton supporters an extra added interest for this particular international break.

Steven Patterson and Moin Ashraf picked up two wickets apiece while there was one each for Ryan Sidebottom, Azeeem Rafiq and Rashid.

Thulina Kandambu top-scored for Uva with an unbeaten 29 even as his other batters failed to convert the starts into big scores. Kandambu aside, three other batsmen got to the 20s, while Andrew McDonald made 17.

For Yorkshire conditions here were pretty similar to the ones they are used to at home. Cloudy skies, following rain earlier in the day, and a green pitch made it an all too familiar territory for the English side.

It prompted Gale to have a bowl and though Yorkshire were far from their best, they did not let Uva run away with the game.
UK must cut debt or face obscurity—Cameron

BRINMBEAM, 10 Oct—Britain must cut its budget deficit and fix its economy or face long-term decline, Conservative Prime Minister David Cameron will say on Wednesday, seeking to convince voters that his austerity policies are necessary to rescue Britain back into the global economic stream and face criticism for Labour opposition in opinion polls and face criticism for steering Britain back into recession and failing to hit their deficit reduction targets.

Labour accuses the government of contributing to the recession by cutting spending too fast, but the coalition argues its dedication to austerity has kept borrowing costs low and saved Britain from the claws of the European debt crisis. Cameron will bring Britain’s political conference season to a close with a personal speech to his party that aides say will give an honest assessment of the economic challenges ahead and draw clear dividing lines with Labour. “Unless we act, unless we take tough, painful decisions, unless we show determination and imagination, Britain may not be in the future what it has been in the past,” Cameron will tell the Conservatives in the central English city of Birmingham.

Chancellor George Osborne has already been forced to water down his plans for tax cuts and set out spending restraint programs to avoid raising the budget deficit. Cameron had hoped to use to rally his party. The ship, which has 2,800 passengers onboard arrived after sailing from the Italian port of Livorno. The four infected crew members, two of whom are said to be in a serious condition, are in hospital, while the passengers and remaining crew have all been prescribed antibiotics as a precautionary measure. The company MSC, which runs the ship has assured passengers that there is no risk to their health given that those infected were not in contact with passengers and added that nobody else has shown any symptoms of the potentially fatal disease.

Theatre conference is now expected to continue with its itinerary, calling in at Ibiza, Tintin, Catalina and Naples. The warning of the disease was raised around mid-day on Monday, while the major event of the holidaymakers onboard was visiting Livorno.

Travel under false name to be crime in Australia

COUNTER, 10 Oct—Traveling by air under a false name in Australia will be a crime in a legislative package "to ensure that Commonwealth criminal law remains up to date and effective," Attorney-General Nicola Roxon introduced the measure in parliament on Wednesday.

Organized criminals usually traveled under fictitious names. Roxon indicated. This bill will make it a crime to use a false identity to book a flight over the internet or to take a commercial flight. The measure expands laws against identity theft by making it a crime to use a carriage service like the internet or a mobile phone to obtain identity information with the intention of committing another offense, according to the introduction.

Police closed the Havana offices of the British investment and trading firm Coral Capital Group Ltd last October and arrested chief executive Amado Fakhre, a Lebanon-bom, British citizen. A month earlier authorities shut down one of the most important Western trading companies in Cuba—Canada—based Tokmakjian Group, after doing the same in July 2011 to another Canadian trading firm, Tri-Star Caribbean. Cuban authorities say the cases which are part of a larger crackdown on corruption on the communist island, are being handled within the letter of Cuban law.

The local legal process does call for defendants to be informed of why they were arrested and sets out time limits for charges to be filed, but they can be waved indefinitely in “exceptional circumstances.”

Cy Tokmakjian, head of the Tokmakjian Group, and Sarkis Vachosian, head of Tri-Star, were arrested and confined to comfortable hotels when their businesses were closed, but earlier this year both were transferred to La Condesa, a prison for foreigners just outside Havana.

Coral Capital’s Fakhre was recently transferred to a military hospital when he fell ill after months in prison. His company’s chief operating officer, British citizen Stephen Purvis, was arrested in April and in the Villa Maria prison run by state security, sources said. A number of other foreigners and Cubans who worked for the companies remain free, but cannot leave the island because they have considered witnesses in the cases.

A building is destroyed by Israeli tank during a combined forces combat demonstration at Shizafon Armor Corps Training Base, South Israel, on 9 Oct, 2012. The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) held a combined forces demonstration showing the capabilities of IDF ground forces, the Armored Corps and the Combat Engineering in a battlefield-led battle against a simulated enemy in an urban setting at the IDF’s Shizafon Base on Tuesday. — Xinhua

**NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR**

**MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL**

(10-11-2012 09:30 am ~ 12-10-2012 09:30 am)

**NEWS**

- New
- Myanmar-Korea Power Technical Seminar and Material Presentation
- News
- Yangon-Mandalay Union Highway(Part-II)
- News
- Music Program
- Myanmar Energy Trade Show 2012
- News
- Singing Ceremony for Myanmar Hospitality & Tourism Conference 2013
- News
- A Round the Maha

**Focus Myanmar TV Programme**

- Boditahung
- One Stop Treatment Medical Team
- News
- Cultural Stage
- CB Bank Introduce New Monetary Policy MPU
- News
- Food Trip (Episode-4) (Part-2)
- News
- Sweet Memories in Pyin Oo Lwin
- Myanmar Movie “Love On The Internet”

**(11-10-2012, Thursday)**

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
3. Nice & Sweet Song
4. Health Programme
5. Dance Variety
6. Radio to 27th SEA GAMES (Badminton)
7:45 pm
1. 11. Selected Songs for 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Oldies & Mono Classical) (Amateur (Second) (Level Women)
2. 12. Industry Drama Series
3. 13. AFF Cup 2012 Group Stage Football (Live)
5. 15. 1st Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012)
6. 16. Concert
7. 17. TV Drama Series

**MYANMAR TV**

**Thirty Five**

1. Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
3. Nice & Sweet Song
4. Health Programme
5. Dance Variety
6. Radio to 27th SEA GAMES (Badminton)
7. 11. Selected Songs for 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Oldies & Mono Classical) (Amateur (Second) (Level Women)
8. 12. Industry Drama Series
9. 13. AFF Cup 2012 Group Stage Football (Live)
11. 15. 1st Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competition (2012)
12. 16. Concert
13. 17. TV Drama Series

**Cruise ship with meningitis outbreak docks in Spain**

MADRID, 10 Oct — The cruise ship Oriana, which arrived in the Spanish port of Valencia on Tuesday after four cases of bacterial meningitis had been reported among members of its crew.

The ship, which has 2,800 passengers onboard arrived after sailing from the Italian port of Livorno. The four infected crew members, two of whom are said to be in a serious condition, are in hospital, while the passengers and remaining crew have all been prescribed antibiotics as a precautionary measure.

The company MSC, which runs the ship has assured passengers that there is no risk to their health given that those infected were not in contact with passengers and added that nobody else has shown any symptoms of the potentially fatal disease.

The Theatre conference is now expected to continue with its itinerary, calling in at Ibiza, Tintin, Catalina and Naples. The warning of the disease was raised around mid-day on Monday, while the major event of the holidaymakers onboard was visiting Livorno.

People look at the remains of a Sudanese military aircraft after it crashed at the North Korodoxan State border near the capital Khartoum on 8 Oct, 2012. The Antonov 12 transport plane, carrying personnel and equipment to the strife-torn Darfur region crashed near Khartoum on Sunday killing 15 people on board, the army said. — Reuters

* News
* Music Programme
* News
* Myanmar Movie
* Myanar Movie
* Myanmar TV
Myanmar to cooperate with ICRC, France in health, rural development, environmental conservation and region-wise development sectors

**Nay Pyi Taw, 10 Oct**—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay exchanged views on cooperation in health assistance programme in Kachin, Kayin and Rakhine States, cooperation with Myanmar Red Cross Society, providing medicines, surgical instruments, opening of health care courses and upgrading of hospitals, with ICRC delegation, at the minister’s office here this afternoon.

After that, the Union Minister had a cordial discussion with French Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Thierry Mathou on implementation of regional development in Kachin, Rakhine (North) and Chin States, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance and Revenue, the Ministry of Industry and the Supreme Court won over their opponents with 3-0 result each. The Ministry of Border Affairs, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Sports, the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Information and the Ministry of Home Affairs trounced their rival teams with 3-0 result each.

**Fire preventive measures talked**

**Yangon, 10 Oct**—A fire drill and talks on fire preventive measures were held at Mingala Mon Market of Yangon South District Development Committees’ Markets of Markets Department under Yangon City Development Committee this morning.

Head of District Markets Department U Thant Zin Tun talks about fire preventive measures and Adviser Ye Thura U Than Hlaing safety of danger about fire. Head of Tamway Township Fire Services Department Ye Thurein Htay Win explained prevention against danger of fire and demonstrated fire fighting with the use of fire extinguishers.—Myanmar Alin

**Traditional medicine kits distributed**

**Myanmar, 10 Oct**—A ceremony to distribute emergency-used Myanmar traditional medicine kits was held at the hall of Township General Administration Department in Myanmar on 24 September.

After, Acting Township Administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Oo made a speech, and Head of Township Traditional Medicine Clinic Daw Than Than Swe explained the purpose of distributing the kits and use of potent traditional medicine therapies. Later, the Acting Township Administrator and the head of Township Traditional Medicine Clinic presented the kits to 49 village-tracts.—Myanmar Alin

**Bolt still flirting with more events**

**Sydney, 10 Oct**—World’s fastest man Usain Bolt is still toying with the notion of adding the 400 metres or long jump to his repertoire after retaining his 100 and 200 Olympic titles. The 26-year-old, who also helped defend Jamaica’s 4x100 relay crown in London, said on Wednesday he could opt to branch out at the 2016 Olympic in Rio de Janeiro.

“It’s just to find something else now to strive towards,” Bolt told reporters at a sponsor’s event in Tokyo. “There’s a few things I’ve thought about. I could try another event, maybe the long jump or the 400 metres,” added Bolt, who came onto stage dancing to loud reggae music.

“There’s a few things I could try in sports I could work towards, so we’ll see what I decide at the start of the season.”

The 100 and 200 metres world record holder had previously said he would be concentrating on completing a “three-peat” in his own events but appears to have had a rethink.

Bolt said he wanted to keep pushing himself towards fresh challenges after becoming the first man to retain both the 100 and 200 Olympic titles earlier this year.

“It’s a great thing to achieve the goals that you always wanted,” he said, perched precariously on a stool, wearing a yellow tracksuit and a baseball cap backwards. “I have a few things that I still want to do.”

**Tyson gets Australia visa for speaking event: promoters**

**Sydney, 10 Oct**—Former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson has been granted a visa to enter Australia for a series of motivational talks next month, organisers said on Wednesday.

“We are thrilled and are very grateful to the Australian government for granting Mike Tyson a visa and allowing him to visit Australia for the very first time” Max Markson, CEO of tour promoter Markson Sparks said in a statement.

Tyson’s speaking engagements in Australia were supposed to include a similar visit to New Zealand, though his visa was revoked by the country’s Associate Immigration Minister Kate Wilkinson after it had been approved.

Tyson, who served three years of a six-year U.S. jail sentence for rape, needed dispensation under New Zealand immigration laws because of his conviction.

However, a youth-related charity trust which originally backed his visit to appear at the Auckland event, billed as “Day of the Champions”, said it no longer wanted to have anything to do with Tyson’s visit due to his conviction.

Tyson’s promoters applied for a new visa for New Zealand after a second community group said it would support his application in exchange for him talking to at-risk youth.

“We hope we will also receive good news about Tyson’s visit to New Zealand and are now patiently waiting on their response,” Markson added on Wednesday.