Cherishing and valuing of traditional cultural heritage is not a step backward but a step forward to increase the value of national cultural integrity.
Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing welcomes Chief of Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lieutenant General Neo Kian Hong

NAV PYI TAW, 16 Oct—At the invitation of Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, a goodwill delegation led by Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lieutenant General Neo Kian Hong and wife arrived at Nay Pyi Taw Airport this morning where they were welcomed by senior military officers of Commander-in-Chief Office and Nay Pyi Taw Command and their wives.

While the visiting Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces arrived at Zeyathiri Beikman by car, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services gave a warm welcome to Lieutenant-General Neo Kian Hong at the front of the building.

Next, the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services and the Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces took the salute of the Guard of Honour on the dais while the State band played national anthems of the two countries.

Then the Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces introduced Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Robert Chua, Colonel Chua Boon Keat, Colonel Lew Chuen Hong, Colonel Ong Ann Kiat Milton and Colonel Sim Peng Shin who accompanied him at the ceremony to Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing.

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing also introduced Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Swe, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein, senior military officers of the Commander-in-Chief Office and the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command to Lt-Gen Neo Kian Hong.

Performing Arts Competition kicks off

NAV PYI TAW, 16 Oct—The 19th Myanmar National Performing Arts Competition was held at the designated places in Yezin Universities’ Campus in Zeyathiri Township today.

A total of 13 contestants from regions and states participated in the basic education level aged 10-15 boys’ Maha Gita contest and 14 in the basic education level aged 10-15 girls’ Maha Gita contest.

Three contestants from regions competed in the Thutamu drama narration (Kwetseik) contest.

Altogether 13 contestants from regions and states participated in the amateur level men’s (first class) song composing contest, 14 from regions and states in the amateur level (second) men’s and women’s song composing contest and 11 from regions and states in the higher education level men’s and women’s song composing contest.

Nine students from regions participated in the basic education level aged 5-10 boys’ solo orchestra contest and four in the amateur level (second class) women’s solo orchestra contest.

Three troupes took part in the basic education level aged 10-15 girls’ orchestra troupe contest and eight in the amateur level (second class) men’s orchestra troupe contest.

Six contestants from regions and states competed in the higher education level men’s xylophone contest and seven from the regions and states in the basic education level aged 10-15 girls’ xylophone contest.

Six students took part in the basic education level aged 5-10 girls’ harp contest, one basic education student of Yangon Region in the aged 15-20 harp contest, two students in the amateur level (first class) men’s contest and one contestant of Ayeyawady Region in the amateur level (first class) women’s contest.

Four troupes from regions participated in the amateur level (first class) men’s Ozi contest and three troupes from regions in the basic education level aged 15-20 boys’ Ozi contest.

Six contestants from regions and states competed in the higher education level men’s xylophone contest and seven from the regions and states in the basic education level aged 10-15 girls’ xylophone contest.

With news that reflect State’s reform process
The news that people should know
The news people want to know
The accurate, reliable and latest news

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 raise the original paper prices. Colour advertisements are invited.

Maung Phone
Mynst Kyaw
takes part in basic education level aged 10-15 boys’ Maha Gita song contest.

Maht Kyar
Nyo Thin participates in basic education level aged 5-10 girls’ Harp Contest.

As of 18 October

Myanmar, 10-15 girls’ Maha Gita singing contest.

Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay, Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin and Ministers U Thaung Htaik, Dr Daw Thet Thet Zin and Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay, officials, members of the panel of judges (central) and those of regions and states, maestros and departmental personnel.—MNA
WASHINGTON, 16 Oct—President Barack Obama retained a slim lead over Republican challenger Mitt Romney in the Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll on Monday, as he appeared to have stemmed the bleeding from his poor first debate.

Three weeks before the 6 November US election, Obama leads Romney by 2 percentage points, with 47 percent support from likely voters in the national online poll, to 45 percent support for Romney.

The margin was small enough to be a virtual tie, but Obama’s slight edge broadened from Sunday, when he went ahead of Romney by 1 point.

Five people killed in spate of insurgents’ attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 16 Oct—At least five people were killed and 29 wounded in a series of bomb and gunfire attacks in north of Baghdad on Monday, the police said.

Two policemen were killed when gunmen attacked their checkpoint in the city of Tuz Khurmatu, some 170 km north of Baghdad, a local police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

In a separate attack, gunmen stopped a car carrying two brothers affiliated to a government-backed Awakening Council paramilitary group in a desert area northwest of the city of Samarra, some 120 km north of Baghdad, and shot them dead, a police source from Samarra anonymously told Xinhua.

The Awakening Council group, also known as two groups of Iraq movement or Sahwa, consists of mostly anti-US Sunni insurgent militants, who turned their rifles to fight al-Qaeda network after Sahwa’s leaders became dismayed by al-Qaeda’s brutality and religious zealotry in the country.

Separately, gunmen planted bombs in the house of a policeman and blew them up in the early hours of the day, wounding three of the policemen’s family members, a local police source told Xinhua, adding the policeman himself escaped the attack unharmed.

In the Iraqi capital, gunmen using silenced weapons attacked an Iraqi army checkpoint in Baghdad’s southern district of Doura, wounding three soldiers, an Interior Ministry source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Also in the day, the police reportedly said that one person was killed and 18 wounded when two car bombs and a roadside bomb explosions went off near the provincial government compound in central the capital city of Kirkuk, some 250 km north of Baghdad.

Meanwhile, a third car bomb detonated near a court building in the city of al-Riyadh, some 35 km south of Kirkuk, wounding five people, according to Kirkuk police. Violence and sporadic high-profile bomb attacks are still common in the Iraqi cities despite the dramatic decrease in violence since its peak in 2006 and 2007, when the country was engulfed in sectarian killings.

Five percent of registered voters approved of Obama’s handling of the situation in Libya and Egypt and 40 percent disapproved. Thirty-eight percent backed Romney on the issue, compared with 36 percent who did not.

Obama’s “ground game” clinch the election?

NEW YORK, 16 Oct—From the outside, it looked like an abandoned storefront in a run-down part of Cleveland. But inside dozens of supporters of President Barack Obama gathered on a recent Sunday for an event that was part political rally, part religious revival.

“Could Obama’s “ground game” clinch the election?” radio host Yolanda Adams told the volunteers who had gathered to make calls and knock on doors, encouraging neighbours to register and then vote for Obama. “You’re making the world a better place by saying, Hey, have you registered?” Adams said to shouts of, “That’s right!” and, earlier in her remarks, “Amen!”

Democrats say the breadth of Obama’s organization is unprecedented in national politics—a claim that draws skepticism from Republicans, who have built a large get-out-the-vote operation of their own. One thing is clear, however: Obama’s organization, which his campaign says involves hundreds of thousands of people nationwide, reflects the power of incumbency.

Some of Obama’s local offices never closed after the historic 2008 election that made him the nation’s first black president. As a result, Obama is viewed even by some Republicans as having an advantage on the-ground organization, the trench-warfare part of a national campaign. At the meeting in Cleveland last month, Obama volunteers got tips on how to bring more people into the Democrats’ fold. “We want to remind you that felons can vote—past felons, current, and waiting—to-be-sentenced,” said Eletrice Harris, an Obama staff member, referring to Ohio’s law that prevents felons from voting only if they are behind bars on Election Day.—Reuters

Gunmen kidnap six, including aid workers, in Niger

NIGER, 16 Oct—Unidentified gunmen kidnapped six people, including four aid workers from Niger and Chad, from the town of DAKORO in central Niger overnight, the aid workers’ employers said on Monday.

African-American.

Both groups had been treating malaria and looking for malnourished children in the area, they said. The Islamist takeover of the north of neighbouring Mali has created a security void, opening up a safe haven for extremists and organized crime.

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Photo taken on 14 Oct, 2012 shows the maples on Guanmen Mountains in Benzi, northeast China’s Liaoning Province.—Xinhua

Flood kills 19 in northern Nigeria

JALINGO, 16 Oct—At least 19 people were confirmed dead in a recent flood disaster which ravaged some areas in northern Nigeria’s Taraba State, Executive Secretary of the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) Novah Danhabu said on Monday.

Danhabu told reporters in Jalingo, the state capital, that the deaths were recorded in eight local government areas across the state.

“Over 80,000 pieces of farmlands were destroyed while over 28,000 people were either internally displaced or missing in the disaster,” he said, adding the flood also destroyed at least 10,000 houses and 3,000 livestock in the affected areas.

Other infrastructures like markets, culverts, bridges, schools, churches, mosques as well as health facilities were washed away by the flood, he added.

Following the prediction of heavier downpours in the coming days by weather experts and the federal ministry of the environment, Danhabu warned residents of the state, especially those living near river banks, to vacate to higher grounds to avoid further destruction.

Hundreds of people had died and thousands were displaced in this flood that wreaked havoc across Nigeria. Xinhua
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

UNSG Message on International Day to Eradicate Poverty
17 October 2012

Following is UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s message for the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, commemorated on 17 October. Poverty is easy to denounce but difficult to combat. Those suffering from hunger, want and indignity need more than sympathetic words; they need concrete support.

We mark this year’s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty at a time of economic austerity in many countries. As Governments struggle to balance budgets, funding for anti-poverty measures is under threat. But this is precisely the time to provide the poor with access to social services, income security, decent work and social protection. Only then can we build stronger and more prosperous societies — not by balancing budgets at the expense of the poor.

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have galvanized global action that generated great progress. We have cut extreme poverty by half and corrected the gender imbalance in early education, with as many girls now attending primary school as boys. Many more communities have access to clean drinking water. Millions of lives have been saved thanks to investments in health.

These gains represent a major advance toward a more equitable, prosperous and sustainable world. But more than a billion people still live in poverty, denied their rights to food, education and health care. We have to empower them to help us find sustainable solutions. We should spare no effort to ensure that all countries reach the MDGs by 2015.

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in June of this year, leaders from around the world declared that poverty eradication is “the greatest global challenge facing the world today.”

We are now developing the UN development framework for the period after 2015, building on the MDGs while confronting persistent inequalities and new challenges facing people and the planet. Our aim is to produce a bold and ambitious framework that can foster transformational change benefiting people now and for generations to come.

Rampant poverty, which has festered for far too long, is linked to social unrest and threats to peace and security. On this International Day, let us make an investment in our common future by helping lift people out of poverty so that they, in turn, can help transform our world. UNO/Yangon

Panasonic wins $7.6 billion loan commitments from banks

Panasonic Corp has won $7.6 billion of loan commitments from Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group and other banks, allowing the Japanese electronics conglomerate to settle fund-raising in the credit markets.

"Flame acts as a long sword for broad sweeps while miniFlame acts as a scalpel for a focused surgical dissection," Roel Schoonderwagen, a senior researcher at Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab, told Reuters.

Kaspersky theorized that miniFlame was distributed mainly by Flame and another recently discovered spyware programme, Gaussian, which was most prevalent in Lebanon and may have been aimed at tracking financial transactions.

Not much is known about miniFlame’s victims, except that they were more geographically dispersed than those of Flame and Gaussian. Infections were found in Lebanon and Iran most of all but also in the Palestinian Territories, Iran, Kuwait, and Qatar, according to Kaspersky.

Kaspersky and US security software company Symantec Corp (SYMC.O) have said that some of the code in Flame also appeared in an early version of Stuxnet.

Found in 2010 and aimed at Iran’s nuclear enrichment programme, Stuxnet is sometimes described as the first true cyber-weapon. Cyber experts widely believe Stuxnet is an American project.

Kaspersky and Symantec said in a joint research paper last month that Flame’s control software remotely directed a number of smaller programmes, and that the effects of only one of those programmes was clear.

Symantec said at the time the overall project “fits the profile of military and intelligence operations,” in part because encryption kept some operations in the dark about what data they were taking from infected machines.

China’s ZTE to post nine-month loss of up to 1.75 billion yuan

Chinese mobile phone and telecoms equipment maker ZTE Corp will report a loss of as much as 1.75 billion yuan ($279.2 million) in the first 9 months of 2012, it said in a preliminary results announcement on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange on Sunday. The Shenzhen-based company had previously blamed published on Monday. Iran is under global sanctions because of allegations it is trying to develop nuclear weapons - something the country denies. ZTE’s bigger Chinese rival, Huawei Technologies Co Ltd, is also under scrutiny by the United States. US lawmakers have accused the company of being a potential security threat.

For the full ZTE Hong Kong Stock Exchange announcement, please see: (1$ = 6.2672 Chinese yuan).

People visit Panasonic Corp’s booth at CEATEC JAPAN 2012 electronics show in Chiba, east of Tokyo, on 2 Oct, 2012.—Reuters

Panasonic won $7.6 billion of loan commitments from the United States. The Shenzhen-based company has suffered as a slowing economy has hit sales and margins have come under pressure. ZTE said its loss will be between 1.65 billion yuan and 1.75 billion yuan. That could be a fall of more than 260 percent compared with the same period last year. Basic earnings per share will be a loss of between 0.48 yuan and 0.51 yuan.

The company is due to report final results at the end of the month. ZTE said its results during the period were hurt by the Iranian market. The

New computer spying programme linked to Flame authors

SAN FRANCISCO, 16 Oct—The security company that has discovered some of the most sophisticated spying software unearthed to date says it found a related programme, dubbed “miniFlame,” which can carry out more precise attacks without putting the overall project “fits the profile of military and intelligence operations,” in part because encryption kept some operations in the dark about what data they were taking from infected machines.

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Meningitis outbreak rises to 205 cases: CDC

Cited Oct 16—Seven more people have been diagnosed with fungal meningitis linked to possibly tainted vials of a steroid medication, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Sunday, bringing the total number of cases to 205 in 14 states.

The death toll from the unprecedented outbreak was unchanged at 15, the CDC said. It put the number of people sickened at 205 and said new cases were confirmed in New Hampshire, Florida, Indiana, and Tennessee.

All but two of those who became ill were diagnosed with a rare type of fungal meningitis that has been the hallmark of the deadly outbreak. Two patients were diagnosed with peripheral joint infections linked to the tainted drug. Tennessee continues to be the hardest hit state, with 53 cases of meningitis and six deaths, the CDC said, followed by Michigan with 41 cases and three deaths, and Virginia with 34 cases and one death.

The outbreak has turned into a major health scandal after a company based in Massachusetts shipped vials that may have been tainted to 23 states and 76 medical facilities.

The scare has prompted multiple investigations, and the Massachusetts-based company at the centre of the outbreak, New England Compounding Centre, has recalled the product and suspended operations.

NECC distributed thousands of vials of a contaminated steroid that has put 14,000 people at risk of contracting meningitis, according to government health officials.

Meningitis is an infection of the membranes covering the brain and spinal cord. Symptoms include headache, fever and nausea. Fungal meningitis, unlike viral and bacterial meningitis, is not contagious. The scare raised questions about how the pharmaceuticals industry operates. NECC engaged in a little-known practice called compounding.

The email correspondence in the possession of the CDC and obtained by Reuters as part of the company’s administrative hearings on possible violations shows NECC distributed vials of the steroid to 75 medical facilities.

The emails support assertions made this week by state pharmacy regulators that the compounding firm, which was authorized to deliver products only in response to patient-specific prescriptions, had violated its license in Massachusetts.

Several states, including Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota and Ohio, are investigating the company. New Hampshire and Tennessee have scheduled administrative hearings on possible violations.

Europe shares gain as growth fears ease

LONDON, 16 Oct—European shares gained and the euro trimmed some of its losses after Chinese data offered evidence for stronger than expected global growth on Monday, but uncertainty over when Spain might request a bailout weighed on investors.

Data over the weekend from China, the world’s second-largest economy, showed inflation subsided in September while exports had rebounded at nearly twice the rate expected, helping to dispel concerns ahead of Chinese GDP numbers on Thursday which are still expected to point to slight slowdown.

“There is a lot of caution around because economic growth does look difficult from where we are, while the debt situation in Europe remains challenging,” said Keith Bowman, equity analyst at Hargreaves Lansdown.

European shares edged higher in early trade with the FTSE Eurofirst index of top European shares up 0.4 percent to 1,094.42 points. London’s FTSE100, Paris’s CAC-40 and Frankfurt’s DAX were all between 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent.

On Friday, US stocks wobbled up the more than 200 points in four months, led lower by financial shares. More financial institutions will report earnings in the coming days, including Citigroup, Goldman Sachs and Bank of America (BAC.N). There are concerns about shrinking profit margins.

A trader is pictured at his desk in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 13 Sept, 2011.—Reuters

The dollar index measured against a basket of six major currencies gained around 0.2 percent on Monday, undermining dollar-denominated commodities.

Copper prices fell 0.4 percent to a one-month low, while Brent crude oil slipped 56 cents to $114.06 a barrel. Gold extended recent losses to touch a 2-1/2-week low of $1,741.24 an ounce.

The euro was down 0.2 percent at $1.2303 as traders look ahead to the European Union summit later this week for any government expects to agree on a new austerity package with its leaders for the European Union and the International Monetary Fund to bridge their differences on how to cut the country’s debt at the leader’s meeting on Thursday and Friday. Euro zone officials have said the euro zone is likely to ask for financial aid in November, paving the way for the European Central Bank’s programme to buy bonds of struggling euro zone states that ask for assistance.

BSE Senesx turns positive; gains

Mumbai, 16 Oct—The BSE Sensex gained 0.1 percent while the 50-share Nifty is up 0.1 percent, rebounding from earlier mild falls.

Banks gain even after wholesale price index (WPI) rose at a faster-than-expected 7.81 percent in September from a year earlier.

Traders say inflation was driven by last month’s fuel price hike, while core inflation stayed unchanged at around 5.56 percent, not ruling out RBI rate cuts on 30 October.

The RBI could also respond to government calls for lower interest rates by cutting the cash reserve ratio, traders say, although recently eased liquidity conditions could prevent the central bank from taking this step.

HDFC Bank gains 0.1 percent, while State Bank of India is up 0.2 percent.

However, Axis Bank falls 0.3 percent ahead of its July-September results later in the day. Gains in Indian shares also helped by higher European shares on hopes Spain will request a bailout and following data in China showing subdued inflation and rebounding exports.

India wins over markets, but now comes the hard part

New Delhi, 16 Oct—Finance Minister P Chidambaram exudes the self-confidence of a man who, in the eyes of India’s cheerleading financial markets, can do little wrong.

In the 11 weeks since he took office, the Sensex has surged around 8 percent, due in large part to his hard-charging drive to boost investor sentiment that had soured under his predecessor, Pranab Mukherjee.

But the reality is the steps taken so far will not fix the sluggish economy in the near term, and the window of opportunity for implementing game-changing reforms for slashing government spending on fuel, food and fertiliser subsidies will narrow as campaigning for a 2014 election gets under way.

“When you are fixated on equity markets and you are doing whatever you can to push them higher that is exactly what you will see,” said economist Rajeev Malik of CLSA, Singapore.

“Pushing up equity markets is a lot easier than taking up some of these more difficult moves.”

Together with Prime Minister Mammonoh Singh, Chidambaram has unveiled a series of big-ticket and small-bore initiatives over the past month that were long demanded by investors and business leaders frustrated by years of policy inaction in India.

India wins over markets, but now comes the hard part

New Delhi—According to government officials, the slew of policy announcements on lifting the bar on foreign investment in the airline, insurance, pensions and retail sectors are part of a two-step government strategy - first, pump up the financial markets, then unveil a roadmap for cutting the fiscal deficit.

The first step has worked. Net inflows from foreign investors have surged since Chidambaram’s appointment, with $7.7 billion flooding into stocks and bonds since then, according to regulatory data. The next step will be more difficult.

India wins over markets, but now comes the hard part

Reuters
Portugal’s Finance Minister Victor Gaspar announces the budget for 2013 during a press conference in Lisbon, on 15 Oct, 2012. The Portuguese government on Monday announced a tough budget for 2013 which highlights sharp tax hikes. Finance Minister Victor Gaspar reiterated that the country has no leeway to change the basic parameters of the austerity budget document, “which will test the viability of the country.” —Xinhua

The supplement of 4 percent will remain on income tax, which will go from the current 9.8 percent to 13.2 percent and spending cuts will account for less than 20 percent of the adjustments.

The government argues that it sees no other way than to continue austerity until the expiry of Portugal’s Economic and Financial Assistance Program (PAEF) and the difficult path towards fiscal consolidation which will inevitably involve sacrifices for all Portuguese.

Gaspar went on to say that he is confident that Portugal will need the help of the troika “shortly.” According to Gaspar, the fiscal effort required in 2013 will amount to 4.3 billion euros (5.6 billion US dollars) and will be distributed “fairly” between labor income and capital, and between the public and private sectors.

He said a “comprehensive set of consolidation measures” which have an “estimated impact of 4.3 billion euros will include the partial replacement of Christmas holiday subsidies and tax rebates.” The Portuguese economy is not in entering recessionary spiral, said Gaspar, stressing the importance of exports will the country out of the current crisis. “So far there is no evidence for Portugal in a recessionary spiral,” the minister said while presenting next year’s budget in the Ministry of Finance in Lisbon. “Indeed, what has happened so far is that domestic demand has contracted more than anticipated but the contribution from external trade or our export growth has been higher than expected so these two effects has been compensated,” said Gaspar.

“For the future, it seems to me, this external demand factor will grow boosted by improved financing conditions of our economy that we have seen in these past few weeks where not only has the Treasury managed to fund itself at favorable interest rates, but also some large Portuguese companies have seen a return to the bond market,” he said. Portugal’s economy will “shrink by 1 percent next year, while the unemployment rate will climb to a new high of 16.4 percent,” the minister said.

A steward serves on the train G262 from Hefei to Beijing, on 16 Oct, 2012. The new Hefeng high-speed railway, which connects Hefei and Bengbu, two cities of east China’s Anhui Province, began to operate on Tuesday. The railway covers a distance of 132 kilometers and trains will run on it at a designed speed of 350 kilometers per hour.—Xinhua

Colombia’s rebel chief optimistic about peace talks

BOGOTA, 16 Oct — The chief of Colombia’s guerrilla group Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) said on Monday that all members of the group are “enthusiastic” about the coming round of peace talks.

“We have arrived at an agreement to set a table (for talks) to open the way to achieving peace with social justice,” Rodrigo Londoño Echeverria, FARC’s top commander, said in a radio programme. “There is no doubt that all the guerrillas, including me from the newest to the oldest, are enthusiastic about this new attempt (to broker peace),” he said. Negotiations to end 50 years of fighting between government forces and the leftist rebels, which were originally scheduled for Monday in Oslo, Norway, were delayed due to international arrest warrants against members of FARC’s negotiating team. “Anyone with a valid arrest warrant (against him) runs a risk wherever he may be,” said the guerrilla leader. Talks are now tentatively rescheduled for Wednesday. On the possibility of a private meeting between rebel leaders and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos as part of the peace talks, Londoño said it has neither been proposed nor dismissed. —Xinhua

Azerbaijani president meets Iranian counterpart

BAKU, 16 Oct—Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev met with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad here on Monday, the Azeri president’s website reported on Tuesday.

The presidents discussed cultural and historical contacts between the two countries and potential for enhancing bilateral ties in various fields, including economy, trade, energy and transport. They expressed hope that this meeting would further contribute to expanding cooperation among the regional countries.

The Iranian president noted that ECO has achieved significant cultural and economic growth in recent years, adding that expansion of cooperation among the ECO members is an important factor in dealing with the effects of global economic problems.

The presidents praised development of bilateral technical and cultural cooperation among the member states. Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan later joined the organization.

Visitors gather at the ZTE counter for information during the 2012 GITEX Technology Week in Dubai, on 15 Oct, 2012. As the Middle East’s growth in information and communication technology (ICT) continues to perform global growth, this year’s ICT fair and Gulf Information and Technologies Exhibition (GIFTEX), which kicked off Sunday, witnesses a flood of new software, smart phone and security solutions.—Xinhua

The presidents also closed the organization's annual meeting in the form of a special session for the ECO. The ECO is an intergovernmental regional organization that was established in 1985 by Iran, Pakistan and Turkey with the aim of promoting economic, technical and cultural cooperation among the member states. Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan later joined the organization.

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III (R) receives a gong from Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) Chairman Al Haj Murad Ebrahim (L) during a peace panel chief Mohagher Iqbal, before the signing of the framework agreement between the Philippine government and the MILF in the Malacanan Palace in Manila, the Philippines, 15 Oct 2012. —Xinhua

Canada’s housing market to cool for rest of year: study

OTTAWA, 16 Oct—Canada’s housing market is cooling for the rest of the year, according to data released by the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) on Monday. Although home sales increased by 2.5 percent from August to September, last month’s activity was down by 15.1 percent from September 2011, with more than half of all local markets posting declines of at least 10 percent. “National activity is likely to remain down from year-ago levels over the fourth quarter,” said Greg Klump, chief economist with CREA.

The association, which represents more than 100,000 real estate board agents and salespeople, attributes the drop to new and tighter rules for government-backed insured mortgages introduced by a year-ago levels over the fourth quarter, 2012,” said Greg Klump, chief economist with CREA.

The association, which represents more than 100,000 real estate board agents and salespeople, attributes the drop to new and tighter rules for government-backed insured mortgages introduced in July that reduce the amortization period from 30 to 25 years and which lowers the maximum amount Canadians can borrow when refinancing from 85 to 80 percent of their home’s value.

“While some first-time homebuyers may no longer qualify for mortgage financing under the new rules, it is likely that many others are stepping back and reassessing how much house they can realistically afford, which is one of the things new mortgage rules were designed to do,” said Klump.

During the third quarter of 2012, 110,376 homes were sold—a 6.5 percent decrease from the previous quarter. However, 366,353 homes have traded ownership over CREA’s Multiple Listing Service so far this year, representing a 1 percent rise from levels reported during the first nine months of 2011. The national average price for homes sold in September 2012 was 355,777 Canadian dollars (about $363,148 US dollars), a 1 percent increase from September 2011.

In its third-quarter 2012 Housing Market Outlook, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp (CMHC), the country’s government-owned national housing agency forecasted that the average price of a home in 2012 would be $368,000 Canadian dollars and slightly increase to 377,300 Canadian dollars in 2013.

However, CMHC also predicted that total housing starts would drop from 207,200 units this year to 193,100 units next year. Meanwhile, Statistics Canada reported Monday that household credit market debt as a percentage of disposable income, up from 161.8 percent in the previous quarter. —Xinhua

A steward serves on the train G262 from Hefei to Beijing, on 16 Oct, 2012. The new Hefeng high-speed railway, which connects Hefei and Bengbu, two cities of east China’s Anhui Province, began to operate on Tuesday. The railway covers a distance of 132 kilometers and trains will run on it at a designed speed of 350 kilometers per hour.—Xinhua

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Both sides stressed the importance of the 12th summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and expressed confidence that this event would further contribute to expanding cooperation among the regional countries.

The Iranian president noted that ECO has achieved significant cultural and economic growth in recent years, adding that expansion of cooperation among the ECO members is an important factor in dealing with the effects of global economic problems.

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**NATIONAL**

**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**Union Election Commission**
**Nay Pyi Taw**

Announcement No. 41/2012
1st Waxing of Thadingyut, 1374 ME
(16th October, 2012)

Thirteen Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives substituted

According to the request made in accordance with Section 33 of Pyithu Hluttaw Election Law to substitute thirteen Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following thirteen Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw representatives hereunder in Notification No.1/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 and No.22/2012 of the commission dated 22-4-2012 with personnel shown against them.

(1) BC 18280 (substitution) BC 19586
Brig-Gen Min Naung
Col Maung Maung

(2) BC 21915 (substitution) BC 19612
Col Hla Myint Soc
Col Nyan Naing

(3) BC 19584 (substitution) BC 18632
Col Saw Min
Col Win Naing

(4) BC 20205 (substitution) BC 19504
Col Than Tun Oo
Col Nay Lin

(5) BC 23194 (substitution) BC 31376
Major Tet Tun Aung
Major Htein Lin

(6) BC 18997 (substitution) BC 25257
Major Tu Maung Lwin
Lt-Col Myo Htet Win

(7) BC 19340 (substitution) BC 27059
Major Thein Aung
Lt-Col Kyaw Zin Win

(8) BC 25229 (substitution) BC 27066
Major Kyaw Moe
Lt-Col Kyaw Kyaw Lin

(9) BC 25912 (substitution) BC 27439
Major Aung Ban
Lt-Col Thant Zin

(10) BC 26883 (substitution) BC 25305
Major Tun Tun Oo
Lt-Col Kyaw Naing

(11) BC 27825 (substitution) BC 26720
Major Kyaw Kyaw
Lt-Col Myo Min

(12) BC 27832 (substitution) BC 28723
Major Tha Han Oo
Lt-Col Maung Maung Aye

(13) BC 31496 (substitution) BC 22635
Major Khin Maung Hitway
Lt-Col Khin Maung Swe

By order,

Win Ko
Member
Union Election Commission

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**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**Union Election Commission**
**Nay Pyi Taw**

Announcement No. 42/2012
1st Waxing of Thadingyut, 1374 ME
(16th October, 2012)

Five Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives substituted

According to the request made in accordance with Section 33 of Amyotha Hluttaw Election Law to substitute five Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following five Defence Services Personnel Amyotha Hluttaw representatives hereunder in Notification No.2/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 and No.23/2012 of the commission dated 22-4-2012 with personnel shown against them.

(1) BC 19778 (substitution) BC 19525
Brig-Gen Myat Kyaw
Col Khin Maung Aye

(2) BC 20808 (substitution) BC 19727
Col Nay Myo Aung
Col Hla Win Aung

(3) BC 21702 (substitution) BC 19753
Col Hla Tun (Retd)
Col Than Htay

(4) BC 24270 (substitution) BC 24196
Major Khin Maung Lwin
Lt-Col Moe Lwin

(5) BC 28270 (substitution) BC 14708
Major Thein Tun
Lt-Col Kyaw Kyaw Moe

By order,

Win Ko
Member
Union Election Commission

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**Republic of the Union of Myanmar**
**Union Election Commission**
**Nay Pyi Taw**

Announcement No. 43/2012
1st Waxing of Thadingyut, 1374 ME
(16th October, 2012)

Two Defence Services Personnel Region or State Hluttaw representatives substituted

According to the request made in accordance with Section 33 of Region or State Hluttaw Election Law to substitute two Defence Services Personnel Region or State Hluttaw representatives nominated by the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services in the first multiparty democracy general election held on 7 November 2010, the Union Election Commission scrutinized and substituted the following two Defence Services Personnel Region or State Hluttaw representatives hereunder in Notification No.3/2011 of the commission dated 20-1-2011 with personnel shown against them.

(1) BC 27212 (substitution) BC 42582
Captain Chan Nyein Ko
Captain Tun Tun Naing

(2) BC 28396 (substitution) BC 25303
Major Moe Zaw Oo
Major Win Han

By order,

Win Ko
Member
Union Election Commission

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**District News**

Kyi of Kachin State Electrical Engineer’s Office, Head of State Industrial Supervisory and Inspection Department U Hsaw Taw Hlaing and Head of State Factory and Labour Department explained matters related to the works.

They then replied to queries raised by those present.—*Myanmar Alin*
Social sector development

World countries are realizing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which are: eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; achieving universal primary education; promoting gender equality and empowering women; reducing child mortality rates; improving maternal health; combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; and ensuring environmental sustainability; and developing a global partnership for development.

The ASEAN Visions also involve the task of setting up an ASEAN community which calls for establishing a network comprising poverty alleviation, rural infrastructural development, clean water supply, sanitation, and microcredit loan programs in bridging rich and poor gap.

The concept of sharing their riches and fruits of progress among developing countries has become stronger among the developed nations. In other words, these developed countries are talking about providing humanitarian assistance. Their assistances are focusing on health, education, agriculture, clean water and social development for reducing poverty.

The developing countries and the poor countries on their part are still eager for aids of the developed countries setting aside the political, economic and social strains attached to the aims, as recipients see aids as important support for their national development.

MDGs and ASEAN Visions are aimed at developing the whole social sector. In developing the entire social sector, it is found that the developing countries cannot do the job well on own funds or alone. Hence, the assistance of donor countries, international organizations, UN agencies, international non-government organizations-INGOs has become important.

In fact, countries receiving international grant, aid, loan, technical assistance or humanitarian assistance, should give priority to effective aid management apart from the task involving poverty alleviation and rural development, clean drinking water, human resources development, education, health care, environmental conservation and protection, social security, public infrastructures, microcredit programmes, low-cost housing project, job generation for improvement of the whole social sector.

Cherishing and valuing of traditional cultural heritage is not a step backward...

(from page 1)

Then, Vice-President U Nyan Tun addressed the opening ceremony. He said that the 19th Myanmar National Races’ Traditional Performing Arts Competition it is going to hold today has already promoted the essence of unity as it involves the performing arts of the national brethren living in every corner of the country apart from its original fine characteristics. And like the blooming multicolour flowers performing arts of the national races have been flourishing well according to their own forms, styles, languages, character and elegance not only in a single place but also in the length and breadth of the country.

All the performing arts of Myanmar national races are based on the movements of head, waist, leg, and hand clappers. He continued saying that concentrated efforts are being made on discouraging the youth who live amidst technological advancement and material wealth from deviating Myanmar’s customs and style and national traditional cultural values. On the other hand, modern music which is relatively familiar with the majority of the youth was added as the new category since the 17th competition to go with the tide. This new category means moving with the times, and recognizing the sentiment and efforts of the youth. It is the very youth who have to take over the helm of State’s affairs sometime in the future. Indeed, it is aimed to help turn over substantial numbers of younger citizens who are capable of keeping pace with the changes based on tradition, making sensible application of maturity, wisdom and experiences.

It is everyone’s knowledge that the nearly two-decade-old competition has gradually developed both in content and essence with the experiences gathered. The prize-winning teams of national races’ traditional performing arts Competition from respective regions and states/regions has gradually exchanged and skills demonstration this year, meanwhile efforts must be made to achieve more progress in coming years. Likewise, the momentum of the performing arts Competition must be maintained.

Now is the time the artists of the nation are getting together for Myanmar national races’ traditional performing arts competition. I believe that the brotherhood could be renewed here by understanding and helping each other and bridging cultures.

He urged the participants to compete with each other in this competition that largely serves the national interests, balancing the self interests and the interests of others to accomplish the objectives of 19th Myanmar National Races’ Traditional Performing Arts Competition and to strive for perpetuating traditions of Myanmar national races.

Next, the ceremony came to an end after artists and entertainers of the Ministry of Culture sung a song for the opening ceremony composed by U Maung Maung Latt.

The competitions will be held up to 26 October.

On Expressway....

On Expressway....

I fully pressed the lever.

I took a nap on wheel.

I dodged the cattle.

Cartoon

Bahan Aye Min

Brethren at 19th Myanmar National Races’ Traditional Performing Arts Competition. — MNA

They all are within the scope of Tribhinga or the circular movement dance as defined by the performing arts academicians. There may be differences in the size, the number, the scale, and the beat in musical instruments, but they are all never deviate from five basic musical instruments of Myanmar national races—brass instruments, string instruments, leather instruments, wind instruments, and bamboo instruments, and entertainers of the Traditional Performing Arts Competition must be performed as the country.

Likewise, the momentum of the performing arts Competition must be maintained.

News in Brief

Marine Rescue Course opened

The Marine Rescue Course No 2/2012 was kicked off at the hall of Fire Services Department in Mayangon Township on 15 October. Altogether 60 trainees are attending the four-week course.

Winners to be awarded in photo show

Myanmar Hoteliers Association and Ngwesaung Zone Hoteliers Association will jointly organize the 4th Ngwesaung Beach Beauty Photo Show and prize presentation ceremony on the second floor of Dagon Centre-2 in Myeikngon in Sanyang Township on 20 October.

Communication for Development discussed

The Workshop on Communication for Development and Social Changing Programming and Monitoring was held at Thingala Hotel, here, this morning, attended by representatives of ministries, INGOs and NGOs, UN agencies and electronic media.
“Self-protected trade policies” cause food...

(from page 16) the theme “Agricultural Cooperative - Key to Feeding the World”. Myanmar has the national strategy for poverty reduction and rural development built around cooperatives. The country has targeted to cut poverty rate to 16 percent by 2015 from 26 percent.

Food production constitutes 37.8 percent of the Southeast Asian country’s total production.

NATIONAL

Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing meets Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing cordially greets Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lt-Gen Neo Kian Hong.

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lt-Gen Neo Kian Hong at Zeyathiri Beikman, here, this afternoon.

Both sides exchanged views on matters related to bilateral cooperation between the armies of the two countries, further cementing relationships of the two countries, mutual cooperation between the two countries in ASEAN community, and roles of the armies in advancing development of the two countries.

During the call, the Commander-in-Chief said that there is no disparity between the histories of the State and the Tatmadaw. At present, Tatmadaw is also engaging in implementing development of national politics. Keeping in mind that stability of the State leads to development of the country, Tatmadaw is properly resolving the conflicts between national races armed forces and the Tatmadaw. And the Tatmadaw is driving a move to achieve in ensuring stability of the State, and reform processes being led by the present government.

So as to successfully hold ASEAN Armies Shooting Championship and host ASEAN Chairmanship in 2014, well-experiences are being collected from the neighbouring countries. The Singaporean Chief of the Defence Force replied that experience on successfully holding ASEAN-8. The fulfillment of the needs of holding Chief of the General Staffs (Army), ASEAN Armies Shooting Championship, the 27th SEA Game and hosting the ASEAN Chairmanship would be supplied. He deeply believed that the Tatmadaw plays a vital role in the country where a lot of races are residing.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Hnyi Win, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Rear-Admiral Thura Thet Sww, Commander-in-Chief (Air) General Myat Hein, high ranking officers from commander-in-chief’s office and commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command. Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lt-Gen Neo Kian Hong of the Republic of Singapore was accompanied by Singaporean Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Robert Chua and senior officers from Singapore Armed Forces.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Vice-Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla hosted a luncheon to the goodwill delegation led by Chief of the Defence Force of Singapore Armed Forces Lt-Gen Neo Kian Hong and wife Mrs. Jane Neo of the Republic of Singapore—MNA

Workshop on ASEAN Oil Spill held

YANGON, 16 Oct—Organized by International Maritime Organization, a workshop on ASEAN Oil Spill was held at Hotel Yangon here yesterday morning.

Director-General U Maung Maung Oo of Department of Maritime Administration delivered an address at the workshop attended by officials of the Department of Maritime Administration, the secretary and officials of ASEAN Secretariat departmental officials and representatives of ASEAN countries.—MNA

National Workshop on Mine Development of Mine Sector on 19 Oct

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct—Arrangements are being made to hold a National Workshop on Development of Mine Sector of the Ministry of Mines at Maw Yadanaya Hall of Myanmar Yatanarpon Teleport Co., Ltd

YANGON, 16 Oct—Yatanarpon Teleport Co., Ltd held its coordination meeting at the meeting hall of the company branch in Hlane Township here yesterday morning.

In his speech, Deputy Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Win Than called for ensuring more competitiveness in services of rapidly developing telecommunications sector induced by government’s reform process.

World Dicing Day marked in Taungdwingyi

TAUNGDWINGYI, 16 Oct—The ceremony to mark the World Dicing Day was held in Chhitthabye Village of Zeedaw Village-tract in Taungdwingyi Township on 15 October.

Commanding Officer of Township Red Cross Battalion Commander of Township Police Force Police Captain Myint Swe explained the purpose of holding the ceremony. Executive of Township Society Dr Kyaw Sww discussed personal hygiene. Officials presented prizes to the winners in the contest to mark the World Dicing Day.

Myanmar Alin

Signatureing ceremony for recovery of buried aircraft between Myanmar-Britain companies, DAC holds

NAY PYI TAW, 16 Oct—The agreement on excavation of planes under the ground in the period of World War II in cooperation with Shwe Taung Paw (STP) Co., and David J Cundall of DRC Co., of Britain and the Department for Civil Aviation proved that which is one of the milestone between the two countries as well as recognition of democracy reforms by British Government and excavation works remarked by Myanmar and British Government.

The agreement was held at Townlin Kamuda Hotel in Nay Pyi Taw Hotel Zones this evening with an address of Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung.

Managing Director U Tin Naing Tun of the Department of Civil Aviation under the Ministry of Transport made clarification on signing ceremony and Deputy Head of Mission Mr Mathew Hedgs spoke words of thanks.

The managing director of the Department of Civil Aviation, STP Managing Director U Hho Hho Zaw and Mr David J Cundall of DRC inked agreements in the presence of the Union Minister.

U Soe Maung, Union Minister at the President Office, officials and guests attended the ceremony.

Resident Representative to Myanmar Ms. Bui Thi Lan awards a winner.

MNA
First Sino-US university founded

BEIJING, 16 Oct—China, US combine forces in education to cultivate talent. Shanghai New York University, the first institution of higher education jointly established by China and the United States, was officially founded on Monday.

The venture will be a melting pot for cultivating innovative talent and will help China tackle its brain drain, experts said.

“China’s education reforms aim to better cultivate student ability to innovate and think independently, to provide comprehensive development and maximize their potential,” said Yu Lizhong, president of NYU Shanghai. “That is what this college will do.”

NYU Shanghai, based in the Lujiazui financial area, was established by New York University and Shanghai’s East China Normal University.

The first Sino-US college operating as an independent legal entity, NYU Shanghai is expected to welcome in first 300 students next year from across the world. There will be 151 places for Chinese students.

About 40 percent of the faculty will be recruited globally, while the student-to-faculty ratio will be 8:1, half the average in Chinese universities, Yu said. The founding of NYU NYU has drawn global attention and may herald an era of more international students coming to China and give a greater choice to domestic students.

According to a report in September by the Social Sciences Academy Press, about 340,000 Chinese students went abroad for further study in 2011. Among them were a growing number of high schools who skipped China’s college entrance exam, or gaokao.

Last year, 76,800 high school students began studies overseas. “This is a considerable number, and includes many excellent students,” said Chen Qun, president of East China Normal University.

“Chinese universities should take a close look at themselves. They should accelerate reforms of education models and ensure the nation keeps the country’s best students,” Chen said.

Joint education ventures between China and other countries are nothing new. Many Chinese universities have gone down this route, including Xi’an Jiaotong University teaming up with Liverpool University and the University of Nottingham establishing a campus in Ningbo, Zhejiang province. “Joint education institutions should have a clear position and innovative methods,” Chen said.

NYU Shanghai will initially position itself as an arts and science research university. Students will spend the first two years studying liberal arts, including languages, social and cultural foundations, writing, mathematics and science before they choose a major.

“Liberal-arts education will help students better understand science and society, and help establish a solid foundation for further study,” said Wang Xiaojing, provost and vice-president of NYU Shanghai.

“We will not copy the US education model. NYU Shanghai will provide a new opportunity for innovative education and research,” Wang said.

Upon graduation, students will receive degrees from New York University and NYU Shanghai.

Annual tuition for each student from the Chinese mainland will be about 100,000 yuan ($15,900) which will be officially announced after being approved by the Shanghai pricing authorities.

NYU Shanghai is expected to accommodate an estimated 3,000 Chinese and international students.

Wang Huiyao, director of the Centre for China and Globalization, said opening extensions of overseas universities is a good way to tackle the brain drain.

“Students don’t have to go abroad to get a Western education. World-class universities are on our doorstep,” he said.

The introduction of foreign students will push domestic education reform, he said. “Just like what the opening-up policy did to China’s economy, we need the reform and opening-up for education,” he said.

Laurence Pope (L), the United State’s new charge d’affaires in Libya, gives speech to media after meeting with Libya’s Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammed Abdulaziz in Tripoli, on 15 Oct, 2012.—Xinhua

India

16 killed in road mishap in central India

NEW DELHI, 16 Oct.—At least 16 people were killed and 24 others injured in a major road mishap in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday, a senior police official said.

“The mishap happened when the bus in which the victims were traveling collided head on with a speeding truck coming from the opposite direction in the state’s Chattarpur District. While 16 people died on the spot, those injured have been admitted to a local hospital,” he said, on condition of anonymity. A probe has been ordered into the incident, the official added.

The state government has announced a compensation of one lakh rupees (about $2,000 US dollars) each to the families of those killed.

Man shot dead in Athens courthouse in Roma vendetta

ATHENS, 16 Oct.—A man was fatally shot and another one was slightly injured when a woman opened fire at an Athens court on Monday in a vendetta among Roma families, according to police sources.

The victim was accused of killing the 37-year-old shooter’s son a year ago. The woman shooter was detained, while police are investigating how she smuggled the gun into the Greek capital’s main courts complex.

Xinhua

Match-making science wins economy Nobel for two Americans

STOCKHOLM, 16 Oct—US economists Alvin Roth and Lloyd Shapley won the 2012 Nobel prize for economics on Monday for research on how to match different economic agents such as students for schools or even organ donors with patients.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which made the award, said the 8 million kroner prize recognized “the theory of stable allocations and the practice of market design.”

The award citation said Shapley had used game theory to study and compare various matching methods and how to make sure the matches were acceptable to all counterparts, including the creation of a special algorithm.

Roth followed up on Shapley’s results in a series of empirical studies and helped redesign existing institutions so that new doctors could be matched with hospitals, students with schools or patients with organ donors.

“His year’s prize is awarded for an outstanding example of economic engineering,” the committee added.

The economics prize, officially called the Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, was established in 1968. It was not part of the original group of awards set out in dynamite tycoon Nobel’s 1895 will.

450 Brazilian flights canceled due to landing strip mishap

BRASILIA, 16 Oct—Brazilian carrier Azul Monday announced the cancellation of 450 flights at one of the nation’s busiest airports, after a damaged cargo plane blocked its only landing strip.

An MD-11 cargo plane blew a tire late Saturday as it landed at Viracopos airport in Sao Paulo state, causing the closure of the landing strip and take-offs, airport authorities said. Early Monday, airlines provided buses to take passengers with scheduled departures from Viracopos to alternate airports in Sao Paulo, including Congonhas and Guarulhos. Officials began removing the 130-ton plane from the runway Monday afternoon, but the airport was not immediately reopened as the runway needed to be cleaned and inspected first.

Some 70 workers were required to clear the airport landing plane, including five Fire Department units.

The operation of Viracopos airport is in a transitional process, as it was in the hands of Brazil’s state-owned airport administration Infraero before it was formally conceded to the private sector earlier this year.

An official spokesperson at Viracopos, said over 25,000 passengers were affected by the incident, with all flights at Viracopos canceled since the incident, with all flights at Viracopos canceled since Saturday, as well as those scheduled for Monday, in order to allow delayed flights to be regularized. Azul acco-

out the creation of a special
Pakistani girl shot by Taleban can recover, doctors say

LONDON, 16 OCT—A Pakistani schoolgirl shot in the head by the Taleban has every chance of making a “good recovery”, British doctors said on Monday as 14-year-old Malala Yousufzai arrived at a hospital in central England for treatment of her severe wounds.

Yousufzai, who was shot for advocating education for girls, was flown from Pakistan to receive specialist treatment at Birmingham’s Queen Elizabeth Hospital at a unit expert in dealing with complex trauma cases that has treated hundreds of soldiers wounded in Afghanistan. “Doctors believe she has a chance of making a good recovery on every level,” said Dr Dave Rosser, the hospital’s medical director, adding that her treatment and rehabilitation could take months.

She will now undergo scans to reveal the extent of her injuries, but Rosser said they could not provide any further details without her agreement.

Pakistani surgeons removed a bullet from near her spinal cord during a three-hour operation the day after the attack last week, but she now needs intensive specialist follow-up care.

The unit at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, a large blue and white glass-plated complex in the south of England’s second city, has treated every British battle casualty for the last decade, Rosser said.

Treatment for the schoolgirl is likely to include repairing damaged bones in her skull and complex follow-up neurological treatment. “Injuries to bones in the skull can be treated very successfully by the neurosurgeons and the plastic surgeons, but it is the damage to the blood supply to the brain that will determine long-term disability,” said Duncan.

Cambodian King, PM in Beijing to bring home peace

BEIJING, 16 Oct—Cambodia’s King Norodom Sihamoni and Prime Minister Hun Sen have arrived in Beijing to bring home the body of King-Father Norodom Sihanouk, who died on Monday morning at the age of 89. The body will be taken back to Cambodia on Wednesday afternoon.

Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni and Prime Minister Hun Sen arrived in Beijing on Monday afternoon. Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi met them at the airport and expressed condolences. They then arrived at King-Father’s residence in Beijing’s Dongcheng District, and went to King-Father’s Beijing Hospital where he died. The Cambodian embassy in Beijing is flying its national flag at half mast to pay its respects to the former King. Chinese top official have expressed their condolences over the death of the King-Father.

During his visit to Sihanouk’s residence in Beijing, Premier Wen Jiabao expressed deep condolences to King Norodom Sihamoni and Queen-Mother Norodom Monineath. The Premier spoke highly of Sihanouk, saying he had struggled for national independence and the cause of peace and development his whole life. The Premier said he had years of profound friendship with the King-Father, and the Chinese people will always remember him.

China arrests 11 for poaching endangered animals

CHANGSHA, 16 Oct—Police on Monday said they had arrested 11 people for allegedly poaching endangered animals in a central China virgin forest, and they also seized a large number of bear parts and antelope corpses.

A joint operation by police in Hubei and Hunan Provinces found that the suspects used electric nets to illegally trap endangered animals in the Shimen Forests near Wujianyi Nature Reserve on the border of the two provinces. Seventeen bear paws, five bear gall bladders and more than 300kg of Deyuan meat, as well as musk deer skins and antelope corpses, were seized by police.

Police are still pursuing five other suspects, Hunan police officials said. Bear gall bladders and bear paws have been widely used as expensive ingredients in traditional Chinese medicine.

While most bears are currently under adequate protection, huge profits drive poachers to break the law.

Animal rights activists in recent years have called for alternatives to bear parts in traditional medicines.

5.6-magnitude quake hits Kuril Islands

HOKKAIDO, 16 Oct—An earthquake measuring 5.6 on the Richter scale jolted Kuril Islands at 12:41:24 GMT on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. The epicenter, with a depth of 67.60 km, was initially determined to be at 49.6029 degrees north latitude and 156.4561 degrees east longitude. The Hong Kong Observatory reported the quake is 6.0-magnitude. —Xinhua

Exhibition held to commemorate 60th founding anniversary of Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Visitors look at the aircrafts at an exhibition featuring the achievement obtained by Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics in Nanjing, capital of east China’s Jiangsu Province, Oct. 16, 2012. The exhibition was held to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the university. —Xinhua

A helicopter from the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) hovers over an Iranian oil tanker near the Iranian port of Bushehr in the Persian Gulf in this handout photo taken late March 5, 2012. —Reuters

An aged woman pose for pictures with two little girls near Wufenghouhe Nature Reserve in central China virgin forest, on 16 Oct, 2012. —Xinhua

Injuries to bones in the head are treated very successfully by the neurosurgeons and the plastic surgeons, but it is the damage to the blood supply to the brain that will determine long-term disability,” said Duncan. —Xinhua

“Doctors believe she has a chance of making a good recovery on every level,” said Dr Dave Rosser, the hospital’s medical director, adding that her treatment and rehabilitation could take months. —Reuters

She will now undergo scans to reveal the extent of her injuries, but Rosser said they could not provide any further details without her agreement. —Reuters

Pakistani school girl Malala Yousufzai is brought out a hospital on a structure in Rawalpindi on 15 October 2012. —Reuters

A crowd of people gathered to see a helicopter from the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72) landing near the Iranian port of Bushehr in the Persian Gulf on 14 Feb, 2012. —Agencies
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV JIN PING VOY NO (001)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV JIN PING VOY NO (001) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S COSCO SHIPPING CO. LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV DONG PHONG VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV DONG PHONG VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 17.10.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT

MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY

AGENT FOR: M/S SEA TRANS SHIPPING CO LTD.

Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

Donate Blood

Two IEDs defused in eastern Afghanistan: coalition

KARL, 16 Oct—Afghan forces and the NATO-led coalition troops have found and defused two improvised explosive devices (IEDs) during operations in eastern Afghanistan, a spokesman said on Tuesday.

Afghan and coalition forces cleared two improvised explosive devices during operations in eastern Afghanistan throughout the past 24 hours, “the coalitions’ Regional Command-East (RC-East) said in a statement.

The IEDs were cleared in Nejrib district of Kapisa province and Sharan District of Paktika Province, according to the statement.

Operations in RC-East are still ongoing, it added.

Afghan Taleban has deployed improvised explosive devices during operations in eastern Afghanistan throughout the past 24 hours, the coalition said on Tuesday.

Afghan and coalition forces cleared two improvised explosive devices during operations in eastern Afghanistan throughout the past 24 hours, “the coalitions’ Regional Command-East (RC-East) said in a statement.

NATO to train, assist Afghan forces after 2014

KARL, 16 Oct—The NATO commits to launching a new mission to train, advise and assist the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) after 2014, once the NATO-led foreign troops leave the country, a spokesman said on Monday.

“NATO has committed to launching a new mission to train, advise and assist Afghan forces from 2015,” NATO civilian representative spokesman, Dominic Medley, told a Press briefing.

The NATO defence ministers, following a two-day gathering in Brussels in Belgium, on Wednesday endorsed the broad political framework for a new training mission in Afghanistan after 2014. “NATO defence ministers and the ministers from potential operational partners concluded the first stages of planning for that new mission. This will guide the military experts as they take the planning process forward,” Medley said, adding that “it is expected to agree on a detailed outline early next year, and to complete the plan well before the end of 2013”.—Xinhua

Ex-British PM visits Vietnam to boost ties

HANOI, 16 Oct—The visiting former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) Tony Blair met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung in capital Hanoi on Monday.

At the meeting, Dung spoke highly of Blair’s visit to Vietnam, which contributes to strengthening the strategic partnership between the two countries.

The Vietnam–UK relations have developed positively in recent years, though still not commensurate with the potential of both sides, Dung said, proposing the two sides to work together to further boost cooperation in all fields, especially politics, diplomacy, trade, tourism and education, to support each other in multilateral forums.

Dung expressed his hope to continue to receive Official Development Assistance (ODA) from the UK, focusing on infrastructure construction and climate change. —Xinhua

Donate Blood

Serge Lavroff (2nd R), consul general of the French Consulate General in Wuhan, receives a calligraphy works presented by Chinese painter Liang Yan (1st L) in Wuhan, capital of central China’s Hubei Province, on 15 Oct, 2012. A painting exhibition of Liang Yan will be held in the Louvre Museum from 30 Oct to 2 Nov. —Xinhua
**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Swedish House Mafia pip Adele to top of UK pop chart**

The Official Charts Company on Sunday said Swedish House Mafia’s "Don’t You Worry Child" had outsold Skyfall 43,000 copies to secure their fifth singles chart top 10 hit and first number one.

**Jessica Alba refused to strip for Sin City 2**

Actress Jessica Alba reportedly refused to strip for Sin City 2 because she isn’t happy with how she looks after giving birth to two children. The actress, who has two daughters Honour and Haven Garner, is said to have used body double to shoot for provocative scenes.

**Scarlett Johansson flirting with Lindsay Lohan’s friend?**

Scarlett was married to Sam Rockwell — who arrived at the establishment following a screening for his latest movie, ‘Seven Psychopaths’ — but her low-key look confused many of the nightspot’s revellers. One fellow partier — whose friend had to point the blonde beauty out — said: “I didn’t even recognise her.”

**Katie Holmes’ father hunting for new husband for her**

Katie Holmes’ lawyer father Martin is eager to see her focus on making herself happier and wants to play matchmaker for his daughter. Katie Holmes’ father reportedly wants to find her a new husband. The Kennedy actress — who divorced Tom Cruise in August after six years of marriage — is said to hate being single and is ready to find a new man.

LONDON, 16 Oct—Katie Holmes’ lawyer father Martin is eager to see her focus on making herself happier and wants to play matchmaker for his daughter. Katie Holmes’ father reportedly wants to find her a new husband. The Kennedy actress — who divorced Tom Cruise in August after six years of marriage — is said to hate being single and is ready to find a new man.

A source close to Katie told OK! Magazine: “Katie hates being single — and her dad knows it. They have always been incredibly close, and he’s made it his mission to try to find her a new man.” The 33-year-old actress and fashion designer has been focusing all her energy up until recently on her six-year-old daughter Suri, who just started attending a private school in New York. But now her lawyer father Martin — who helped her quickly negotiate her divorce from Tom and secure primary custody of their child — is eager to see her focus on making herself happier and wants to play matchmaker for his daughter. Tom and Katie’s marriage was “irretrievably broken” six months before the actress filed for divorce. The pair tied the knot in a lavish Scientology ceremony in Italy on 18 November 2006. According to their divorce documents Tom was ordered to pay $400,000 a year in child support for the couple’s daughter until she turns 18. In the unlikely event the actor misses a payment; he will be faced with a jail sentence “for a term not to exceed six months.”

**Tom Cruise willing to cut Scientology links to win back Katie Holmes?**

The Official Charts Company on Sunday said Swedish House Mafia’s "Don’t You Worry Child" had outsold Skyfall 43,000 copies to secure their fifth singles chart top 10 hit and first number one. X-Factor talent show winner Leona Lewis was the only other new entry in the top 10, with “Trouble” featuring Childish Gambino, her ninth top 10 hit.

Mumford And Sons dominated the albums chart with their second full-length release, “Babel”, while second place went to Ellie Goulding with “Halcyon”.

US pop punks All Time Low went straight in at number nine this week with “Don’t Panic”, but Birmingham rockers ELO with “Mr Blue Sky — The Very Best Of Electric Light Orchestra” were one step ahead at number eight.

**Jessica Alba refused to strip for Sin City 2?**

The actress, who has two daughters Honour and Haven Garner, is said to have used body double to shoot for provocative scenes.

“She was crushed when filming began and she didn’t have her original body back so she told producers she wanted a body double,” a source told Life and Style magazine, reports contactmusic.com.

“Her body is incredible, but for her it’s not good enough. She’s cut out carbs and does the P90X Ab Ripper twice a day, but she still isn’t happy,” the source added. —PTI

**Scarlett Johansson flirting with Lindsay Lohan’s friend?**

New York Post: “Scarlett looked like she was completely flirting with Dominos.” Scarlett also hung out with actor Sam Rockwell — who arrived at the establishment following a screening for his latest movie, ‘Seven Psychopaths’ — but her low-key look confused many of the nightspot’s revellers. One fellow partier — whose friend had to point the blonde beauty out — said: “I didn’t even recognise her.”

Scarlett, who was married to Ryan Reynolds from 2008 to 2011, appeared to be having plenty of fun without her advertising executive boyfriend Kate Naylor to the nightspot. However, she admitted earlier this year she is in a “great” place thanks to the hunk. The Iron Man star previously said: “Everything’s been really great right now. It’s been a good time. I’ve had peace. Relative peace. I just want to work on things that are really hard, and when I’m not working on things that are really hard, I want to hang out with people I like to be with, and that’s it. I think it will be an interesting year.” —PTI
Berlin, 16 Oct—The somersault has been Germany striker Miroslav Klose’s trademark goal celebration for over a decade but the 34-year-old is cutting out the mid-air flip in a bid to stay fit for the 2014 World Cup.

Klose, enjoying a fine season at Italy’s Lazio, hopes to add to his 65 international goals against Sweden in Germany’s World Cup qualifier on Tuesday.

However, an expected 80,000 crowd at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin will be treating to a more modest celebration.

“I think I can still do it but I honestly do not want to risk it because I want to still be around in 2014,” he told reporters with a chuckle.

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Mikel is Chelsea’s unsung hero, says Di Matteo

London, 16 Oct—English Premier League soccer club Manchester United have signed their first sponsorship deal in a former Soviet country, teaming up with Bakcell, a telecoms company in Azerbaijan.

The three-year agreement announced on Monday is one of a number of local sponsorship deals done by United, English champions a record 19 times, who enjoy a large following around the globe.

The club’s international commercial expansion is a model that rivals are keen to emulate. Bakcell will broadcast the club’s MUTV channel in Azerbaijan, while its mobile subscribers will also be offered club news and video highlights.

London, 16 Oct—Lionel Messi has scored his 80,000th goal for Argentina in a World Cup qualifying match against Sweden in their 15 in Brazil in two years’ time. “In football it is difficult to plan anything but if I am fit and injury-free I would like to play in Brazil and that is my ultimate aim,” he said on Monday.

Klose, who is level with Mueller on 14 World Cup goals, is eager to add to at least equal World Cup top scorer Ronaldo’s record of 15 in Brazil in two years’ time. “In football it is difficult to plan anything but if I am fit and injury-free I would like to play in Brazil and that is my ultimate aim,” he said on Monday.

Di Matteo often performed the same task as Mikkel during his playing days at Chelsea and has a strong empathy with the Nigerian.

Earlier this month, Di Matteo said: “I don’t know why Mikel is underrated by the media or the fans. He is very rated by us in the group and it’s a position where you’re a bit of an unsung hero.”

“You do the dirty work which is not recognised all the time because the goal-scorers and more creative players get the recognition. But he is very important for our team.”

Chelsea, who have a four-point lead at the top of the Premier League, have a difficult series of fixtures coming up. They visit London rivals Tottenham Hotspur, and former manager Andre Villas-Boas, on Saturday before travelling to Ukraine to meet Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League next week.

Liverpool are staying at Anfield and plan to expand its capacity to 60,000 after scrapping plans for a new stadium in nearby Stanley Park, the club announced on Monday.

The redevelopment would cost around 150 million pounds and the announcement brings to an end the decade-long saga of whether the club would leave the only ground that has been its home since Everton moved out in 1892.

Liverpool City Council and the club unveiled the plans for the regeneration of the stadium and the surrounding area with work expected to start in 2014.

The announcement came on the second anniversary of the Fenway Sports Group (FSG) acquisition of the club and was made at a news conference at Liverpool Town Hall.

“Today represents a huge step forward for the Anfield area. Everyone at the football club knows the importance of today,” the club’s manager director Ian Ayre said.

“Liverpool’s Chanukah celebrations are popular and the stadium project is exciting. We are pleased to be able to bring the two together,” said Ayre.

LFC celebrated its 120th year in 2012 at Anfield and there is no doubt Anfield is the spiritual home of the club - our preference was always to remain at Anfield.”

Paris, 16 Oct—Zinedine Zidane is taking the first steps towards possibly managing the French national team in the future by joining coaching programme at the French Football National Institute (INF).”I will pass my coaching diplomas (at INF),” 1998 World Cup and Euro 2000 winner Zidane told French sports daily L’Equipe. Asked if he would be interested in coaching France one day, he said: “Why not, one day, coach this team...”—Reuters

Paris, 16 Oct—Former soccer star and Real Madrid sporting director Zinedine Zidane arrives ahead of a news conference for the Real Madrid resort island in Ras Al Khatimah, on 29March, 2012.—Reuters

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“This new agreement is another first for Manchester United, with it being the only partnership the club has in the country,” its commercial director Richard Arnold said. United have 659 million followers around the globe, according to the results of a survey commissioned by the club earlier this year. Around 1.68 million of them were in Azerbaijan, a country of more than 9 million people which is wedged between Russia and Iran on the Caspian Sea.

Reuters

10/17/2012, 2:32 AM
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**NEW LIGHT OF MANAMA**
Wednesday, 17 October, 2012

SPORTS

Klose bans somersaults in World Cup fitness drive

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“LFC celebrated its 120th year in 2012 at Anfield and there is no doubt Anfield is the spiritual home of the club - our preference was always to remain at Anfield.”

The expansion, which would increase Anfield’s capacity from its current 45,500, would mean the demolition of some houses near the ground with a large part of the surrounding area subject to huge regeneration plans.

“This is a major step forward for the football club but more importantly the residents. This is step one as there is land to acquire, plans to be approved etcetera, but this is a significant moment,” Ayre added. “Questions about capacity and cost are not for today - not until we have certainty.”—Reuters

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Zidane eyes France job as he joins coaching programme

Paris, 16 Oct—Zinedine Zidane is taking the first steps towards possibly managing the French national team in the future by joining coaching programme at the French Football National Institute (INF).”I will pass my coaching diplomas (at INF),” 1998 World Cup and Euro 2000 winner Zidane told French sports daily L’Equipe. Asked if he would be interested in coaching France one day, he said: “Why not, one day, coach this team...”—Reuters

**Liverpool to stay at new 60,000-capacity Anfield**

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McLaren Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain is seen at the Suzuka circuit on 6 Octorber, 2012.—Reuters

McLaren have had a hard time of late, on and off the track. His decision to depart and his postings on Twitter, for some of which he has had to apologise, have intensified media scrutiny of his state of mind.

He has been portrayed as increasingly isolated, a feeling reinforced by his revelation that an attempt to take his mechanics bowling on the Saturday evening at the Japanese Grand Prix had been skittled by them as they had already accepted an invitation to go running with team mate Jenson Button.

Whitemarth and Button, speaking separately to Reuters, were adamant that not was the case and that the transponder and anti-collision system were turned off for nearly an hour, which meant the Boeing pilots could not see the planes were on a collision course.

A judge in the state of Mato Grosso, where the accident took place, originally gave the pilots prison sentences. But they were commuted to community service to be completed in the United States. Relatives of the crash victims protested and the pilots’ licenses to fly.

The pilots have insisted the anti-collision system and transponder were never turned off. They deny any wrongdoing. Their defence had sought to overturn the conviction.—Xinhua

Chinese actress Liu Xiaoqing performs during a stage drama “Fenghua Juedai” at Poly Theatre in Yanan, east China’s Shaanxi Province, on 15 Oct, 2012. Directed by Tian Qinxin, the drama tells the story of famous courtesan Sai Jinhua, a legendary but very controversial figure in the late Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Xinhua

Two rescued after NE China building collapse

HARBIN, 16 Oct—Rescuers had pulled two people out of the debris of a collapsed office building by noon on Monday in northeast China’s Heilongjiang Province, but an unknown number of people may still be buried.

The two injured people pulled from the debris have been sent to hospital. Search and rescue work is ongoing. More than 100 rescuers led by city officials joined rescue efforts after the eastern wing of the building fell off at about 7:50 am

The rescue team quoted some witnesses as saying that five people might have been buried in the accident.

At the time of the accident, hanging scaffolding surrounding the four-story office building owned by Jixian County Water Company, as the building’s outer walls were being renovated.—Xinhua

NHL lockout the sole black cloud on Blixt’s horizon

NEW YORK, 16 Oct—Having grown up as a “wannabe” ice hockey player, Swedish golfer Jonas Blixt has been totally frustrated by the cancellation of the first two weeks of the 2012-13 National Hockey League (NHL) regular season.

While Blixt is riding a wave of exaltation after winning his first PGA Tour title at the Frys.com Open in San Martin, California on Sunday, the NHL lockout has become an ugly black cloud on his personal horizon.

“I love ice hockey, it’s the greatest sport ever,” PGA Tour rookie Blixt told reporters after clinching victory by one shot after closing with a three-under-par 68 at CondeValle Golf Club.

“The lockout just kills me right now. I hope they make a deal soon.”

Last week, the NHL canceled the first two weeks of the regular season with no end in sight to the labor dispute with locked-out players. The decision impacts 82 games that were scheduled from Oct 11-24 and marked the first time regular season action has been canceled since a lockout wiped out the entire 2004-05 season. Blixt, who became the eighth Swedish player to win on the PGA Tour, had to give up on his own ice hockey future at the age of 18.
Seven Chinese Navy warships pass waters near Okinawa island

The seven vessels confirmed by Maritime Self-Defense Force P-3C reconnaissance aircraft are heading north-northeast in the waters south of the Senkakus, according to the ministry.

Defense Minister Satoshi Morimoto told a press conference that he is unsure of the purpose of the Navy fleet. “At present, we don’t see any helicopter flying from the vessels,” he added.

It is the first time the Chinese Navy vessels have been found navigating in the 22-km-wide contiguous zone between Yonaguni and Irinomiki islands in Okinawa Prefecture, which is 110 km east of Taiwan.

The ships including destroyers and frigates were spotted sailing from the Pacific Ocean to the East China Sea at around 7 a.m. about 49 kilometers south-southeast of Yonaguni Island in Okinawa Prefecture, the ministry said.

Sailing in the contiguous zone that connects to a 12-nautical mile (22-km) territorial sea poses no problem under international law. In the zone, Japan can apply its laws for customs procedures and immigration control.

Sources familiar with Japan-China relations said the Chinese Navy vessels do not intend to provoke Japan’s Self-Defense Forces nor enter the contiguous zone near the Senkakus.

Modern stadium nearing completion in Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex

In recent interview at the Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex construction project in Zabuthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council Area where the XXVII SEA Games will be held, officials of Max Myanmar Co explained, “Wunna Theikdi Sports Complex comprises modern stadium, modern gymnasium and modern swimming pool.”

They said, “Structures of rooms concerned are included in the sports complex meeting international standards.”

The oval shape stadium can accommodate about 30000 spectators. Its measurement is 863 feet long, 699 feet wide and 80 feet high. The stadium is equipped with 400 metres and 100 metres tracks. The track is 32 feet wide and 1408 feet long. The modern stadium is located on 76826 square feet area. Long jump, shot put, discus, pole vault and hurdle sports events can be held in the stadium. The stadium was constructed on 14-1-2010. So far, the project has completed by 85 per cent.

The XXVII SEA Games will be held in Nay Pyi Taw, Yangon, Mandalay and Ngwehsaung for 42 sports events from 8 to 12 December. —Kyemon

French TV host riles Japan with “Fukushima” comment about goalie

In a variety show aired Saturday night, Ruquier said Japan had a wonderful keeper in Kawashima when he touched on the previous day’s soccer match where Japan defeated France 1-0.

“Self-protected trade policies” cause food price instability: Vice-President

Policy errors and protectionism led to price volatilization in food market, Vice-President U Nyan Tun said in his address to World Food Day ceremony here this morning. “Unusual agricultural policy and self-protected trade policies of countries caused the price volatilization,” said Vice-President U Nyan Tun.

He also said that international assistance and investment in agricultural sector have been declining for past two decades. The Vice-President said development of fertilizer industry is a “necessity” to keep fertilizers within the reach of farmers. He tipped cooperation of specialized companies and NGOs for increased agricultural productivity.

Ms Bui Thi Lan, FAO representative in Myanmar, told The New Light of Myanmar that an FAO “rice study mission” was sent to Myanmar to observe the rice industry of the once major rice exporter. She said that the UN agency is providing technical support to Myanmar to increase productivity of rice.

This year’s World Food Day was celebrated under (See page 9)