President U Thein Sein sends message of felicitations to Cambodian King

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—On the occasion of the 59th Anniversary of the Independence Day of the Kingdom of Cambodia which falls on 9 November 2012, U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.—MNA

PYITHU HLUTTAW
Public participation required for elimination of discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients: Union Health Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Dr Aung Than of Shwebo Constituency asked the measures of the Union government to eliminate discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients and help them against loss of basic rights.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin described promotion of health education programmes as a means to reduce discrimination against HIV/AIDS patients. He suggested increased participation of Health Ministry and related ministries, Myanmar Human Rights Commission, local and foreign social organizations, parliamentarians, and legal experts to reduce marginalization.

U Khin Maung Nyo of Loikaw Constituency asked whether the government can arrange to appoint esteemed traditional practitioners holding certificate, and educated traditional medical practitioners holding degree in traditional medicine as chairperson of Traditional Medicine Council.

The Union Minister replied that the appointment can only be done under the law and only the director-general of Traditional Medicine Department can be appointed to the position.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of Kawhmu Constituency submitted a proposal urging the Union government to form a supervisory commitee constituted with personnel of Health Ministry, members of Hluttaw committees/commission, academicians, intellectuals and intelligentsia, and local and foreign doctors in order to upgrade Yagon People’s Hospital on which the public relies to high standard medical centre. Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin agreed. It was decided to monitor the works of Health Ministry in response to the proposal.

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
President Office
Notification No 83/2012
10th Waning of Thadingyut, 1374 M.E.
(9 November 2012)

Names of Union Ministry Changed

According to the agreement of fifth regular session of first Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, the names of the following union ministries have been changed into the ones shown against each.

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<tr>
<th>Original Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs</td>
<td>Ministry of Communications and Information Technology</td>
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<td>Ministry of Labour</td>
<td>Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security</td>
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Cherry not harmful to health: Deputy minister

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Myanmar Mini and Cherry QQ3 vehicles include nothing harmful to the health of the people, Deputy Industry Minister U Thein Aung said at today’s Pyithu Hluttaw session.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi of Ngazun Constituency asked whether the ministry support for the proposal. The Hluttaw approved her proposal.

Dr Khin Maung Swe of Kyauktada Constituency submitted a proposal urging to cooperate in the interest of urbanities and rural folks to bridge the gap of medical service delivery between urban and rural areas.

Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin asked to put the proposal on record, which the proposer agreed. It was decided to monitor the works of Health Ministry in response to the proposal.

U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency demanded more clarifications of the respective ministry, saying the explanation of the ministry about the imported cars that are rumoured to include asbestos that could cause the pulmonary diseases.

The deputy minister also said no to direct knock down system at industrial zones proposed by U Myint Soe of Pyaywwe Constituency to carry out full recondition and modification to imported trucks and buses. But, he said the ministry would allow the modification if the entrepreneurs outside industrial zones could ensure the norms set by the Ministry of Commerce are met.
Mawlamyine railway station gets book corner

Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—M on State Information and Public Relations Department has started a book corner at Mawlamyine railway station, Myanma Alinn reported.

The book corner was opened by officials of the department with the attendance of 30 locals. Journals, magazines, fictions, newspapers, and other publications are available at the book corner.

The organizers are hoping for improving trade connectivity between the two countries, the report suggested. It is the fifth of its kind since the new government took office about two years ago.—NLM

China-ASEAN commodities exhibition kicks off

Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—China-ASEAN (Myanmar) commodities exhibition kicked off yesterday at Tatmadaw Convention Hall in Yangon, Myanma Alinn reported.

The show would boost the trade opportunities between the two countries, according to an official of the exhibition.

Eleven entrepreneurs from Chongqing are displaying 15 booths at the exhibition that lasts till 10 November.

The organizers are hoping for improving trade connectivity between the two countries, the report suggested. It is the fifth of its kind since the new government took office about two years ago.—NLM

Lack of life jacket at Katha motorboats raises parents’ concerns

Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—Parents voiced concerns over lack of life jackets at licensed motorboats running between Katha and Paikhweswe village on either bank of Ayeyawady River, according to a Myanma Alinn report.

“Students are taking the ride once in a morning and once in the evening,” an unnamed parent is quoted.

“Any accident could risk the lives of the children.”

Students from the villages on eastern bank of Ayeyawady River are commuting daily to Katha to attend their school.—NLM

Police save turtles from being smuggled

Myitkyina, 9 Nov—According to a tip-off, turtles were going to be smuggled into a neighbouring country, local police members and personnel arrested Naw Win Soe (al Pa Kyaw) together with four bags containing 64 turtles in a port of Myitkyina Bhamo motorized boats in Pamatee ward in Myitkyina on 4 November.

The investigation revealed that these turtles were owned by Ma Yin Cho of Ramau ward and Ma LL Bo of Kyunthayar ward, and actions are being taken to arrest them.—Kyemon

Narcotic drugs seized in Tachileik

Tachileik, 9 Nov—According to the statement given by Sai Wun Tit who was detained and questionering on suspicion of a criminal case by Tachileik Police Station, a combined force led by Tachileik District Police Commander Police Lt-Col Ohn Kyaw launched a search of his house on Khattaar Street in Hsansai Ward in Tachileik and seized 584,000 WY stimulant tablets, a WY mould, weapons, foreign currencies, gold block, gold chain, jewellery, vehicle and motorbikes.

Police filed a lawsuit against Sai Wun Tit over illegal possession of narcotic drugs and weapons.—Kyemon

Police get their hands on bogus police

Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—Police members of Yangon Region Police force caught a man in traffic police uniform who carried out an inspection of vehicles running on Yangon Airport Road at 6 pm on 4 November.

It is the fifth of its kind since the new government took office about two years ago.—NLM

Daylight burglar arrested

Thukha street in Peinnegone ward of the township at about 3 pm on 2 November, investigations revealed that he snatched jewellery from a woman on Kyadenisu 1st street in Peinnegone ward. Insein Township Police Station filed a lawsuit against him.—Kyemon

Illegal teak and hardwood seized

Nay Pyi Taw, 9 Nov—A combined force of forest personnel from Htigyaing and Kawlin Township Forest Departments seized 19.4169 tons of illegal teak and 3.6110 tons of hardwood totaling 23.0279 tons, two engines, two circular saws and five related items at block Nos 62 and 63 of Pyinte reserved forest on 29 October. Investigations are underway to expose suspects.—Kyemon
Iran urges recognition of nuclear “rights”, directs talks with US

Teheran, 9 Nov — Iranian officials on Thursday called for the recognition of the nuclear “rights” of the country and for the direct talks with the United States over the controversial nuclear programme of the Islamic republic.

The United States and its western allies have been accusing Iran of secretly developing nuclear weapons under a civilian disguise, a charge that has always been denied by Teheran.

According to local reports on Thursday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast said that recognition of the nuclear rights of the Islamic republic by the United States will build trust in bilateral relations.

“Respect for rights of the Iranian nation will help reduce Teheran’s distrust towards Washington,” Mehmanparast was quoted as saying by semi-official Fars news agency.

He underscored the necessity for fundamental and practical changes in Washington’s “wrong” approaches towards Iran, and said Teheran will judge the United States by its actions not words, according to Fars. The remarks were made in reaction to the recent US presidential election in which Barack Obama was re-elected.

The outcome of the US election showed that Americans want a president that avoids extremist and unilateral policies, the report quoted the spokesman as saying. On the possibility of restoration of relations between the two countries and solving Iran’s nuclear issue, which is recently urged by some Iranian officials, Iranian Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli-Larijani also said the Americans should win Iran’s trust in order to restore the relations, Tehran Times daily reported on Thursday.

“The resumption of relations with the United States is not easy, and after all these (sanction) pressure, such between the two countries are not possible overnight,” Amoli-Larijani said.

Attempts are recently undertaken by some Iranian expatriates and politicians to restore relations with Washington in order to alleviate the pressures on the country’s economy, which has been hit significantly by the Western sanctions over the country’s controversial nuclear programme.

On Thursday, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that Iran’s nuclear programme has been politicized and the dispute should be resolved through direct talks between Iran and the United States, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Ahmadinejad said that all member states of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and even the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany (P+5) say explicitly that Iran should resolve the issue through direct talks with the United States, according to the report.

Iran fired on US drone over Gulf

Washington, 9 Nov—Iranian warplanes fired at an unmanned US drone in international airspace last week but did not hit the aircraft, the Pentagon said on Thursday, disclosing details of an unprecedented incident that triggered a formal warning to Tehran through diplomatic channels.

The 1 November intercept was the first time Teheran had fired at an unmanned American aircraft, in a stark reminder of how tensions between the United States and Iran could escalate quickly into violence. If Iran had hit the drone, as the Pentagon believes it was trying to do, it could have forced American retaliation—with the potential consequences that entails. According to the timeline provided by the Pentagon, the two Iranian SU-25 “Frogfoot” aircraft intercepted the American drone at about 4:50 am EST (0850 GMT) as it conducted a routine, but classified, surveillance mission over Gulf waters about 16 nautical miles off the Iranian coast.

Pentagon spokesman George Little said the aircraft fired multiple rounds at the Predator drone and followed it for at least several miles as it moved farther away from Iranian airspace. “We believe that they fired at least twice and made at least two passes,” he said. International airspace begins after 12 nautical miles and Little said the drone at no point entered Iranian airspace. Last year, a crashed CIA drone was recovered inside Iran. Defence Secretary Leon Panetta was quickly notified of the incident, as is routine, but classified, surveillance operations.

“There is absolutely no precedence for this,” Little said. “This is the first time that a (drone) has been fired upon to our knowledge by Iranian aircraft.” Many questions about the incident remain, including why Iranian warplanes could not manage—if they wanted—to shoot down an unarmed drone, which lacks advanced capabilities to outmanoeuvre them.—Reuters

Guatemala scours for quake survivors, death toll expected to rise

A MQ-1 Predator unmanned aircraft in an undated photo. —Reuters

Guatemala scours for quake survivors, death toll expected to rise

Two men walk past damaged houses after a 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck on Wednesday on the streets of San Marcos, in the San Marcos region, about 250 km (155 miles) south of Guatemala City, on 8 Nov, 2012.—Reuters

Russia puts missile defence solution before arms talks

Moscow, 9 Nov—Russia-US arms reduction talks would not go on until the two sides solve the thorny issue of missile defence, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said on Thursday.

The missile defence issue includes components of the US-led missile defence shield in Europe and other parts, Ryabkov said.

Russia expected legally binding guarantees that the missile defence system was not directed at Russia, and could not accept verbal assurance as an alternative, said the senior diplomat.

If the missile shield issue could not be solved, bilateral weapons reduction negotiations would not go on, Ryabkov added.

Moscow’s plan to reduce nuclear stockpiles depended on all relevant, the statement in ratifying the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty would also influence Moscow’s policy on arms reduction, according to the official.

Also on Thursday, Russian Deputy Prime Minister and defence minister Anatoly Serdyukov urged the United States to offer paper guarantees over the missile defence programme following the re-election of President Barack Obama.

Netanyahu, on phone with Obama, pledges cooperation

Jerusalem, 9 Nov—Benjamin Netanyahu spoke by telephone with Barak Obama on Thursday and congratulated him on his re-election, after critics accused the Israeli prime minister of backing Mitt Romney and jeopardizing ties with Washington.

After Obama’s re-election on Tuesday, some of Netanyahu’s opponents—who hope to defeat him in an election on 22 January—accused the right-wing leader of backing the wrong man. Netanyahu, who denies having shown any preference during the US campaign, told Obama during the call that his re-election “was a vote of confidence in your leadership,” his office said.

The White House said Obama had received messages of congratulations from leaders around the world and the president was able to return some of the calls on Thursday.

Netanyahu said he “looked forward to continuing to work with the president to address the great challenges facing the United States and Israel and to advance peace and security in our region,” a statement from the prime minister’s office said.

In a speech earlier in the day, Netanyahu said some of his critics were “trying to cause conflict between us and the United States” by saying he had shown preference for Romney.

“They won’t get away with it,” he said, in remarks that appeared to be aimed at Obama’s Republican challenger following the re-election of President Barack Obama.

“The alliance with the United States is firm,” Netanyahu said.

Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem on 4 Nov, 2012. —Reuters

The missile defence issue is also likely to influence Moscow’s plans for its missile defence system, according to the official.

Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem on 4 Nov, 2012. —Reuters

Amir Navot is the military correspondent for the Jerusalem Post and is widely considered an expert on Middle East security affairs. He has authored more than a dozen books on the region and has written extensively about the Israeli military. Navot holds a master’s degree in international relations from Tel Aviv University and has served as a platoon commander in the Israeli army. His work has appeared in various international media outlets, and he is frequently cited as a source by journalists and analysts. Navot’s analysis is based on his extensive knowledge of the region and his deep understanding of Israeli military capabilities.
RIM’s BlackBerry 10 platform wins coveted US security clearance

TORONTO, 9 Nov — Research In Motion Ltd said on Thursday it has won a much-coveted US government security clearance for its yet-to-be launched platform for BlackBerry 10 devices that are expected to hit store shelves in the first quarter of 2013.

The company said its BlackBerry 10 platform has received the FIPS 140-2 certification, which would allow government agencies to deploy the devices, along with the new enterprise management platform to run the devices, as soon as the new smartphones are launched.

RIM, once-time pioneer in the smartphone industry, has seen its fortunes fade in recent years as nimbler rivals such as Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co have taken the game away from RIM with faster and snazzier devices.

RIM’s status now depends almost entirely on the long-awaited line of so-called BB 10 devices. Last month, RIM said it had shipped its first products on to the new line of devices, which the company hopes will help it regain some of the market share it has ceded to the likes of Apple’s iPhone and a slew of other devices that run on Google Inc’s Android operating system.

The Waterloo, Ontario-based company said this was the first time BlackBerry products have been FIPS certified ahead of launch. “A chieving FIPS certification for an entirely new platform in such a short period of time, and before launch, is quite remarkable,” RIM’s head of security certifications, David MacFarlane, said in a statement.

FIPS certification, which is given by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, is one of the minimum criteria that is required by US government agencies and regulated industries that collect, store, transfer, share and disseminate sensitive information.

The stamp of approval gives confidence in security-conscious organizations including some of RIM’s top clients like US and Canadian government agencies-that the data stored on smartphones running BlackBerry 10 can be properly secured and encrypted.

RIM promises that BlackBerry 10 will deliver a better user experience, along with the ability to separately manage both one’s corporate and personal data on the same device.— Reuters

Sony PlayStation certificate sparks talk

China may lift console ban

Tokyo/Beijing, 9 Nov — Sony Corp’s PlayStation 3 has received a certification of quality from a Chinese safety standards body, sparking speculation that China will end a decade-old ban on home game consoles. China has banned video game consoles since 2000, citing a need to protect the well-being of its young people. Some analysts cautioned against reading too much into Sony’s new certificate, noting the organization that gave it has no regulatory authority. “The Ministry of Culture has the regulatory authority over the console segment and is the sole organization that can revoke the ban,” said Lisa Cosmas Hanson, managing partner of US-based video games consultancy Eedoo as an “exercise and educational tool.”

Sony confirmed that it had received certification but remained tightlipped about whether this heralded an imminent entry for the PlayStation into the world’s second-largest economy or whether the company needed further certificates. “This does not mean that we have officially decided to enter Chinese market,” Sony spokeswoman Mai Hora said. “We recognize that China is a promising market so we will continuously study the possibility.”

Representatives for China’s Ministry of Culture could not be reached for comment. But there has been some precedent that China authorities are taking a less hard-line attitude towards video game consoles. This year Lenovo Group launched its own gaming device, the Ideacentre H20, a motion-sensing device that plays games similar in concept to Microsoft’s Kinnect for its Xbox console, by touting it as an “exercise and entertainment machine.”

Although home video game consoles are banned in China, online gaming and games on mobile devices are much less regulated — limiting the potential upside for Sony and rival game machine makers like Microsoft Corp and Nintendo Co Ltd. “It obviously has a huge population, but gamers in China have different habits,” said Piers Harding-Rolls, senior games analyst at HIS Screen Digest in London. “A lot of established gamers will use non-dedicated devices they have used over many years.” — Reuters
Boeing may take year to decide on mini-jumbo revamp

WASHINGTON, Nov 9 — The United States gave final approval on Wednesday to duties on billions of dollars of solar-energy products from China for five years, protecting US producers against lowered-priced imports and raising fears of Chinese retaliation.

The US International Trade Commission voted 6-0 in favor of double-digit levies on solar products in a case filed last year by SolarWorld Industries America.

Beijing has protested the case as part of the so-called “trade war” with the United States, questioning whether it was justified.

Panel approves five-year duties on China solar products

WASHINGTON, Nov 9 — The International Trade Commission approved five-year duties on solar-energy products from China, a move that could dent the green energy industry.

The duties, which range from 17.9 to 43.7 percent, are expected to impose a significant cost on Chinese producers and could lead to retaliatory measures from China.

The decision came after a lengthy investigation into alleged dumping and subsidies by Chinese producers.

Genital injuries send thousands to emergency care each year

The United States has seen a dramatic increase in the number of injuries to the genital and reproductive systems, according to a new study.

The study, published in the journal *Urology*, found that genital injuries are more common than previously thought and are often caused by consumer products.

The report, based on data from emergency rooms, found that about 10,000 people visit emergency rooms each year with genital injuries, with the majority of cases involving children.

Health care each year

The report also highlighted the need for better education and awareness around genital injuries, as well as improved reporting and tracking systems.

At Panasonic, blunt chief looks to force turnaround

Tokyo, Nov 9 — In a presentation beamated to Panasonic Corp offices around the world last week, new president and CEO Hisao Tsuga stunned middle managers with the blunt message that their bonuses will be cut by more than a third.

A couple of hours later, he warned investors in Tokyo that Panasonic would lose close to $10 billion in the year to March as it writes down assets and restructures to save $3 billion in five years.

In an interview with *Reuters*, Tsuga said the company would be “more aggressive” in making cuts and that the plan would be “painful” for employees.

At AlixPartners, said the mobile gadgets market, a new drop-down of Samsung and Apple is what the “a winner take all” business, but the hope for rivals is that Apple or Samsung is what the market will do over fairly quickly.

The types of injuries also differed by age and sex. Men were injured the most, accounting for about two-thirds of all genital injuries, while women were injured the most in the 18 to 28 years old age group as motorcycle accidents accounted for about 70 percent of the visits. Older people sustained only about eight percent of injuries, but they were more likely to be killed.

Breyer, said noting that this could be used to develop programs to prevent these injuries.

At Panasonic, blunt chief looks to force turnaround

Panasonic Corp’s new president Kazuhiro Tsuga poses in front of the company’s logo before his interview in Tokyo on 9 July 2012. *Reuters*
Three mortar shells from Syria hit Golan demilitarized zone

Jerusalem, 9 Nov—Three mortar shells fell in the demilitarized zone (DMZ) in the Golan Heights on the Israel-Syrian border on Tuesday, which defence officials believe to be related to the inner-fighting in Syria. Israel Radio reported.

The shells landed on the fence surrounding the A lon e i Habash an community near the DMZ, but did not explode. The other two exploded in open areas. No casualties were reported.

Security officials at the scene seemed positive that there was no intention against Israel, but that the incidents are a by-product of Syria’s civil war, which has been going on since March last year. This is another incident in a line of several, in which the inner-fighting in Syria have “leaked” into the DMZ, close to the border with Syria. On Wednesday, four stray bullets hit a Israeli military outpost at the centre of the Golan Heights, no damages or injuries were reported. A day ago, a military SUV was hit by stray bullets fired from within Syrian territory as well.

On Saturday, three Syrian tanks entered the buffer zone in the Golan Heights, prompting Israel to issue an official complaint to the UN the following day. UN forces across the border have increased patrols along the Syria-Israel border to prevent any friction between the two countries.

President of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas addresses the 67th United Nations General Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York, on 27 September, 2012.—Reuters

President said after a trilateral meeting these aims,” Gillard or April next year regarding Dili, Timor Leste in March to-people communication. Yudhoyono, Timor Lester President Susilo Bambang

developed economic ties by agreed on Friday to further Australia and Timor Leste Leaders of Indonesia, and the acquired rights, privileges the resolution would “accord the Palestinians access to bodies like the International Criminal Court in The Hague, where they could file complaints against Israel. The status upgrade seems certain to win approval in any vote in the General Assembly, which is composed mostly of post-colonial states historically sympathetic to the Palestinians. Palestinian diplomats also are courting European countries to further burnish their case. Frustrated that their bid for full UN membership last year failed amid US opposition in the UN Security Council, Palestinians launched their watered-down bid for recognition as an “observer state,” the same status given to the Vatican.

Israel and the United States oppose the move by the Palestinians and have called on Palestinian President Mahmoud A bbas to return to peace talks that collapsed in 2010 over Israeli settlement construction in the occupied West Bank.—Reuters

The computers and other electronic devices in question belonged to a handful of employees in an office within the SEC’s Trading and Markets Division. That office is responsible for making sure exchanges follow certain guidelines to protect the markets from cyber threats and systems problems, one of those people said.

Some of the staffers even brought the unprotected devices to a Black Hat conference, a reference where computer hacking experts gather to discuss the latest trends. It is not clear why the staffers brought the devices to the event. The security lapses in the Trading and Markets Division are laid out in a yet-to-be-released report that by the SEC’s Interim Inspector General Jon Rymer.—Reuters

Three Chinese construction workers have been shot dead by unknown gunmen in Nigeria’s northeast Borno state, the police said on Thursday, in a region plagued by an Islamist insurgency.

The killings bring to four the number of Chinese workers killed in the last month in Borno, after gunmen suspected of being robbers killed two construction workers in October. Radical Islamist sect Boko Haram has killed hundreds in bomb and gun attacks in Borno state since it launched an uprising there in 2009, mostly targeting figures of authority.

At about 8 a.m. (Wednesday) some gunmen shot and killed two Chinese construction workers at Benshek in Kaga local government of Borno state,” Police Commissioner Abdullahi Yundu told Reuters. He said a policeman was killed and several officers injured in Banki, another area in Borno, on Wednesday, when they were attacked by gunmen.

Cousins ordered to pay $3.7 million for starting Arizona’s largest fire

Phoenix, 9 Nov—Two cousins who admitted to accidentally starting the largest wildfire in Arizona history by leaving a smoldering campfire unattended were ordered on Thursday to pay $3.7 million to cover losses from the blaze.

A US Magistrate Judge asked that Caleb Malboeuf, 27, and David M alboeuf, 25, must pay the restitution for property damage and other losses to 16 victims of the fire, including several insurance companies, prosecutors said.

The blaze charred 840 square miles (2,175 square km) in eastern Arizona and New Mexico last summer, destroying three dozen homes and businesses and forcing as many as 10,000 people to evacuate.

The Malboeufs were charged by the US Magistrate Judge (about 8 a.m. (Wednesday) some officers injured in Banki, another area in Borno, on Wednesday, when they were attacked by gunmen.

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Security personnel collect a non-detonated mortar shell fired from Syria and landed in A lone i Habash an in the Golan Heights on 8 Nov, on 8 Nov.—Xinhua

Indonesia, Australia and Timor Leste eager to close economic ties

Jakarta, 9 Nov—Leaders of Indonesia, Australia and Timor Leste agreed on Friday to further develop economic ties by increasing trade, investment, a national news agency reported. Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Timor Leste Prime Minister Xanana Gusm ao and Australian Premier Julia Gillard also agreed to intensify people-to-people communication.

“There will be a further technical discussion in Dili, Timor Leste in March or April next year regarding these aims,” Gillard said after a tripartite meet-

roling of leaders of the three neighboring countries on the sidelines of the fifth Bali Democracy Forum in Nusa Dua, Bali. Leaders of the three countries have learned that the future of their economy is closely related with the economic development in Asia which exerts significant influence on global supply chain, Gil-

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The right attitude will bring great benefit to country

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Myanmar government won’t provide the necessary assistance in agricultural sector in urban development programme, the state budget was allowed to develop the agricultural systems.

Now, more international investments are invited to ensure all sectors make progress. That’s why necessary assistance on monetary factors are needed to consider by all means,” said the Union Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Kan Zaw in meeting with members of Supervisory Committee of Foreign Assistance of Township Planning and Implementing Committee.

The Union Minister went to Thayawady of Bago Region and Taikkyi of the north district of Yangon where he met members of Township Planning and Implementing Committee and Supervisory Committee of Foreign Assistance of Township.

Union Chief Justice receives EU delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Union Chief Justice U Tun Tun Oo received a delegation led by Mr Richard Samuel Horsey, an expert from the European Union, at the Union Supreme Court at 10 am yesterday. It was also attended by judges of the Union Supreme Court U Tha Htay, U Soe Nyunt and U Mya Thein.

During the meeting, they discussed current judiciary system and courses for improvement of judiciary skills of judges.

The Myanmar, UNICEF to cooperate further for child development

Dr Daw Khin San Yi on behalf of Myanmar government and UNICEF Resident Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha signed the agreement which covers young child survival and development, accessibility of water, environmental cleanliness and personal hygiene, access to basic education and gender equality, HIV/AIDS and children, protection of children and education, supervision and assessment of social policy.

Under the agreement signed in 1950 between Myanmar and UNICEF, the latter has assisted in fighting against small-pox, leprosy and malaria in the former.

Talks on Economic and Social Challenges in the Reform Process of Myanmar on 10 Nov

Yangon, 9 Nov—Educative talks on Economic and Social Challenges in the Reform Process of Myanmar will be given by German professors led by former Minister for Posts and Telecomm-unications of Germany at the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, here, at 1 pm on 10 November (Saturday).—M NA
Take time!

Hopes are high since the long-awaited foreign investment law has finally emerged as a landmark legislation of the second wave of reforms, which is widely expected to bring in a considerable number of investors, especially from Western countries.

It’s frequently, or almost constantly, stressed in the government circle that mere agrarian economy would not create economic prosperity and industrialization is an economic necessity. Transformation from conventional farming to mechanized one has also been mentioned as a means of socio-economic development of farmers.

Nonetheless, it is always easier said than done and we just can’t weave a magic wand to make things better. Mechanized farming would take certain period of time and we are in no hurry. In fact, it was initiated more or less twenty years ago. More haste, less speed.

Often described as a happy-go-lucky people, Myanmar people seem especially fond of displaying their lovely ‘easy-going’ spirit and ‘infinite’ patience in every aspect of their life. Greed is a sin and content is a virtue in our view. But, it has always been difficult for us to differentiate between greed and ambitiousness, which has always been a problem for us.

It is well to profit by the folly of others, it is high time we found out our own faults and took a careful look at some regional countries which were nothing better than us four or five decades ago. A sense of urgency is all we need right now to create something better.

Nonetheless, it is always easier said than done. The solution is to carry out relief tasks in Rakhine State. After the five-day course, the Emergency Response Team was to carry out relief tasks in Rakhine State. Hlaing.

Journeys of the Palaces of Burma

ARTICLE

The grand palace for the grand monarch

If the Palace Versailles in France was “the envy of Europe” in the 17th century A.D., the Palace Kambozathadi at Ham-sawadi (Bago) in Myanmar was the model of Burmese Architecture in Asia in the 16th C. A.D. For, though the two Palaces were built in different periods and centuries in the same location, they belong to two different cultures, and the two have some common backgrounds.

They were both grand royal residences built for the two grand monarchs—King Louis XIV of the Bourbon dynasty of France and King Bayint Naung of the Taungoo dynasty of Myanmar. Both were conquerors. Louis XIV was acclaimed “Sun king” and he visualized the master of Europe after he successfully waged four imperial wars namely the wars of the league of AIX, the iede of 1942, the war of Devolution and the war of Spanish succession. He built the largest French Empire and he was even stood in awe of the French king’s energy, ambition and cleverness. King Bayint Naung was styled by his vassals the “Emperor of Ten Directions.” For with his might and main he led many unifying military campaigns within the country and was an able war-for-war-empire for building. His domains and vassalages formed the largest far-flung empire in Myanmar history.

It was at the behest of his son Crown Prince and Minsisters that a grand new palace named “Kambozathadi” was built in A.D. 1553, two years after his accession to the throne. It was a complex of several grand buildings of thick teak wood, elaborately carved, richly gilt and gold plated and adorned with intricate mosaic works of pearl and precious stones, occupying many acres of land. In the heart of the palace city Ham-sawadi.

Thirteen years after the completion of the new palace, a new capital city was built around the palace. It was the palace city of square design surrounded by enclosure walls with a 20 girt wooden gate, five entrances, constructed by the lords of his tributary vassal states and they were named after them such as (1) Zimme (2)


H. R. H. Darmomng Rajajaran of Thailand’s book journey through Burma in 1936 mentions that he saw some of these gates and others when he visited the Palace site in Bago.

M yanmar envoys admired his al palace and told A kbar that their master’s teak Palace gilt, gold plated and studded with precious stones was equally magnificent and that the king Akbar would visit Ham-sawadi. They returned home in 1579 A.D.

Louis X V who succeeded Louis IV is said to have uttered on his deathbed “A pres moi deluge!” (After me, the flood). So it was, for the French Revolution broke out in 1789 and his successor Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinet were guillotined.

Maha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja

Sithu Dr. Khin Maung Nyein

Wide and deep moat infested with ferocious crocodiles encircled the city walls. Within the city were ten major boulevards, the courts and lanes crossed at right angle. One poet laureate of that time Paj Nwadaw and other Myanmmar classical writers composed verses on the magnificence and grandeur of his Palace and the city.

Portuguese adventurers such as Manuel de Faria Y Sousa, Gasparo Babli, Barbosa, Venetian Merchant Caesar Fredericks and English traveler Ralph Fitch who visited Ham-sawadi of Bayint Naung’s time and his palace Kambozathadi left graphic accounts of what they saw and experienced in their travels.

In his Asia A Portugalue, Faria Y Sousa writes: “Braginoco (Portuguese version of Burmese name for Bayint Naung’s vassal) built a palace as big as an ordinary city. The least part of its beauty was rich painting and gilding, for the roofs of some apartments were covered with plates of solid gold. Some rooms were set with status of kings and queens of massive gold set with rich stones, as big as the life. He (Bayint Naung) was carried on a litter of gold upon many men’s shoulders and his dog was held more like a god than a prince.”

King Bayint Naung exchanged missions with India (Bengal). One of the missions met Akbar the mightiest monarch in Asis of that time. His palace at Fathpur-Sikri was one of the wonders of the world.
**PYITHU HLUTTAW**

Vacant positions filled in Pyithu Hluttaw committees/commission

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

The vacant positions at Pyithu Hluttaw committees and commission were filled and the term of Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission extended for one year beginning from 16 November at today’s Hluttaw session.

Ward or Village-tract administration bylaws and vacant, fellow and virgin land management bylaws were approved as amended by Bill Committee and MPS—NLM

Union Rail Transportation Minister calls for better delivery service

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

Union Minister for Rail Transportation U Zeyar Aung called for better delivery service in meeting with officials and staff at Mawlamyine Station on 7 November.

The Union minister travelled to Mawlamyine from Yangon to inspect condition of railroad on 5 November and inspected the condition of railroad and bridges and station at Mawlamyine and railway section and from Thanbyuzayat and Mawlamyine.

The Union minister also visited related offices in Mawlamyine, concrete sleeper factory in Mawlamyine, and party observed industrial development.

Union Industry minister and party observe industrial estate in Thailand

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

A Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint arrived at Map Ta Phut Industrial Estate from Thailand’s eastern seaboard region. Thai Deputy Minister of Transport Mr. Prasert Jantarauangtong and Dr. Vareon Chairperr of Governor of Industrial Estate Authorities of Thailand explained them facts about Map Ta Phut Industrial Estate. Map Ta Phut Industrial Estate is situated in Eastern Seaboard Region of in Thailand and one of the successfully running industrial estate in 48 industrial estates in Thailand. Its main function is to produce petrochemical product with value-added.

The Union minister and party observed BLCP Clean Coal Technology and Sustainable Development Factory which is run with the use of Clean Coal Technology. BLCP power plant was constructed with the technology of Mitsubishi corporation from Japan and it could generate a total of 1400 MW since last 6 years.—MNA

Myanmar, ROK to cooperate in SMEs

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

Union Minister at the President Office U Tin Naing Thein held discussions with a delegation led by Chairman of Korea Federation of Small and Medium Business (KIBIZ) Mr. Kim Ki-Moon of the Republic of Korea, at the ministry yesterday morning.

Their discussion focused on investment matters, development of small and medium industries and technical cooperation for industrial development.

Union Communications and Information Technology Minister receives American guests

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

Union Minister for Communications and Information Technology U Thein Tun received a delegation led by Project Director Ms Alex Morris and party of USA Country Strategic Organization at the Ministry, here, on 7 November.

Both sides had a discussion on the matters related to the Communication Bill, the future prospect for communications and ICT sector in Myanmar, the prices of mobiles and the limitation on Internet and development of Myanmar communications sector.

Opening of garment factory, bicycle assembling workshop and finished wood factory held in Hpa-an Industrial Zone

**NAI PYI TAW, 9 NOV—**

The opening of No 3 UMH garment factory took place in front of the factory in Hpa-an Industrial Zone in Hpa-an in Kayin State on 6 November. Kayin State Chief Minister U Zaw Mian attended the ceremony and cut the ribbon to open the factory together with State Hluttaw Speaker U Saw Tha Htoo Kyaw at the workshop and the chief minister pressed the button to open the workshop and planted commemorative sapling.

The chief minister also attended the opening of Myalain finished wood factory. The chief minister went to the state driving ceremony for UMH Industrial Park.

Arrangements are being made to construct other factories including garment factory to create job opportunities for local national races.
Union Minister U Aung Kyi sends open letter to all the persons of the journalism world

Dear people of the journalism profession,

There came out comments which include anger or astonishment or criticism as well as valuable views on the answer to the question of MP U Thein Nyunt which was asked on 6 November. Anyhow, I appreciate the comments.

Here, I would like to respond to some of the allegations that may even harm my reputation. I have already issued my biography in detail, so every one can check whether I have ever committed any corruption morally, socially or financially till now. Sincerely, I am a person who is so reluctant to violate the Precepts. I will never be corrupted morally, socially or financially till now.

As a Union Minister I often meet the media for ensuring predictability on my work according to the system of good governance. For example, during the meeting with DVB on 24 September 2012, I said, “I have never said the (private) dailies will come out at the end of this year. It’s just a prediction. I guess the early part of next year.”

Regarding the first part of the question of Hlutlaw Representative U Thein Nyunt that whether it is true that publication of private dailies was permitted in Myanmar till 1965-1967? Even during the time of the Revolutionary Council private newspapers were permitted as per the 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Law. Is the Union government going to permit the publication of private newspapers even during the time the law is still in force? If not, why?

Regarding the second part of the question of Hlutlaw Representative U Thein Nyunt that whether it is true that publication of private dailies was permitted in Myanmar till 1965-1967, would like to say that it is true if some private newspapers still existed during the period from 1965 to 1967 during which 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Law was in force. But what I would like to add here is that there was no permission to publish new private newspapers according to the law.

Regarding the second part of the question “Even during the time of the Revolutionary Council private newspapers were permitted as per the 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Law, is the Union government going to permit the publication of private newspapers even during the time the law is still in force?” the Union Government has an arrangement to allow the right to publish independent private newspapers during the time when 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Law is still in existence. But according to the developing media landscapes and explanations of journalism in 21st century, we are nurturing a new media environment for sustainability of independent private newspapers in cooperation with media associations. In nurturing this media environment, we are implementing the following steps:

1. Formulation of fundamental principles of ethics
2. Setting procedures for making ethical decisions
3. Formulation of Code of Ethics
4. Formulation of Code of Conducts

I said “approximately the early part of next year” is a slip of the tongue and again said in Parliament “the Union government is in no position to determine the exact date”. So, what is it, a slip of the tongue, dishonesty, beating about the bush, sham democracy, or what exactly?

It is the paradox resulted from different observational positions between us. As much I am authorized to reveal the approximate date for sake of the reference of public prediction, I am not in a position to give the exact date on behalf of the Union government without prior agreement, in answering the second question which indeed asked for commitment of the Union government.

I don’t change my words. On my part have been trying best for soonest emergence of independent private newspapers. And I would like to ask press institution to join hands for quick emergence of a good media environment.

I would like to outline one simple reason why do we need the institutions. Every democratic nation which allows publication of daily newspapers has organizations and rules and regulations to enforce journalistic ethics and to protect the individual rights of the people. Journalism codes of ethics have been formulated and publicized. The press councils and some countries even have ombudsmen to perform the duty. We have a lot of questions—that have yet to be answered— whether we are running corrigenda and if we have enhanced accountability to readers and to the fellow journalists instead of press freedom.

The ministry does not directly or indirectly force the media men to perform these tasks, but rather allows them to get on with them independently. We are just recommending them to do what they ought to.

Let’s try to go ahead with quick launch of independent private newspapers in the favorable media environment. What we are doing, what we are writing and what we are talking about today will become the history of each of us later. We have to do what we ought to without personality cult and partisanship. Honest to god, I have done nothing wrong. Everyone will later understand my goodwill. It is just a matter of time. However, I am open to criticism. The questions are actually beneficial to me. Isn’t it what a journalist is supposed to do? Thank you.

U Aung Kyi
Union Minister
Ministry of Information

MINISTER OF INFORMATION

U Aung Kyi gave an answering letter to the questions raised by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Thein Nyunt of Thingangyun Township as regards to the answer to the question which indeed asked for commitment of the Union government which was asked on 6 November.

As some media reports that quoted excerpts of the minister’s answer could lead to misunderstanding of the people and the journalists over stance of the Ministry of Information and Union minister, the Union minister wrote an open letter that was posted on the official website of the Ministry of Information since 7 November. The open letter is reproduced for public consideration.

Union Minister U Win Myint receives Swiss ACC Chairman

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint received Chairman of Asian Chamber of Commerce Dr. Robert Schmitte of Thai-Pichaaiwwongse who visited the Ministry here, yesterday morning.

They discussed the matters relating to designation for Myanmar’s export to Switzerland, long-term cooperation between entreprenuers of the two countries, bilateral cooperation for promotion of Myanmar products to Europe market and Investment Protection Agreement and Double Taxation Agreement.

Social security principles discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 9 Nov—Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and ILO organized a seminar on “social security principle” at MICT Park in Hlin Township this morning.

Chairman of Social Security Board U Yu Lwin Aung and deputy liaison officer of Myanmar ILO Office Ms Piya Myaung Pichaiawongse gave inaugural speeches and Ms Valerie Schmitt of Thai-based ILO Office elaborated on social protection, social security norms and work programmes. Ms Valerie Schmitt stressed the importance to practices social security norms in conformity with framework of ASEAN.

Japanese Prof to give talks on Modern Japan in World History

YANGON, 9 Nov—President of the International University of Japan Prof. Shinichi Kitakoa will give talks on Modern Japan in World History at the Park Royal Hotel from 4 to 6 pm on 24 November.

The president will discuss why Japan has become the first developed country in Asia along with Meiji reforms, its struggles from ash to the second largest economy within 30 years after the second World War and its efforts to be able to participate in the world security and peace activities in the post cold war period though it had been under the flag of the US for security.

Mr Kitakoa is expert for diplomatic relations and had worked as the Japanese Ambassador to the United Nations from 2004 to 2006.

Opening ceremony of social security principle in progress.— MNA

NATIONAL

The New Light of Myanmar
Hanoi wins right to host 2019 Asian Games

The delegations of Vietnam’s capital Hanoi has won the right to host the 18th Asian Games in 2019, beating Indonesia’s second biggest city Surabaya in a vote at the 31st General Assembly of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) here on Thursday, said Sheikh Ahmadi Al-Fahad Al-Sabah, president of the OCA, told the press conference held here.

Hanoi would make their commitment, without revealing the details of the vote.

“The majority of the votes are for the city of Hanoi to hold the 2019 Asian Games,” said Al-Sabah. “The leaders of the country, the sports groups of the country, we have trust that they will reach their commitment, and as a partner we will work very closely with them to bring the best Games ever in Asia.”

“We will start for the Asian Games early next year,” said Fahad Al-Sabah, president of the OCA’s Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) assembly hosted in Macao, China, on 8 Nov. 2012. Hanoi, capital of Vietnam, won the right to host the 2019 Asian Games.

The Asial Games are held every four years but will switch to a five-year gap for one edition after the 17th edition in Incheon, South Korea, in 2014, to establish a new four-year cycle.

New Zealand government under fire after dropping Kyoto Protocol commitment

Wellington, 9 Nov—The New Zealand government announced on Friday it would not sign up to a second commitment period on greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Protocol, opting instead for a non-binding pledge. Climate Change Minister Tim Groser said New Zealand would take an emissions pledge under the United Nations Framework Agreement on Climate Change from 1 Jan next year.

The controversial move would align New Zealand’s climate change efforts with a group of developed and developing countries that were collectively responsible for 85 percent of global emissions. These countries included the United States, Japan, China, India, Canada, Brazil and Russia. “I want to emphasize that New Zealand stands 100-percent behind its existing Kyoto Protocol commitment,” Groser said in a statement.

“We are on track to achieving our target indeed we are forecasting a projected surplus of 23.1 million tonnes. Furthermore, we will remain full members of the Kyoto Protocol. There is no question of withdrawing. The issue was always different: where would we take our next commitment under the Kyoto Protocol or under the Convention with the large majority of economies? We have decided that it is New Zealand’s best interests to do the latter,” said Groser.

“It is our intention to apply the broad Kyoto Framework of rules to our next commitment. This will ensure that at least New Zealand has started a process of carrying forward the structure created under the Kyoto Framework into the broader Convention Framework.”

The Asian Games are held every four years but will switch to a five-year gap for one edition after the 17th edition in Incheon, South Korea, in 2014, to establish a new four-year cycle.

Indonesian president urges reform in UN Security Council

Jakarta, 9 Nov—Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono on Thursday called for reforms that would allow the UN Security Council to play a more responsive and effective role in settling conflicts, local media reported.

“In my opinion, an effective Security Council must be one that better represents contemporary global realities (and serves as) an intergovernmental forum for exchanging ideas and sharing experiences on democracy,” Yudhoyono said in his opening speech at the fifth Bali Democracy Forum in Nusa Dua, Bali.

The world needs a more effective international peacekeeping body that is able to thwart protracted and bloody conflicts when local authorities fail to settle such matters themselves, said Yudhoyono, adding that such a forum would contribute to crafting a more successful model of global governance that can actively address the challenges of the times.

To achieve global security, we must have a responsive and effective international enforcement mechanism,” he said.

Yudhoyono emphasized that the international community must step in to prevent protracted humanitarian tragedies when local authorities fail to maintain order within their own borders. “On the one hand, such steps should fully respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country concerned.”

And yet, on the other hand, the steps should also ensure the immediate conclusion of the humanitarian tragedy,” he said, citing the current situation in Syria as a harsh reminder of the failure of the current international system.

“Critical to our democratic work at the global level is global governance,” he said. “It is a governance that fully subscribes to democratic principles.”

It is a governance that strengthens international peace and security, advances economic development and promotes effective enjoyment of human rights,” he said.

Yudhoyono added that the international community must provide mechanisms to address long-standing issues of intolerance and prejudice.
Sandy forces 3 carmakers to scrap 15,000 cars

CHICAGO—Toyota, Chrysler, Nissan and Honda plan to scrap about 15,000 vehicles damaged by Hurricane Sandy, automakers and dealers continue assessing the storm’s impact, according to local media reports on Wednesday.

Travis Parman, spokesman of Nissan M otor Co, said late Tuesday it was more than 6,000. Nissan and luxury Infiniti brand cars and light trucks are "unsalable" due to the storm.

As many as 200,000 may have to be replaced, said Larry Dixon, a senior analyst for the National Automobile Dealers Association.

Sandy, the biggest hurricane storm in U.S. history, ranked New Jersey, New York off and the surrounding region led to at least 100 deaths. According to the Detroit News, Fisker Automotive Inc, a startup maker of luxury plug hybrids, lost 20% of its 10,000 U.S. dollars Karma sedans at the port of Newark, New Jersey, that burned in a fire triggered by salt water, said Roger Omish, a spokesman for the California-based company.

"We don’t have a full estimate of the cost to replace them yet, ” Omish said. The cars were being processed at the port for delivery to Fisker dealers when the storm arrived.

Some 4,000 Toyota and Lexus vehicles were at the company’s port facility in Newark when the storm hit, said Jana Hartline, spokeswoman for Toyota’s U.S. unit in Torrance, California.

Chrysler lost about 750 vehicles in dealer stock due to the hurricane damage, said Larry Wilson, a spokeswoman for the Auburn Hills-based company.

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Car bomb exploded near Somali parliament

MOGADISHU, 9 Nov.—A remote controlled car bomb exploded near Somali parliament, a government soldier and several other people were injured, the deputy Mogadishu mayor Warsame Mohamed confirmed to Xinhua on Wednesday.

The car bomb went off at a parking lot close to the Somali parliament building in Mogadishu, the capital city of Somalia, which is used by lawmakers.

None of the parliamentarians were hurt in the explosion that also destroyed three vehicles in the parking area.

Xinhua
Brad Pitt’s furniture line marks start of new lifestyle venture

New Delhi, 9 Nov — Actor Brad Pitt — who is well known for his keen interests in architecture and sketching designs — has created a simple collection of well-structured pieces with furniture maker Frank Pollaro who revealed their partnership will continue to expand in the future.

He told E! News: “We will continue to work together, releasing new designs as Brad’s schedule permits. This is just the beginning.” The new Jersey-based craftsman also insists that despite collaborating with the father-of-six on the limited edition collection of furniture, the actor was the talent behind the designs.

He said: “We are both very focused thinkers and we would labour over a single small detail for hours. Our meetings were marathons, stretching anywhere from seven to 12 hours long, and often through the night. We kept going with the help of good meals and some great wines. The pieces are not only aesthetically beautiful, but technically complex. Together, we selected the pieces from his sketches, which are filled with thousands of drawings. The designs are 100 percent Brad’s.”

“I helped with finessing the details, engineering, and material selection, but ultimately Brad made the final decisions. He is a thoughtful designer who understands physics and balance. I admire his work.”

The 48-year-old star will unveil his furniture, which includes a dining table, a cocktail table, a variety of side tables, club chairs and a romantic marble bathtub designed to be shared by two people at a two-day exhibition in Pollaro in New York on 13 November.

Robert Pattinson admits fame can send people “crazy”

New Delhi, 9 Nov — Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2 actor Robert Pattinson has become one of the most famous men in the world since starring in the vampire franchise but says his global superstardom can take its toll.

When asked if he’d lost some of his sanity over the years, the 26-year-old hunk said: “Maybe I didn’t even have any sanity to begin with! I feel like that has happened a little bit. I’ve seen a lot of people dealing with fame and they go crazy quickly and it’s frightening.”

Robert recently forgave his Twilight co-star and long-term girlfriend Kristen Stewart for cheating on him as he is the only person who can understand his life.

Krissten had an affair with her Snow White and the Huntsman director Rupert Sanders, and despite initially breaking off their relationship, Robert wanted to give it one more chance as they have a deep connection because they starred in the Twilight Saga franchise together.

Heidi Klum “very happy” with bodyguard boyfriend

London, 9 Nov — Heidi Klum is “very happy” with her new relationship. The supermodel — who split from husband Seal earlier this year — recently revealed she is dating her bodyguard Martin Kristen and says she and her children Leni, eight, Henry, seven, Johan, five and two-year-old Lou are in a great place.

She told chat show host Ellen DeGeneres: “I’m very happy. The kids are very good. They’re happy. They’re regulate and you know, obviously they don’t hear a lot of the news and everything so they just celebrated Halloween obviously here in Los Angeles. They’re happy.”

The 39-year-old model recently insisted nothing has changed since she began a relationship with M artin in September and revealed the most important person in her life will always be her four children.

She said: “Nothing has changed for us. Not for the kids and not for anyone around us. It’s not different for anyone than it was before.”

“My children are everything for me. I’ve always wanted to have a big family. And I’m fortunate enough to have four.”

Lindsay Lohan thinks the police are conspiring against her

New Delhi, 9 Nov — The Liz & Dick actress Lindsay Lohan believes Los Angeles cops have a “vendetta to bring her down” after they are pushing for her to be jailed for lying about her car crash in June.

I MZ.com is reporting.

Lindsay still claims she wasn’t driving her Porsche during the accident on the Pacific Coast Highway, but several eye witnesses are insisting she was behind the wheel.

The 26-year-old star is “terrified” of going to jail because Judge Stephanie Sautner has told her she will violate her current probation if she breaks the law again.

She is allegedly saying: “One car accident could ruin everything for me.”

Lindsay is on probation since being found guilty of stealing a necklace in July 2011, for which she was sentenced to 120 days in prison and 480 hours of community service, and is telling friends she has since done everything right to abide by the law.

The party-loving starlet’s publicist Steve Honig recently quit after a rollercoaster few months for the actress, which also saw her accuse mother Dina of taking cocaine.

A source recently told RadarOnline.com: “Prosecutors and cops think there is more than enough evidence for the judge to find Lindsay in violation of probation and are hopeful that this time, she will face the maximum penalty for lying to cops. Remember, the burden is much lower if a probation violation, just the fact that Lindsay will be charged with a crime is enough for her probation to be revoked and sent to jail.”

Shah Rukh Khan

The King of Bollywood, Shah Rukh Khan, recently endorsed real estate company Mahagun.

He said: “Mahagun is the only real estate company which includes a dining table, a cocktail table, a variety of side tables, club chairs and a romantic marble bathtub designed to be shared by two people at a two-day exhibition in Pollaro in New York on 13 November.

He is the brand ambassador of the brand Mahagun and has now been roped in as the brand ambassador of real estate development company Mahagun Capital-based Mahagun India (P) Ltd. It has also introduced its new corporate identity with a new logo.

The decision to rope in Shah Rukh was based on the similarity of the company’s ideology. ‘Great names are built with consistent performances, and Shah Rukh and Mahagun have both built their reputation with excellence in performances every time’

Robert Pattinson

Robert Pattinson was last seen with his bodyguard Martin Kristen in Los Angeles. The couple have been spotted in public several times.

Some people “crazy” — the pair are said to be secretly planning to get married.

Heidi Klum

Heidi Klum recently insisted nothing has changed since she began a new relationship.

The supermodel — who split from husband Seal earlier this year — recently revealed she is dating her bodyguard Martin Kristen and says she and her children Leni, eight, Henry, seven, Johan, five and two-year-old Lou are in a great place.

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“My children are everything for me. I’ve always wanted to have a big family. And I’m fortunate enough to have four.”
Hanover wrap last minute 3-2 win in UEFA Europa League

BERLIN, 9 Nov — Hanover secured their berth in the round of 32 with great difficulty as they gave away a 2-0 lead to Helsingborg in Group L of the UEFA Europa League on Thursday. Hanover’s Szabolcs Huszti ensured the 3-2 win with his first goal, while penalty while Helsingborg booked two straight red cards in the dying minutes of the match. Hanover broke the deadlock with only three minutes into the match as Mame Biram Diouf headed home a cross inside the penalty area.
The hosts were clearly in control of the proceedings of the pitch meanwhile Helsingborg defended deep to avoid another blow. Nevertheless Dider Ya Ya was sent off for fouling the ball, allowing Hanover to take control of the proceeding penalty area.

Los Angeles, 9 Nov — Golden State Warriors centre Andrew Bogut will be sidelined for the next seven to 10 days in a bid to further strengthen his surgically repaired left ankle, the National Basketball Association team said on Thursday. Australian Bogut, who broke his ankle in January before being named in Australia’s squad for the World Cup in August, has had limited playing time in four of his team’s five games this season. The Warriors had hoped to ease the seven-footer back into action following his March surgery but are now banking on extended rest.

Bogut, the top pick by the Milwaukee Bucks in the 2005 draft, is averaging 6.0 points, 3.8 rebounds and 2.0 assists this season after being limited to 18.3 minutes per game. Golden State are joint top of the Western Conference Pacific division with the Los Angeles Clippers after making a 3-2 start. — Reuters

New York, 9 Nov — Triple Crown winner Miguel Cabrera of the Detroit Tigers and Buster Posey of the World Series winning San Francisco Giants were among Major League Baseball’s Silver Slugger winners announced on Thursday.
Third baseman Cabrera, who led the American League in home runs (44), runs batted in (139) and batting average (.330) for the major league’s first Triple Crown winner in 45 years, was a sure thing in the awards made by position managers and coaches.
Posey, who led the National League in batting average with a .336 mark to go along with 24 home runs and 103 runs batted in, won his first Silver Slugger as the league’s top offensive player at catcher.

Detroit Tigers’ Miguel Cabrera walks back to the dugout after being called out on strikes to give the San Francisco Giants the World Series during Game 4 of the MLB World Series baseball championship in Detroit, Michigan, on 28 Oct, 2012. — Reuters

Gainey eyes another win to end PGA Tour season

Los Angeles, 9 Nov — Three weeks after clinching his maiden PGA Tour victory, Tommy Gainey put himself in position for a repeat win as he charged into contention for the Children’s Miracle Network Classic at Lake Buena Vista, Florida on Thursday. The 37-year-old American with an unconventional swing fired a seven-under-par 65 on the Palm course, one of two layouts hosting the final PGA Tour event of the season, to end the opening round a stroke off the lead.
Gainey birdied two of his last three holes to finish level with Colombian Camilo Villegas, one shot behind South Korean Charlie Wi who also started out on the Palm layout. Briton Russell Knox, in his rookie season on the Tour, was a further stroke back on 66, along with Americans Brian Harman and Scott Stallings.

Tommy Gainey of the US in this file photo taken on 6 Feb, 2011. — Reuters
A 76-Carat Diamond Set to be Auctioned for Over 15 Million Dollars

A woman compares the Archduke Joseph Diamond (R) to a 3-carat diamond during an auction preview at Christie's in Geneva, Switzerland, on Nov. 8, 2012. — Xinhua

Geneva, 9 Nov—Archduke Joseph Diamond, one of the rarest and most famous diamonds in the world, was presented in Geneva on Thursday and was expected to achieve more than 15 million US dollars at an auction on Nov. 13, 2012.

The magnificent gem combines an impressive size of 76.02 carats, perfect color and internally flawless clarity.

Jean-Marc Lunel, senior specialist of jewellery department of Christie's, said, due to its cut, shape, colour and clarity, Archduke Joseph was certainly to be one of the most important items ever presented at auction.

Two killed in armed jewellery store robbery in Ukraine

Kiev, 9 Nov—A heist committed by armed robbers at a jewellery store in eastern Ukraine on Thursday, local authorities reported. The robbery occurred at around 9:15 am local time (0715 GMT) when armed robbers entered the store in Mariupol and fatally shot two people, the Emergencies M Insinyor said.

The robbers stole jewelry and money from the store, according to preliminary reports.

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

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MYANMAR TV

New Orleans, 9 Nov—BP Plc and lawyers representing over 100,000 individuals and businesses claiming economic and medical damages from the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill on Thursday urged a US judge to approve a proposed $7.8 billion class-action settlement.

US District Judge Carl Barbier initially approved the deal in May, but called the “fairness hearing” to weigh objections from about 13,000 claimants challenging the settlement to resolve some of BP’s liability for the worst offshore oil spill in US history.

BP still faces civil and potential criminal liability charges brought by the US government and US states.

Barbier did not issue a final ruling at Thursday’s hearing in a New Orleans court, but he appears poised to grant final approval to the deal in the coming days, legal experts said. “We shouldn’t lose sight of the forest for the trees,” Barbier said at the end of the hearing, saying that some objections “were not factually made in good faith and bordered on being frivolous.”

London-based BP’s Macondo well spewed 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico over a period of 87 days. The torrent fouled shorelines from Texas to Alabama and eclipsed the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska in severity.

Lawyers for some affected parties say they will “opt out” of the deal, reached in March between BP and lawyers representing plaintiffs ranging from restaurateurs, hoteliers, and oyster men who lost money from the spill to recovery workers and coastal residents claiming medical damages from the cleanup.

“The settlement zones are inherently unfair,” said Stuart Smith, a lawyer for Florida business owners, referring to boundaries set by the deal which are meant to compensate businesses and homeowners based on their proximity to the spill.

Barbier said he had no authority to tweak the deal as written, but merely to approve or reject it.

“It sounds to me that maybe your gripe is that you weren’t in the room and that you would have done things differently,” Barbier told one of the objectors’ lawyers, “I don’t think there is such a thing as a perfect settlement.”

Jim Roy, a lead plaintiffs’ attorney, said the deal would resolve “well in excess of 100,000 claims.” BP in March estimated the deal’s cost at $7.8 billion, but damages are unapped and could rise far exceed that, Roy said. — Reuters

11. Cultural Dances

Iran, Armenia building joint hydropower plant

Thiraneh, 9 Nov—Iran and Armenia have started the construction of a joint hydroelectric power plant on the Aras River, Press TV reported on Thursday. The groundbreaking ceremony was held on Wednesday with the participation of Armenian President Serzh Sargsyan and Iranian Energy Minister Majid Namjou.

With the completion of the project, some 1,700 megawatts of electricity will be generated annually for domestic use in Iran, said managing director of Iran’s East Azerbaijan Regional Water Company, Arsalan Hashemi, according to the report.

The project, constructed simultaneously in Armenia’s Meghri and Iran’s Qarachalar regions, is financed with $50 million and 500 million US dollars in credits respectively from Armenia and Iran, said Press TV — Xinhua
Myanmar receives more than 13 million USD per year for the right of way under the 30-year contract

Amyotha Hluttaw session continued for 12th day, at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today, attended by Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint and 186 MPs.

A today’s session, with respect to the question of Dr Aye Maung of Rakhae State Constituency No.1 on “how the right of way for Myanmar-China Natural Gas Pipeline, damages in State/Region the pipe line pass through and compensation for those who suffer the losses due to pipe line,” Minister for Energy U Than Htay replied that Myanmar will receive 13.81 million USD per year for the right of way under the 30-year contract.

The 879.75 acres in Rakhae State, 1121.47 acres in Magway Region, 1707.93 acres in Mandalay Region and 1929.44 acres in Shan State, totaling 5638.596 acres will be rent for the construction of pipe line. Compensations have been paid for 85 huts and 15 houses along the pipeline area. And compensations amounting K 2762588119.65 have been paid for land and crops.

For the losses of land and crops, Ministry of Energy has formed the compensation organizations including respective general administration departments and local agents. For permanent handing over of lands, five-year compensations of land value, seasonal crops and perennial crops are paid.

With respect to the question of U Mank Aung Yun Kyaw of Kayin State Constituency No.2 on “if there is any plan to reconstruct Donethami Creek-crossing Bridge that can withstand above 53 tons of load, linking Kayin State and Mon State and to construct a new bridge, Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint replied that like ASEAN countries, Thailand’s allowance load standards for 22-wheeled truck is 50.5 tons. The 50.5-ton loaded trucks are crossing Donethami Creek-crossing Bridge as it can withstand 50.5 tons of load. Over 50.5-ton loaded trucks will be allowed to pass on the rail-road bridge after making coordination with Ministry of Rail Transportation. There is no plan to construct a new bridge.

Regarding the question of U Zone Hlatt Htun of Chin State Constituency No.2 on “if there is any plan to construct a two-storey modern City Hall in Falam of Chin State,” the Deputy Minister replied that it is the building with brick, CI sheet roof and concrete floor. In 2009-2010 financial year, Development Affairs Department (head office) has repaired it with the State’s fund allotment of K 2.6 million. Chin State Government has no plan to construct a new one as it can be used up to 25 years.

Member of Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee Dr M Yat Nyana Soe submitted the Bill Committee’s report on amended Myanmar Citizens Investment Bill sent back by Pyithu Hluttaw to be discussed by Amyotha Hluttaw and the proposal.

After that, seven representatives discussed the proposal on “urging the Union Government to create equal education learning opportunity across the country and designate it as a national duty” submitted by U Aung Nyae of Magway Region Constituency No.2.

With respect to it, Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyusaid that for having equal learning opportunities across the country, Ministry of Education is scrutinizing the opening of basic education primary schools in every villages and BEHSs or BEHSs (branch) in stations based on the facts that the numbers of students and smooth transport. In urban wards BEPSs, BEMs and BEHSs are being opened based on the number of students and distance. M able schools are opened at regions with no villages. For the completion of basic education level, schools are being upgraded so as to create education coverage.

The Government is implementing free and compulsory primary education programme in BESSs. Since 2011-2012 academic year, compulsory primary education programme, free/distribution of text books to primary students and exercise books in 2012-2013 and the grants of stipends and no collection of charges for primary students are being carried out. The last week of May is designated annually as the school enrolment week.

The KG school enrolment rate has increased to 98.47 percent. But, in some regions, children have no access to the primary education. For school enrolment of those children, officials from Ministry of Education is making cooperation with local authority concerned.

AIDS T'heingaba Hotel here this morning, with an address by Deputy Director-General from Health Department Dr Nilar Tin. The seminar focused on clarification about CEDAW and dissemination of HIV/AIDS knowledge, and discussion on future programmes. Trainees from Health Department, Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Department, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation and social organizations participated in the seminar.

Five engine from Kanbalu Township, one from Kyunhla Township, three from Kawkwin Township and policeman from Kanbalu Police Station, firefighters from Kanbalu and Kawlin townships and locals from Chetty Villa Village rushed to the scene to put out the fire which was extinguished at 2.35 pm.

Twenty five people from Chetty Villa Village were killed and 62 other wounded in the blast while fetching petrol from the derailed carriages, according to initial report. The injured were rushed to hospitals in Kanbalu and Kyunhla townships. The authorities concerned are investigating into the case.