Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker receives Swiss Ambassador

MNA

Russian and France disagree on Syria sarin attack

NAY PYI TAW, 17 Sept—A ceremony to sign grant agreement between Rural Development Department and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) was held at the meeting hall of the Department here this morning. It was attended by Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint, director-general from Rural Development Department and official and a delegation led by IFAD country programme manager Mr Omer Aslam Zafar.

IFAD grants USD 300,000 for rural development project in Magway

AMONG the townships in Ayeyawady Region in which watercrafts are mostly used are Mawlamyine, Mawgyun and Bogale. Inland Water Transport (IWT) regularly ran Mawgyun-Yangon triple-deckker passenger vessels, double-deckker private watercrafts, Pathienthu hovercraft and Shwesinkyawe hovercraft. As of 5 September, private passenger vessels, Pathienthu hovercraft and Shwesinkyawe hovercraft have started operating its services at a 40% discount rate. IWT-owned Mawgyun-Yangon triple-deckker passenger vessels—Balakyawswa, Balaminthint and Banyaroo have reduced its ordinary class fares to K 1500 from K 2000 and single room fares to K 8000 from K 11000. “For the interest of people, IWT is running its own vessels at a discount rate. But we provide better services to the passengers. We also offer freight services at a reasonable price. Passengers from Mawgyun and Bogale Townships mostly take vessels. Plan is underway to promote services,” said IWT agent U Aung Moe and clerk U Naing Win.

Byline: Mawgyun Myint Aung

Putin says Russia to reopen Soviet-era Arctic military base

Moscow, 17 Sept—Russia said on Tuesday it still suspected an August 21 chemical weapons attack in Syria was carried out by rebel forces, despite a report by UN investigators which France said showed the government was behind the attack.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov and French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius set out their countries’ opposing views following talks in Moscow, one day after the investigators confirmed the deadly nerve agent sarin was used in the attack.

“We have very serious grounds to believe that this was a provocation,” Lavrov said of the attack, which the United States has said killed more than 1,400 people in rebel-held areas.

Lavrov, whose country has been the Syrian government’s most important ally in the civil war, said there had been “many provocations” by the rebels fighting President Bashar al-Assad’s government and added: “They were all aimed, over the last two years, at provoking foreign intervention.”

He said the UN investigators’ report proved that chemical weapons had been used but that “there is no answer to a number of questions we have asked,” including whether the weapons were produced in a factory or home-made.

Reuters
Better Transport Facility

Loikaw-Dimawhsor-Prusho Road under expansion

The Union government made peace talks with armed ethnic groups and provided the local people with soft interest loans for ensuring social and economic development of the local people. As a visible document, the Union government emphasized improvement of road transport in the state. In the past, roads in the state were in bad shape in the monsoon. At present, they are pleased with better transportation facility, said local people. Further, a plan is being implemented to open a border trade camp in Kachin State, so there needs to be smooth and secure transport for swift flow of commodities and passengers.

In this regard, Loikaw-Dimawhsor-Prusho Road is being expanded with the use of heavy machinery. In the near future, the road will be a route from Loikaw to Meisei Township as a border trade route of the state. Kyemon-Prusho Township

Natural Disaster

Strong winds, heavy rain hit Nyaungdon Township

Nyaungdon, 17 Sept—Heavy rain and strong winds hit Hsamalauk, Zeebyugyun and Metral village-tracts of Nyaungdon Township in Ayeyawady Region from 3 to 4 am on 12 September. According to the observation at 6 am, there were 2.1 inches of rainfall, said the records of Agriculture Department.

In the bad weather, a tree broke in Thahtaygon Village of Hsamalauk Village-tract. There were no casualties in the incident. The local authorities and people cleared the debris on the road.—Kyemon-Shwe Bo

Moe Cho, 17 Sept—The hotel is projected to accommodate 350 visitors per day.

In Myanmar, there are 859 hotels comprising 31321 suites. Of them, a total of 217 hotels in Yangon have 9451 suites, according to the statistics of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism.

Myanmar needs suites of international level hotels as foreign investors and globetrotters are flowing into the nation. Building the international level hotels will contribute a lot to development of the tourism industry. Kyemon-Prusho Township

Basic Karatedo course concludes at Dental Medicine University (Mandalay)

Mandalay, 17 Sept—The basic Karatedo course of University of Dental Medicine (Mandalay) concluded at the university in conjunction with the skill demonstration.

At 3.30 pm on 6 September, the concluding ceremony of the course was attended by faculty members, staff and students. At the concluding of course, trainees showed off their skills in basic plays, basic Kata and basic defence works.

The advanced trainees and trainers demonstrated their advanced skills in Kata event.—Kyemon-UDM

Minister of Lashio Special Anti-Drug Squad, acting on a tip-off, searched the Pajero driven by Han Nu, 51 of 89th street between 17th and 18th streets in Mite Ekin Ward of Aungnyetazhan Township, heading for Mandalay from Muse, at mile post 78/5 at the entrance to Nawnghkio at 11 pm on 13 September.

They seized 790 stimulant tablets weighing 71.1 grams worth K 1.58 million.

Kyemon Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against him under Section 15/19(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Myitkyina, 17 Sept—The new government practising democracy made all-out efforts to restore political stability in Kayin State.

Myanmar Railways Head Office to be turned to Five Star Hotel

Yangon, 17 Sept—Preparations are being made to open Myanmar Railways (Head Office) at No 351/361 on Merchant Street in Botataung Township as international level five star hotel, said Executive Director U Maung Maung Lwin of Dosim Engineering & Construction Co Ltd at a press meet on 14 September afternoon.

The five star hotel will have 154 suites. The front wing will be of four storey and the back, five storey. On completion, 450 staff will be appointed at the hotel.

The managing director replied to queries raised by media persons.

Three youths arrested with four small arms

Myitkyina, 17 Sept—Members of Myitkyina Myoma Police Station and members of No 30 Police Battalion checked the vehicles at the junction of Agricultural Mechanization Department in Ayeyawady Ward of Myitkyina at 9.25 pm on 13 September.

They found one .62 pistol, one magazine and seven rounds of ammunition from the toolbox of L25 motorcycle, driven by Tet Toe together with Than Kyaw Hay on the pillion seat.

According to the investigation, the together with Moe Cho, stole four .62 pistols, 45 bullets and five magazines from a box in a factory at an empty house while carrying out stone crushing work of No 1003 Border Guard Force in Sinkyaing of Kanpaikte Sub-Township.

The police found three guns, four magazines and 38 bullets from the bed of Tet Toe’s house.

Myitkyina Myoma Police Station opened files of lawsuit against Tet Toe, 22, Than Kyaw Hay, 14, and Moe Cho (a) Than Naing Htoo, 15 under Section 19(f) of Arms Law.—Kyemon-Moe Kya (Myitkyina)

Stimulant tablets seized in Nawnghkio

Nawnghkio Myoma Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against him under Section 15/19(a) of Narcotic

Information

New Light of Myanmar

LOCAL NEWS

Electrification

600-megawatt coal-fired power plant for upper Chindwin

Sagaing, 17 Sept—Under the supervision of Sagaing Region Government, Tun Thwin Co is making preparations for construction of the 600-megawatt coal-fired power plant between Pagyislu and Yawsu villages in Kalaw Township.

The power plant will supply electricity to the national grid and supplies electricity to over 13000 local people of over 2000 houses in Mahtu, Yawsu, Myatya and Masein village-tracts of Kalaw Township.

In addition, the plant will feed electricity to Mawlaik round the clock along the bank of Chindwin River.

Applying Clean Coal Technology will not harm the health of the local people and it can give 95 per cent guarantee. Moreover, the power plant will create job opportunities for 1600 local people and undertake regional development tasks. Thus, the local people willingly hope for construction of the power plant.

As electrification plays a key role in all parts of the nation, the local authorities can supply electricity to the local people from townships upstream Chindwin River of Sagaing Region. However, the power supply period is three hours per day in maximum.

That is why, the local people are waiting for more power supply.

In 1965, two coal-fired power plants were built in Thitacua coal mining project of Kalawa Township with the capacity of 550 kilowatts generators to supply electricity to Kalay and Kalewa townships.

At that time, there was no health problem in generating of electricity within 25 years. Therefore, the local people accepted the construction of the coal-fired power plant, Tun Thwin Co tried to build 720x2megawatt power plants in July 2013.

The plant will be located on 40 acres of area, free from farmlands, between Namnawwe field No 38 between Masein and Mahtu village-tracts.—Kyemon-Myo Win Tun (Monywa)

HRD

Mini book corner opened in Yebuy Township

Yarbu, 17 Sept—Dawei District Information and Public Relations Department of Tanintharyi Region donated mini book corners at the public places with the aim of enabling the local people to have easy access to the reading facilities, raising reading habit and creating opportunity of reading for the people.

The local people gave encouragement to the department.

Welwisher U Tin Min Lwin of Yebuy Township of Dawei District donated one mini book corner on 11 September and opened it at the combined office of the township.

The wellwisher sponsored the mini book corner at the combined office where the people relates with departmental officials at any time.

Kyemon-District IPRD
Sarin gas used on “relatively large scale” in Syria: UN report

NEW YORK, 17 Sept—UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon turned in a much-anticipated report on Monday to the Security Council in which a team of experts concluded sarin nerve gas had been used on civilians in an attack last month in the suburbs of Damascus.

“The mission has concluded that chemical weapons were used on a relatively large scale in the Ghouta area of Damascus in the context of the ongoing conflict in Syria,” Ban said in his briefing to the 15-member council. “The attack resulted in numerous casualties, particularly among civilians.”

On 21 August more than 1,420 people were killed in an attack that resulted in more than 420 children in rebel-held areas of the capital city, according to the US government. “The United Nations Mission has now confirmed, unequivocally and objectively, that chemical weapons have been used in Syria,” Ban said, adding that it was a war crime.

While the United States and its allies have blamed President Bashar al-Assad for the attack, the Syrian government has claimed opposition forces carried it out.

“Several surface to surface rockets capable of delivering significant chemical payloads were identified and recorded at the investigated sites,” the 38-page report said. “Samples later confirmed to contain sarin were recovered from a majority of the rockets or rocket fragments.”

British Ambassador Mark Lyall Grant told reporters after the closed-door meeting that at least 350 liters of the chemical weapon were found, which he said was “35 times the amount that was used in the Tokyo subway.”

Putin says Russia to reopen Soviet-era Arctic military base

MOSCOW, 17 Sept—Russia is reopening a Soviet-era military base in the Arctic, President Vladimir Putin said on Monday, part of a drive to make the northern coast a global shipping route and secure the region’s vast energy resources.

Two decades after abandoning it, Russia has sent 10 warships behind four nuclear-powered ice breakers to the base on the Novosibirsk Islands, a show of force as it resumes a permanent naval presence in the thawing region.

The flotilla was led by Russia’s flagship nuclear powered cruiser, Peter the Great, along the Northern Sea Route, which connects Europe to Asia across Russian waters from the Kara Gate to the Bering Strait.

“Our troops left there in 1993, and yet it is a very important location in the Arctic Ocean, a new stage in the development of the Northern Sea Route,” Putin told a meeting of Russian defence officials.

“We will not only reopen the military base but restore the airfield to working order and make it possible for the emergency services, hydrologists and climate specialists to work together to ensure the security and effective work of the Northern Sea Route.”

Russia has staked future growth on mining the

Gunman opens fire at Navy Yard in Washington DC, 13 dead

WASHINGTON, 17 Sept—A decorated military veteran opened fire at the Washington Navy Yard on Monday in a burst of violence that killed 13 people, including the gunman, and set off waves of panic at the military installation just miles from the White House and US Capitol.

The FBI identified the suspect as Aaron Alexis, 34, of Fort Worth, Texas, a onetime Navy contractor who attended a Buddhist temple and had two gun-related brushes with the law. He received a general discharge from the Navy Reserve in 2011 after a series of misconduct issues, a Navy official said.

He was killed in one of several gun battles with police.

The motive — and how he breached security — remained unknown. About 12 people were injured, Washington Mayor Vincent Gray said, though it was unclear how many of them were shot.

Hours after the incident, police were searching for a possible second suspect in an incident that raised questions about security at the Washington Navy Yard, about a mile south of the US Capitol and 3 miles from the White House.

Somehow the gunman managed to enter the Naval Sea Systems Command Headquarters building about 8:20 am (1220 GMT) and started picking off victims from a fourth-floor atrium, witnesses said.

That set off pandemonium, with fire alarms sounding and security officers yelling at people to leave the building. Hundreds fled, some scrambling over walls to escape the gunfire. A loudspeaker announced ordered those who remained to stay in their offices.

The command where the shooting takes place requires two separate identification badges, one to get on the base and another to access the building, according to a source who works at the Navy Yard and requested anonymity.

Australia’s new PM Abbott unveils cabinet, promises economic stability

Australia’s new Prime Minister Tony Abbott unveils his 20-member cabinet, although several women were promoted to junior ministries.

“It is, I believe, one of the most experienced incoming ministries in our history, and I think it’s important to have experience as you move from opposition to government,” Abbott said in his first news conference since the election.

Abbott will become foreign minister, and will be the only woman in his 20-member cabinet, although several women were promoted to junior ministries.

“Australia’s third prime minister in three months when he is sworn in by the country’s governor-general on Wednesday.

Australians vote in national election

He won a commanding majority in parliament on a platform to scrap taxes on carbon pollution and mining profits, as well as a popular pledge to curb the arrival of asylum seekers into Australia by boat.

After the previous Labor government swapped prime ministers twice in three years, Abbott has promised a methodical government with no surprises, already outlining spending cuts totaling A$40 billion, tax reforms and a return to a budget surplus by 2016-17.
USB Condoms keep your devices safe

Singapore, 17 Sept—Huawei has managed to make its presence known this year with a few of its Android-based smartphones. However, it seems that the China-based company is getting ready to unveil a new Windows Phone device.

Huawei’s expectedAscend W3 Windows Phone spotted in leaked images

The Ascend W3 has been designed by people with an intent to charge them. Now, Int3.cc a community of developers focused on information security have come up with a solution to the problem. The group has launched what it interestingly calls, USB Condoms.

The USB Condom is a sleeve that can be put on any USB port. It cuts access to the pins that carry data and only enables the device access to power supplied from the other device it’s plugged into. The exact design of the device is not known as the website only offers circuit diagrams, but the invention would surely be welcomed by individuals and organizations concerned about data privacy, especially ones connected with defence or areas where confidential data resides on employees’ mobile devices.

It’s compatible with USB Type A, USB-Mini B and USB-Micro B ports. The group claims that users can charge their phones on any computer or through public chargers without worrying about data theft.

Huawei Ascend W3 Windows Phone spotted in leaked images

The device comes with a 4-inch LCD display with a resolution of 480x800 pixels. On the other hand, the Huawei Ascend W3 is powered by a Qualcomm MSM8232 Snapdragon S4 Plus processor with a dual-core clocked at 1.4GHz along with Adreno 305 GPU. It comes with 512MB of RAM and 8GB of built storage, which can be further expanded up to 32GB through a microSD card. Huawei Ascend W2 features a 4.3-inch display with a resolution of 480x800 pixels.

The rear panel of the device sports a camera and comes again with a Huawei logo branding in the centre. Presently, there is no word about the innards of the device. However, the site notes that alleged Ascend W3 will support multiple LTE networks in China.

This is not the first Windows Phone that Huawei has manufactured till now. The company had launched Ascend W2 earlier this year at the Mobile Asia Expo 2013. Ascend W2 was the successor to Huawei Ascend W1, which was launched in January.

The Huawei Ascend W2 is powered by a Qualcomm MSM8230 Snapdragon S4 Plus processor with a dual-core clocked at 1.2GHz and a 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon S4 MSM8230 processor and 512 MB RAM. It sports a 4.7-inch super AMOLED display with a 480x800 pixels and a 0.3-megapixel front-facing camera.

ZTE aims to expand cloud computing services overseas

Singapore, 17 Sept—China’s ZTE Corp, the world’s fifth largest telecoms equipment maker, plans to expand cloud computing services abroad, despite the challenge of allaying security concerns.

“Nowadays, data privacy has become a hot topic. But we understand that every customer has its own requirements and characteristics and we are always monitoring developments in the industry,” Zhu Jinyun, ZTE’s general manager for cloud computing and IT products operations, told Reuters in a telephone interview from the Chinese city of Nanjing, where ZTE has a global cloud computing centre.

Samsung Galaxy Mega 6.3 now available in Purple variant

Hong Kong, 17 Sept—The Samsung Galaxy Mega 6.3 is now available in a Purple colour variant in Hong Kong.

A report in Unwired View notes that Samsung’s Galaxy Mega 6.3 Purple colour variant is now listed on Samsung’s Hong Kong website. The site also notes that the Purple variant might be rolled out to other markets soon.

The Samsung Galaxy Mega 6.3 made its global debut in April with White Mist and Black Frost the two available colours. It comes with a 6.3-inch (720x1280) HD display and features an 8-megapixel rear camera. The phablet is powered by a dual-core processor clocked at 1.7GHz.

The Galaxy Mega 6.3 has 1.5GB of RAM, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi and A-GPS. The device comes with a 3,200 mAh battery and runs Android 4.2 Jelly Bean. It includes 16GB of inbuilt storage and has a microSD card for expanding the storage up to 64GB. The site claims that the Galaxy Mega will likely be among Samsung’s devices that will be updated to the latest Android 4.4 KitKat soon.

Along with the Galaxy Mega 6.3, the South Korean major also launched the Galaxy Mega 5.8 smartphone. However, there is no word on the Galaxy Mega 5.8 Purple variant yet. Prior to this, Samsung Galaxy S4 was rolled out in Purple Mirage and Pink Twilight colours in Taiwan.

China says aims to train astronauts from other countries

Beijing, 17 Sept—China aims to train astronauts from other countries who will conduct missions with their Chinese counterparts, state news agency Xinhua cited a senior official as saying on Monday.

China will also share the technological achievements of its manned space programme with other countries, especially with developing ones, Xinhua quoted Wang Zhaoyao, head of the country’s manned space programme office, as saying.

“Cooperation should be either bilateral or multilateral, with diversified and group models based on peace and a win-win cooperation,” he said.

The move will happen “at a proper time”, Wang told an international seminar in Beijing.

China successfully completed its latest manned space mission in June, when three astronauts spent 15 days in orbit and docked with an experimental space laboratory critical in Beijing’s quest to build a working space station by 2020.

China is still far behind other countries, the United States and Russia, which decades ago learned the docking techniques China is only now mastering.

It is already working with Russia in the field of astronaut training, has a cooperative relationship with the European Space Agency and has begun talking to its opposite numbers in the United States, Wang added.—Reuters

Chinese astronauts (from L to R) Wang Yaping, Zhang Xiaoguang and Nie Haisheng wave before leaving for the Shenzhou-10 manned spacecraft mission at Jiuquan satellite launch centre in Jiuquan, Gansu province on 11 June, 2013. —Reuters
Traders bet on later Fed rate hike with Summers out of picture

NEW YORK, 17 Sept—Traders are betting the Fed­eral Reserve will keep poli­cy easier for longer now that former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers is out of the running to succeed Ben Bernanke as chairman of the US central bank.

Summers, a former top aide to President Barack Obama, was widely re­garded as likely to be more “hawkish” than current Vice Chair Janet Yellen, who was also a candidate and is now deemed the new front­runner. Obama has also said he was considering former Fed vice chair Donald Kohn to succeed Bernanke, whose second term expires in Jan­uary.

Traders now give a 55 percent probability of the first rate hike in Decem­ber 2014, and 68 percent chance in January 2015, according to CME Group’s Fed Watch, which generates probabilities based on the price of federal funds fu­tures traded at the Chicago Board of Trade. On Friday, traders saw a better­than­even chance of the first in­crease in October 2014.

Summers’ withdrawal on Sunday came in the face of mounting opposi­tion from within Obama’s own Democratic Party. On Monday, US short­term interest rates futures rose as traders shifted away from bets on Summers and to­ward Yellen, seen as a more dovish policymaker. “Sum­mers was viewed by the market as someone who would remove accommoda­tion more quickly. He was pretty much priced in,” said John Brady, a managing di­rector at Chicago­based RJ O’Brien. “It’s the Fed chair­man recalibration trade.”

Four Democratic sena­tors on the Senate Banking Committee were expected to vote against Summers if he had been nominated by the president.

IMF disburse $113 million for bailed­out Cyprus

NICOSSA, 17 Sept—The International Monetary Fund said on Monday it had completed its first review of its bailout programme for Cyprus, enabling the dis­bursement of $113 million.

The Fund said that brough total disbursements under its $1.3 billion loan links to troubled Greece. The European Stability Mechanism programme for Cyprus to

China, Switzerland eye deepened economic cooperation

BEIJING, 17 Sept—Beijing and Geneva have been developing economic coop­eration that has resulted in a boost in trade volume, a Beijing government official said on Monday.

At the Geneva­Beijing Economic Forum, Cheng Hong, deputy mayor of Bei­jing, said around 220 Swiss enterprises have invested in Beijing, and the total trade volume from January to June between Beijing and Switzerland has surpassed 16.3 billion US dollars.

IMF publishes ‘Extreme’ binge drinking common among teens: study

NEW YORK, 17 Sept—One in five high school sen­iors reports binge drinking in the last two weeks, and one in ten reports “extreme” binge drinking — having 10 or more drinks on one occasion, according to a new study. Analyzing responses from more than 16,000 stu­dents surveyed between 2005 and 2011, researchers said they were “surprised” by how many reported al­cohol consumption at levels much higher than question­naires usually cover.

“Students were drinking two or three times the typical binge drinking threshold,” Megan Patrick, who led the new study at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, said.

“Consuming 10 or 15 drinks at one time is a lot of alcohol, especially for a teenager,” she told Reuters Health. “Understanding the negative consequences that go along with these very high rates is important.”

The surveys were completed by a nationally­representative group of US high school seniors. In all, 20.2 percent of the teenagers said they’d had at least five drinks on one or more occa­sions in the past two weeks, 10.5 percent had consumed at least 10 drinks in a row and 5.6 percent at least 15 drinks.

One drink was defined in the questionnaire as “a 12­ounce can (or bottle) of beer; a 4­ounce glass of wine; a 12­ounce bottle (or can) of wine cooler; or a mixed drink, shot glass of liquor, or the equivalent.”

Boys were more likely to report heavy drinking than girls across all three catego­ries. For example, 15.1 per­cent of boys reported recent­ly drinking at least 10 drinks in a row, compared to 5.3 percent of girls.

Likewise, more white students than black and Hispanic students were binge drinkers. Of all white seniors, 12.5 percent said they’d had 10 or more drinks on one occasion, versus 3.2 percent of black students and 7.7 percent of Hispanics.

Rates of the most ex­treme binge drinking were higher in the South than in the Northeast and West, and higher in rural areas than in urban ones. Although the proportion of youth who reported having at least five or 10 drinks declined slightly during the study period, rates of the highest­level bingeing did not, Patrick and her col­leagues reported on Monday in JAMA Pediatrics. “These findings might help explain why some consequences of underaged drinking, such as hospitalizations for over­does, are on the rise, despite general declines in binge­drinking,” Ralph W Hing­son and Aaron White, from the National Institute on Al­cohol Abuse and Alcoh­olism in Bethesda, Maryland, wrote in an editorial accom­panying the study.

Hungary identifies anthrax infection; sheep farm quarantined

BUDAPEST, 17 Sept—An infection of the deadly anthrax disease has been identified in sheep at a farm in Jaszladány, a vil­lage 120 kilometers east of Budapest, the agricul­ture ministry said on Monday.

Authorities found last week that one sheep in a herd of 210 heads died of anthrax, a disease which can spread to humans. The farm was placed under quarantine, the ministry said in a statement.

“Humans have not got the disease yet so we don’t have that prob­lem,” said Endre Karde­van, Secretary of State in the ministry, in a video published on the govern­ment’s website.

“We have controlled the situation,” he added. “We have surveyed the full livestock of the village and vaccination has started.”

The ministry said the disease would not spread from human to human. It said several sheep died on the farm, and their owners buried them under a thin, 40­centimetre layer of earth.

The authorities are now disinfecting the corrals and dying, and visited every house in the village to warn residents of the infection that can spread via infected meat.
Doubts over Merkel coalition grow despite Bavaria victory

BERLIN, 17 Sept—Chancellor Angela Merkel’s chances of preserving her centre-right coalition were in doubt less than a week before a federal election, with a new anti-euro party rising in the polls and her current partner reeling from a regional setback in Bavaria.

An emphatic victory in Bavaria on Sunday for the Christian Social Union (CSU), sister party to Merkel’s Christian Democrats (CDU), was overshadowed by recent poll gains for the Alternative fuer Deutschland (AfD) and the collapse of the Free Democrats (FDP) in the rich southern state.

Should the AFD clear the five percent threshold needed to enter the national parliament in the federal vote on Sunday, or if the FDP fails to clear that mark, then Merkel has virtually no chance of securing another centre-right majority.

While she will most likely remain chancellor, her conservatives might be forced to enter difficult coalition negotiations with the Social Democrats (SPD), in which they would have to cede key ministerial posts to their centre-left rival and accept SPD demands on tax and wage policy.

“The big uncertainty now is the AfD,” said Thomas Jaeger, a political scientist at Cologne University. “They weren’t on the ballot in Bavaria but could get 5 percent nationally on Sunday.”

The AfD staged a mock burning of euro banknotes on Monday in front of Berlin’s most famous landmark, the Brandenburg Gate, in a stunt designed to draw attention to costly bailouts of heavily indebted euro zone members such as Greece.—Reuters

Water leak at Fukushima plant needs to be tackled urgently: IAEA chief

VIENNA, 17 Sept—International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Yukiya Amano told on Monday that the recent leak of radioactive water at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant in Japan should be tackled with urgency.

“The recent leak of contaminated water at Fukushima Daiichi is a matter that needs to be addressed urgently,” the IAEA chief said in his opening remarks at the 57th regular session of the agency’s annual conference.

We will continue to help Japan to overcome the Fukushima Daiichi accident,” said Amano, a former Japanese diplomat.

A massive amount of water is accumulating at the Fukushima complex as a result of continuing water injections into the three reactors that suffered meltdowns at the plant.

TEPCO is storing highly toxic water in hundreds of huge tanks set up on the plant’s premises, but it has recently confirmed that a total of 300 tons of water is estimated to have escaped from one of the tanks, part of which is believed to have flowed into the adjacent Pacific Ocean.

From Japan, Ichita Yamamoto, minister in charge of science and technology policy, speaks at the annual conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, on 16 Sept, 2013. Yamamoto spelled out Japan’s efforts to deal with radioactive water at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.—Kyodo News

Eight confirmed dead, 1,600 homes destroyed in Colorado floods

DENVER, 17 Sept—Search-and-rescue teams bolstered by National Guard troops fanned out across Colorado’s flood-stricken landscape on Monday, as a week of torrential rains blamed for eight deaths and the destruction of at least 1,600 homes finally gave way to sunny skies.

Much of the evacuation effort was focused on remote foothill and canyon communities in north-central Colorado, where the bulk of nearly 12,000 people evacuated since last week were stranded due to washed-out roads, bridges and communications lines, state emergency officials said.

The overall flood zone has encompassed 17 Colorado counties across a normally semi-arid region nearly the size of Delaware.

Eight confirmed dead, 1,600 homes destroyed in Colorado floods.

In Boulder County alone, about 1,500 people had been evacuated to emergency shelters as of Sunday night and another 160 on Monday, most of them by helicopter, county emergency management office spokeswoman Liz Donahue said.

Watchdog to urge head of Thailand-based investment fund pay heavy fine

Tokyo, 17 Sept.—The securities industry watchdog has decided to call on a government agency to order a 46-year-old Japanese man who manages a Thailand-based investment fund to pay a penalty, estimated to be billions of yen, for releasing information to the public about fictitious transactions to lift the stock price of a company, a market source said on Monday.

Asia Partnership Fund Group said it has a target list of probe by the Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission, at least since June 2010 when the watchdog raided relevant offices of the fund in Japan for an alleged violation of the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law. Since the head of the fund is located overseas, prosecutors have been unable to question the man. Investigations have thus stalled, making it difficult to establish a criminal case. The watchdog is planning to recommend to the Financial Services Agency to order the man to pay the penalty for the questionable transactions in a violation of the law. If the man does not respond, the agency may move to freeze the fund’s assets in Japan.

It is rare the watchdog makes such a recommendation about an entity subject to a criminal probe. The man did not respond to a request by Kyodo News to comment on the issue by Monday.

According to the market source, the penalty concerns transactions including private placement of shares and convertible bond trade among AFP, an AFJ subsidiary and Wedge Holdings Co.

From Japan, Ichita Yamamoto, Japan’s Cabinet minister in charge of science and technology policy, speaks at the annual conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria, on 16 Sept, 2013. Yamamoto spelled out Japan’s efforts to deal with radioactive water at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.—Kyodo News

A helicopter by President Bashar-al-Assad’s forces flies over Houla, near Homs, on 3 Dec, 2012.—Reuters

Protesters look for rattlesnakes that warn residents to be on the lookout for rattlesnakes that might be slithering to higher ground.—Reuters

A helicopter belonging to Syrian President Bashar-al-Assad’s forces flies over Houla, near Homs, on 3 Dec, 2012.—Reuters

Eight confirmed dead, 1,600 homes destroyed in Colorado floods.

A helicopter belonging to Syrian President Bashar-Al Assad’s forces flies over Houla, near Homs, on 3 Dec, 2012.—Reuters
**National Sports**

### New U-14 faces recruited in Mandalay Region

Mandalay, 17 Sept—Mandalay Region Football Federation selected U-14 players of the region in order to recruit new-bloods for Myanmar national team in a match in Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay on 14 September morning.

Officials of the region football federation, Patron of Former Upper Myanmar Selected Players Association U Sein Win Gyi, Chairman U Zaw Win, former Myanmar national team players, former selected regional team players, Principal of Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) U Soe Nyunt, and trainers judged 104 selected U-14 players from Mandalay Amarapura, Myitning, Singaing, Paleik, Patheingyi and Kyaukse.

A total of 46 players have been shortlisted and the final 30 players’ list was reportedly made on 15 September.

The U-16 players selection would be carried out on 21 and 22 September.

**U Ottama’s statue to be erected in MraukU**

MraukU, 17 Sept—A statue of Sayadaw U Ottama, one of Myanmar’s well-known independent fighters, will be erected in MraukU of Rakhine State.

The bronze statue will be six feet high and four feet wide.

The statue will feature the upright posture of the Sayadaw holding alms bowl.

The brief biography of the independence activist and his quotes will be engraved on each side of the statue while one side reserved for the list of donors.

The statue will be erected in Anawma Park beside 80,000 Pagodas. The estimated cost of the statue is K 20 million.

Maung Maung Soe and wife of Mya Yadana Jewelry have funded K 2 million for the statue.

Rakhine sculptor U Kyaw Tha Nyunt will make the bronze statue.

One may contact U Tun Hlaing of Nyawbin Market (Ph: 09421733855), U Maung Maung Soe of Myawadyan Jewelry (Ph: 0985221812), U Khin Maung Win of Nyawbin Market (Ph: 09421740066) and U Kyaw Tha Nyunt of Nyawbin Market (Ph: 0949670661).

**Cash donated to neonatal ward**

Yangon, 17 Sept—Chairperson of Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association (Central) visited General Hospital and Teaching Hospital in North Okkalapa on 3 September.

She donated K 5 million for the neonatal ward.

YANGON, 17 Sept—Mansi Township of Bhamo District is accelerating eradication of illegal timber extraction.

Four-legged kid born in DaikU Township

Peinzalok, 17 Sept—A four-legged baby girl was born to U Maung Lwin and Daw Htay in Inginsu ward in YangmuU village in Thabyaytan village-tract in DaikU Township on 14 September.

The girl who weighs 6.5 pound arrived at DaikU Township General Hospital in the evening after the delivery supervised by a community midwife.

She was seventh kid for U Maung Lwin and Daw Htay.

Region Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee donated K 100,000, District Women’s Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Association K 50,000, and wellwishers K 76,000.

The kid was transferred to Yangon Children’s Hospital from DaikU Police Station together with staff and Forester U Win Khaing of Mansi Township Forest Department, General Administration Department and Tatmadawmen seized motorcycles carrying illegal timber near Immigration and National Registration Department in Mawrawady Ward of Mansi.

The motorcyclists left down the motorcycles and run away from the scene when they saw the policemen and combined team. The authorities seized 44 pieces of sawn timber of teak and other hardwood weighing 0.545 ton and four motorcycles.

**Crime**

Illegal timber seized in Mansi Tsp

The ceremony was attended by departmental personnel, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, nurses, Red Cross members, firefighters, students and invited guests, totalling some 500.

Bago Region Chief Minister U Nyan Win and officials then cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

**Health Care Service**

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Next, Medical Superintendent Dr Than Lwin received the donation. The ceremony was attended by Professor/Dean Dr Khin Htar Yi of Gynecology Department, Professor Dr Aye Aung, specialist Dr Khin Khin Hnin of the neonatal ward, medical superintendents and nurses.

**Odd News**

A baby seen with four legs born to U Maung Lwin and Daw Htay of DaikU Township.
Union Health Minister attends WHO regional meetings

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Sept—Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin and party attended the 31st Meeting of Minister of Health of Countries of the WHO SEA Region and the Group and sponsored by Junction Cineplex (A member of Shwe Taung Group), is aimed at enabling Myanmar to keep abreast of neighbouring countries and to enjoy the benefits of economic cooperation.

The seminar which is jointly organized by MMPE and Parami AEC Knowledge Dissemination.

The 18-month project (from page 1) will implement in three villages of Magway Region with the contribution of USD 300,000 by IFAD. It will mainly focus on capacity building courses for rural development, workshops and demon-strations on development of agricultural and livestock sector. In the morning, the Union Minister held talks with Ms Shruiti Mehrotra from Tony Blair Association.

The minister said that as part of rural development plan is under way to implement development of arid zones, rural electrification and drinking water supply and implementation of nation-wide framework for rural development on a priority basis. Rural development tasks will be carried out in cooperation with ministries concerned, Region/State governments, regional administrative bodies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and donors from home and abroad.

Ms Shruiti Mehrotra pledged that Tony Blair Association will provide necessary assistance for rural development and help Myanmar to draft rural electrification and drinking water supply plan and comprehensive development plan. Strategic framework will be implemented based on plan’s results.

MNA

Cooperative societies to be promoted

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MNA
Seikta Thukha youths donate packets of rice to flood victims

AMARAPURA, 17 Sept—Seikta Thukha youths donated packets of rice and purified drinking water to the flood victims in Shwekyetyet Village of Sagaing Township in Mandalay Region on 15 September morning.

Members of Red Cross Battalion helped them in donating the food.

The flood victims are being accommodated beside Mandalay-Sagaing Road.

“The two-third villages from 24 villages of Sjwekyetyet Village-tract were flooded in recent days. They are staying beside the food. Helped them in donating packets of rice to flood victims,” said Seikta Thukha Chairman Kyemon-Thet Oo (Thaton).

Region Chief Minister looks into development undertakings in Sagaing District

MONYWA, 17 Sept—Chief Minister of Sagaing Region U Tha Aye together with departmental officials on 9 September inspected progress of eye free hospital in Htilhsaung Village of Myinn Township.

On 11 September, the Chief Minister attended the launching of water supply task in Yekha Village of Sagaing Township.

Region Hluttaw representative U Sein Khe, Chairman of Township Development Affairs Committee U Myint Maung and Chairman of the water supply committee U Mya Win formally launched the tasks.

Exercise books, cash donated to BEHS Branch in Sagaing

SAGAING, 17 Sept—A ceremony to donated exercise books and cash to the fund of representative U Thein Zaw.

The football teams took the designated places and sports oaths.

At first, Township Administrator U Tun Tun Naing of GAD spoke on the occasion.

Altogether 16 football tournaments from villages and wards are taking part in the tournament.

In the debut, Aungtaman team played against Yang-chithit team.

Region Police Station

N A Y PYI TAW, 17 Sept—Members of Eindu Police Station of Kayin State together with witnesses, acting on tip-off, raided the house of Ma Nan Phaw Htunt, 30 in Eindu Village of Hpa-an Township on 14 September.

Meanwhile, the policemen saw Ma Nan Phaw Htunt together with Saw Yin Aye (a) Akha Lein, 20 from Kawwon Village to buy narcotic drugs and other person.

The servicemen saw 86 WY brand stimulant tablets kept in the straws of soft drink in the metal box, 90 stimulant tablets in G net mobile phone, 70 stimulant tablets in the plastic bottle and 20 tablets in the eye brow liner tube, totalling 266 tablets on the table.

The stimulant tablets were weighing 26.6 grams worth K 931,000 and K 210,000 of proceeds from the black bag.

Eindu Police Station opened files of lawsuit against Ma Nan Phaw Htunt and two persons under Sections 15/19(a)/20(a) of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law.

Seikta Thukha youths donate packets of rice to flood victims

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Donors pledge 1.8 billion euros for Somalia

BRUSSELS, 17 Sept—International donors promised Somalia 1.8 billion euros ($2.4 billion) in reconstruction aid on Monday to back a three-year plan aimed at strengthening the country’s economy and building up its fragile security.

Somali leaders and about 50 international delegations met in Brussels to endorse the plan, which includes steps to boost output, foster political dialogue and improve security, after decades of debilitating civil war.

The 28-nation European Union, already the largest donor to the Horn of Africa country, led the financial pledges, committing 650 million euros.

“...I am glad to note that pledges today reached 1.8 billion euros, backing with financial means these new priorities and framework,” European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso told the closing session of the conference.

Somalia plunged into two decades of civil war and lawlessness after the overthrow of President Siad Barre in 1991.

But donors have seen signs of stabilisation since the African Union’s peace-keeping troops helped drive Islamist out of the capital Mogadishu and many other strongholds in central and southern Somalia.

The country of 10 million people is one of the poorest in the world, with per capita income of just $600 a year.

Pakistan to import 1,300 MW electricity from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

ISLAMABAD, 17 Sept—Pakistan on Monday signed an agreement to import 1,300 megawatts of electricity from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to overcome power shortage in the current summer season, officials said.

The agreement was signed by Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan at a two-day meeting of the inter-governmental council of the Central Asia South Asia (CASA) transmission and trade project in Islamabad.

Pakistan’s Energy and Water Minister Kha-waja Asif said the project CASA-1000 will bring in clean and affordable hydro-electricity to the country’s energy-starved national grid.

Two injured, 20 NATO containers destroyed in SW Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 17 Sept—At least two people were injured and 20 NATO containers were destroyed late Sunday night in an attack by militants in Pakistan’s southwestern province of Balochistan, local media reported.

According to the reports, the incident took place when drivers of 20 containers carrying oil and other products for NATO forces in Afghanistan parked their vehicles near a roadside restaurant for food and rest in the Hub District of Balochistan.

Around 10-15 militants riding on motorcycles reached the site and started spraying bullets at the containers before firing rockets at them, causing huge fire in six containers that later covered all other vehicles parked nearby.

Earlier reports said that only half a dozen containers were torched, but late local media reported that 20 containers were destroyed in the attack.

At least one driver and a woman were severely burnt in the fire.

Police, security forces and rescue teams rushed to the site and shifted the injured to the hospital.

The attackers managed to escape from the site easily after the strike.

A fire brigade was also called from the Hub city and it succeeded to extinguish the fire after six hours.—Xinhua

Donations expected to help Somalia fund development projects

BRUSSELS, 17 Sept—The European Union is expecting international donors to make new pledges of reconstruction aid for Somalia on Monday.

Aid officials underlined their expectation of a three-year plan of its own as of 2020.

An agreement to import 1,300 megawatts of electricity from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will help overcome power shortages in the current summer season, officials said.

Pakistan's Energy and Water Minister Khawaja Asif signed the agreement with his Kyrgyz and Tajik counterparts.

The agreement marks Pakistan's largest ever donor, with 650 million euros pledged to help Somalia fight civil war.

European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton (L) and Somali's President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud talk to reporters ahead of a conference called “New Deal in Somalia’’ in Brussels on 16 Sept, 2013. —Reuters

Hungarian, Vietnamese presidents call for nuclear power cooperation

BUDAPEST, 17 Sept—Hungary and Vietnam plan to expand cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy, which means Hungary will be training nearly 2,000 Vietnamese professionals, Hungarian President Janos Ader said on Monday.

Ader made the announcement at a news conference here after meeting Vietnamese President Truong Tan Sang, who is on a three-day visit to Hungary. The move, really an expansion of an accord signed a year ago, supports Vietnam’s plan to begin operating a nuclear power plant of its own as of 2020.

Meanwhile, the two officials underlined their good relationship, noting that over 4,000 Vietnamese students have studied in Hungarian universities over the past few decades.

In fact, said Ader, there are more non-native speakers of Hungarian in Vietnam than in any other country.

The two leaders concluded a framework agreement on water management that will facilitate their cooperation in flood defences and in controlling water quality. The Budapest Water Works has built a water treatment facility that will soon begin operation in Hanoi.

Sang called Hungary one of Vietnam’s most significant traditional Central European friends and an important “corridor” leading to the European Union. In return Vietnam would like to help introduce Hungarian products to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) market.—Xinhua

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A fire brigade was also called from the Hub city and it succeeded to extinguish the fire after six hours.—Xinhua

Wrecked cruise ship Costa Concordia raised off rocks in Italy

GIGLIO, Italy, 17 Sept— Salvage crews complet- ed raising the wreck of the Costa Concordia in the early hours of Tuesday morn- ing after a 19-hour-long ope- ration on the Italian island of Giglio where the huge cruise liner capsized in Jan- uary last year. One of the most complex and expen- sive maritime salvage op- erations ever attempted saw the 114,500-ton ship pulled upright by a series of huge jacks and cables and set on artificial platforms drilled into the rocky sea bed.

The operation was completed at around 4 a.m. (0200 GMT) without any significant problems.

“The ship has been settled onto its platforms,” Franco Gabrielli, the head of Italy’s Civil Protection Authority, told reporters and a group of cheering resi- dents who waited up into the early hours of the morn- ing to hear the news.

“We have accom- plished an important step towards removing the ship from the island,” he said.

The Concordia, a 290-metre-long (950-foot- long) liner carrying more than 4,400 passengers and crew, capsized and sank with the loss of 32 lives on 13 January, 2012 after it struck rocks outside Giglio, where it has lain ever since, half-submerged on a rock shelf.

The vessel bore the marks of its long period on the rocks, with brown mud stains scarring the hull and clear signs of deformation to the structure.

After a salvage ope- ration estimated to have cost more than 600 million euros ($801.15 million), the vast hull will remain in place for some months more while it is stabilised and refloated before being towed away to be broken up for scrap.

The so-called “parbuck- ling” operation, in which the giant hulk was painstakingly rotated upright took longer than the 10-12 hours initially estimated but engineers said the project had gone excep- tionally smoothly.

Reuters

Iran signals ‘desire’ to end nuclear dispute with West

VIENNA, 17 Sept—Iran said on Monday it wanted to settle a decade-old nuclear dispute with the West that has raised fears of a new Middle East war, but the United States said it must back words with action.

New Iranian atomic en- ergy chief Ali Akbar Salehi pledged greater cooperation with the UN nuclear watch- dog, delivering a concilia- tion message before talks this month about activities that the West suspects are aimed at developing a nu- clear weapons capability.

Iran was also optimis- tic that broader negotiations with major powers could achieve a deal if the parties came with good intentions. Salehi told the annual meet- ing of the 159-nation In- ternational Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

“This time we are com- ing with a more full-fledged ... desire for this,” he said.

Iran’s new president, Hassan Rouhani, a relative moderate, has pledged to smooth relations with world powers to help ease strin- gent sanctions imposed on the Islamic Republic over its atomic activities.—Reuters

The capsized cruise liner Costa Concordia lies on its side during the “parbuckling” operation next to Giglio Island on 17 Sept, 2013.—Reuters

Iran’s then Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi reacts upon his arrival to attend the opening ceremony for the new headquarters of the Iranian embassy in Amman, on 7 May, 2013.—Reuters

IRAN SIGNS ‘DESEIRE’ TO END NUCLEAR DISPUTE WITH WEST
Search for five missing continues after powerful typhoon

Tokyo, 17 Sept—Police and firefighters continued on Tuesday to search for five people who remain missing after a powerful typhoon hit Japan’s mainland the previous day.

In Tsu, Mie Prefecture in central Japan, some 55 officers and firemen combed a river and nearby hills in search of Mari Kojima, 41, and her 10-year-old daughter Risako after their car was found abandoned on a road beside the river. A man in his 60s is also missing after being swept away in a river in Fukushima Prefecture, and the whereabouts of two women in Hyogo and Iwate prefectures are unknown.

Typhoon Man-yi, the 18th of the year, tore through Japan’s mainland on Monday, with torrential rain and strong winds lashing a wide portion of the country and leaving three people dead.

Kyodo News

Gov’t eyeing lower landing fees for int’l flights at Haneda airport

Tokyo, 17 Sept—The Japanese government plans to lower landing fees for early and late-night international flights at Tokyo’s Haneda airport over a three-year period from fiscal 2014 to attract more overseas visitors ahead of the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, government sources said on Monday.

The Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism is holding discussions with the Finance Ministry on cutting landing fees for such international flights arriving at Haneda by 20 percent to 50 percent in the first year, 30 percent in the second year and 20 percent in the third year, the sources said.

Kyodo News

Vietnam has 131.6 m mobile phone subscribers in 2012: White Book

Hanoi, 17 Sept—Vietnam had 131.6 million mobile phone and 9.5 million landline subscribers by the end of 2012, according to the Vietnam’s Information and Communication Information (ICT) White Book 2013. Released by the Vietnam’s Ministry of Information and Communication (MIC) on Monday, the publication showed that although the development of telephone and internet subscribers slowed down due to market saturation, the number of mobile and internet users posted growth rates of 3.42 percent and 2.46 percent over 2011, respectively.

Notably, the number of fixed broadband internet subscribers increased 24.74 percent to nearly 4.8 million subscribers in 2012 while the number of 3G subscribers dropped from 16 million to 15.7 million.

The number of pay TV subscribers has almost doubled over 2011, bringing the total revenue of pay TV to 200 million US dollars. In 2012, the country’s ICT sector earned 25.5 billion US dollars, an increase of 86.3 percent year-on-year, while postal services pocketed nearly 274 million US dollars, said the publication.

The Vietnam’s ICT White Book provides information and data in the fields of ICT infrastructure, information technology, post and telecommunications, ICT human resources and information security.

Xinhua

Seoul, Pyongyang exchange final lists for family reunion

Seoul, 17 Sept—South Korea and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Monday exchanged the final lists of people who will be allowed to take part in the reunion event of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War, Seoul’s Red Cross organization said.

The Korea National Red Cross (KNRC) said in a statement that it sent the final lists of 96 South Koreans who can participate in the reunion event through the liaison office in the truce village of Panmunjom.

Up to 100 people was originally allowed to join the event, but some gave up their participation due to health reasons, the organization said.

Pyongyang also forwarded its list of 100 people who can meet their separated families living in South Korea at the upcoming reunion event scheduled for six days from 25 Sept in the scenic Mount Kumgang resort.

Seoul and Pyongyang agreed to hold the family reunion on 23 Aug after holding Red Cross working-level talks. If the reunion is to be held as planned, it would be the first such meeting to take place since late 2010.

Xinhua

76 children hospitalized after wrong vaccination in E India

New Delhi, 17 Sept—At least 76 children have been hospitalized after being given a wrong vaccine orally, instead of anti-polio drops, in the eastern Indian state of West Bengal on Sunday, a senior health official said on Monday.

“All the children are aged below five years. They were wrongly given hepatitis B vaccine orally instead of anti-polio drops in the state’s Hooghly district. However, all the children are out of danger after they were rushed to a nearby hospital,” he said, on condition of anonymity. State Chief Minster Mamata Banerjee has ordered a high-level probe into the incident and suspended four health officials. India, after being declared polio-free in 2001, conducts polio vaccination programs on some Sundays across the country.

Xinhua

A group of armed robbers have used a stolen Porsche Cayenne four wheel drive to break into a central Sydney bank on 13 Sept, 2013. After they finished, the Cayenne, which is reported to have been stolen earlier, was abandoned as the robbers jumped into a Subaru Impreza WRX and sped off, according to the Australian news website The Daily Telegraph. —Xinhua
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV MOROTAI VOY NO (217)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MOROTAI VOY NO (217) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P AGENT for: m/s CMA CGM to (23.10.2013) Instead of Previous Tender for Medical Equipment Pot Amend the Closing Date of Open Health, Central Medical Stores Dep

Montenegro continues working on large highway construction project with Chinese companies

PUDGORICA, 17 Sept—The Montenegrin government is intensively working on a highway project with its Chinese partners which will build the largest infrastructure project in this tiny European country, the government officials stated.

“It is a very demanding task because the highway is certainly the biggest infrastructure project that Montenegro had so far. Precisely because this is not an ordinary tender, the job must pass some additional procedures. When we finish the job, complete documentation will be sent to parliament for approval”, Jelena Raspopovic, spokeswoman of the Montenegrin Ministry for Transport and Maritime Affairs told Xinhua.

Early July, the Montenegrin government announced that Chinese Communications Construction Company (CCCC), its subsidiary China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) will build the first 41 km section of the planned Bar Boljare highway, connecting the north and south of this mountainous Adriatic country.

The Ministry noted that if everything goes as planned, actual work on the field should start before the end of this year. Chinese company, which is specialized in the construction of roads and has offices in 43 countries around the world, delivered an offer for this 41 km section worth 809 million euros.

Citizens of Montenegro welcomed the agreement, noting that Chinese companies will secure financial stability of the project as well as the quality standards of the new build highway.

“I heard that the Chinese will build our highway, I think this is good news because China is one of the strongest economies in the world. That means the financial security of the project which is very important in times of economic crisis”, Stevan Vukcevic, 29-year old computer manager from Podgorica told local media.

The Montenegrin Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs said that if everything goes as planned, actual work on the highway is scheduled to start before the end of this year.

Hundreds evacuated in Uruguay after heavy rains

MONTEVIDEO, 17 Sept—At least 600 people have been evacuated in Uruguay’s northeastern regions of Cerro Largo and Treinta y Tres, following heavy downpours, the National Emergency System (Sinae) reported on Monday.

Pablo Brugnoni, Sinae’s technical director, said his agency issued a flood warning after a meteorological forecast showed the heavy rains would continue for the next few hours.

“The outlook is worrisome,” Brugnoni told local daily El Pais. So far, Sinae has not released the evacuation figures per region. According to local governments, some 200 residents were evacuated in the city of Treinta y Tres, 286 km north-east of the country’s capital Montevideo, as the Ohlma River has risen to dangerous levels. Cerro Largo authorities, meanwhile, said 233 residents were evacuated. Most of them are from the Rio Branco city, where the Yaguaron River, situated along the border with Brazil, overflowed—Xinhua

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New Light of Myanmar

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- from the Vessel.
- declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm to Claims Day now and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

VOY NO (217) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 18.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P

Early July, the Montenegrin government announced that Chinese Communications Construction Company (CCCC), its subsidiary China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC) will build the first 41 km section of the planned Bar Boljare highway, connecting the north and south of this mountainous Adriatic country.
Channing Tatum: Would love to play Gambit in X-Men movie

LOS ANGELES, 17 Sept—Actor Channing Tatum says he would love to play the character of Gambit in an X-Men movie. Among the many comic book characters, the 33-year-old actor said one he loves most is the Gambit, previously played by Taylor Kitsch in 2009 film X-Men Origins: Wolverine, reported Ace Showbiz.

“He was punk rock. He kind of rode the line,” Tatum said.

The Magic Mike star will be voicing Lego Superman in The Lego Movie due next year, which will also have Will Arnett (Batman), Jonah Hill (Green Lantern), and Cobie Smulders (Wonder Woman).

Tatum’s new projects include Foxcatcher, Jupiter Ascending and 22 Jump Street.

PTI

Robert Pattinson wants to date confident women

LONDON, 17 Sept—Twilight star Robert Pattinson is looking for a confident woman because he feels he is the complete opposite.

The actor, who split from his longtime girlfriend Kristen Stewart in May, said his dream woman should be comfortable with herself, reported Contactmusic.

“(I look for) someone knowing who they are, it’s the best ... I guess because it’s the opposite of what I am - I am so all over the place.”

“If someone looks good in their clothes, it’s because they are comfortable in their own skin. It’s literally just like owning it. Oh no! That is so lame, I feel like I am on Project Runway saying ‘own that’,” he said.—PTI

Miley Cyrus stops following Liam Hemsworth on Twitter

LOS ANGELES, 17 Sept—Singer-actress Miley Cyrus has stopped following her fiance Liam Hemsworth on Twitter after it was reported that the actor has been wooing January Jones.

The 23-year-old Australian actor, who currently resides at Cyrus’ home in LA, has been trying to break free for some time now, reported Us magazine.

“They’re just weeks away from calling it off permanently,” a source said.

It has also been reported that the couple are not even sleeping in the same room anymore.

Hemsworth and Jones, 35, were first photographed together leaving West Hollywood’s Chateau Marmont on 23 February.—PTI

Lindsey Lohan inspires Elton John

LOS ANGELES, 17 Sept—Singer Elton John has revealed that he wrote a song for his album The Diving Board keeping troubled star Lindsay Lohan in mind.

John, 66, said that the title track of his upcoming new record was inspired by the former Disney star’s rise and fall in Hollywood, reported Ace Showbiz.

“I hate to think of Lindsay because she has a talent, she was a great actress, and then it became all about the madness, the parties and everyone forgets about what put them there in the first place - they get lost in the idea that they are famous for who they are, not what they are,” he said.

Lohan has recently completed a 90-day rehab stint. She was ordered to check into a rehab facility after having several run-ins with the law and admitting to using drugs. Marking John’s first album in seven years The Diving Board will be available from 24 September.

PTI

Julia Roberts: Family comes first for me

LONDON, 17 Sept—Pretty Woman Julia Roberts feels family is more important than fame.

The 45-year-old actress, who is mother to three kids — twins Hazel and Phinnaeus, 8, and son Henry, 6 with husband Daniel Moder, said fame is not a constant factor in life, reported Showbiz spy. Asked whether family or fame is more important, she said, “Family values, that’s values in general. That’s all there is.

Fame is a summer breeze that comes and goes. But to have a bedrock of knowing who you are, that’s what it’s all about.”

Roberts said that she enjoys her family time and is pretty amazing in the kitchen. “I’m quite a good cook. I’m like a closet home teacher. I can really cook anything,” she added.

PTI
**New Light of Myanmar**

**SPORTS**

Roma’s Francesco Totti scores in a penalty shoot-out against Arsenal during their Champions League match at the Olympic stadium in Rome on 11 March, 2009.—**Reuters**

Totti sets up new tactics:

Roma, scoring his first goal of the new campaign to give help them to a 3-1 win at Parma which maintained their 100 percent record in Serie A on Monday.

“**S****hoot-out**

Totti proved to be best man for brother,

Zach Johnson of US poses after winning the BMW Championship golf tournament at the Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Illinois, on 16 Sept, 2013.—**Reuters**

**Roma maintain perfect start**

**S****ports**

**Z**ach Johnson proved to be best man for brother, especially when you’re the best man,” a smiling Johnson told reporters after covering the back nine at Conway Farms in three-under 33 to keep his closest challengers at bay.

“I had zero intentions of missing that wedding, but I felt like today the idea was to go out aggressive, hit the ball at the pins, try to shoot four or five under, make the rest of the field chase me.”

**C****roatian Cilic banned for nine months for doping**

LONDON, 17 Sept—Croatian tennis player Marin Cilic has been banned for nine months after testing positive for the stimulant nikitamide, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) said on Monday.

In a statement the ITF said Cilic had “ingested the nikitamide inadvertently as a result of taking Coramine glucose tablets, and did not intend to enhance his performance in doing so.”

The suspension has been backdated to May 1, allowing Cilic to return to the circuit on January 31 next year.

The ITF statement said Cilic had tested positive at the BMW Open in Munich this year. It said Cilic had asserted that he had taken the stimulant by accident as a result of taking the glucose tablets that had been purchased on his behalf from a pharmacy.

Cilic, 24, has not played since withdrawing from his second-round match at Wimbledon in June. He defeated then world number two Andy Murray in the fourth round of the 2009 U.S. Open and reached the semi-finals of the 2010 Australian Open, where he lost to the Briton.

Cilic broke into the top 10 in February 2010 and reached a career-high of ninth. Cilic, who is currently ranked 24th, spent 11 successive weeks in the top 10.—**Reuters**

**Shelvey in the spotlight as Liverpool go top**

**S****port**

Jonjo Shelvey took centre stage against his former club as Liverpool returned to the top of the Premier League with a 2-2 draw at the Welsh club on Monday.

Shelvey scored Swansea’s opener and created their second but his two shocking passes set up both goals for Liverpool who moved a point clear of Arsenal and Tottenham Hotspur at the top of the table.

“I thought for the first 65 minutes we were very, very good with and without the ball. We had to show character after going behind so early,” Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers told Sky Sports after the match against his former club.

“This will be a really big point for us,” Shelvey, who joined Swansea for 5 million pounds ($8 million) from Liverpool in July, gave his new team the lead after two minutes when he swept a shot into the net at the second

“**S****ports**

**L**ondon, 17 Sept—Swansea City midfielder Jonjo Shelvey (L) passes Liverpool’s Mamadou Sakho before shooting to score a goal during their English Premier League match at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea, Wales on 16 Sept, 2013.—**Reuters**

Shelvey’s deft header set up striker Michu for Swansea’s equaliser after 64 minutes and the home side, 13th in the standings with four points from four games, looked more likely to snatch a winner in the closing stages.—**Reuters**

**S****ports**

**M**arin Cilic of Croatia hits a return to Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus in their men’s singles tennis match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships, in London on 24 June, 2013.—**Reuters**

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Cilic broke into the top 10 in February 2010 and reached a career-high of ninth. Cilic, who is currently ranked 24th, spent 11 successive weeks in the top 10.—**Reuters**

**J**ohnson proves to be best man for brother, and at BMW

**L**ake Forest, 17 Sept—Three weeks after putting his FedExCup playoff hopes on the back burner to perform best man duties at his brother’s wedding, Zach Johnson emerged as the best man standing at his brother’s wedding, especially when you’re the best man,” a smiling Johnson told reporters after covering the back nine at Conway Farms in three-under 33 to keep his closest challengers at bay.

“I had zero intentions of missing that wedding, but I felt like today the idea was to go out aggressive, hit the ball at the pins, try to shoot four or five under, make the rest of the field chase me.”

**Z**ach Johnson poses after winning the BMW Championship golf tournament at the Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Illinois, on 16 Sept, 2013.—**Reuters**

**D**efeated by father-in-law—

“**S****ports**

**S**wansea City’s Jonjo Shelvey (L) passes Liverpool’s Mamadou Sakho before shooting to score a goal during their English Premier League match at the Liberty Stadium, Swansea, Wales on 16 Sept, 2013.—**Reuters**

Shelvey’s deft header set up striker Michu for Swansea’s equaliser after 64 minutes and the home side, 13th in the standings with four points from four games, looked more likely to snatch a winner in the closing stages.—**Reuters**

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Fewer shoppers in British shops in August

LONDON, 17 Sept—British shops saw fewer shoppers in August despite growing signs of an economic recovery and good weather this summer, according to a report issued on Monday.

The British Retail Consortium and Springboard jointly reported that footfall in August fell 0.9 percent last month compared with last year. This is the lowest footfall rate since March 2013, but the retail industry organizations were still optimistic about the outlook.

Based on the report, high street footfall fell 0.6 percent compared with a good performance a year ago. Footfall in shopping center locations remained weak, down 2.2 percent, but showed a slight improvement in July’s 2.3 percent decline.

“A slight fall in shopper numbers is disappointing after several months of positive results, but there are a few factors at play,” said British Retail Consortium director general Helen Dickinson.

“A small dip in one month shouldn’t take the shine off the tentative signs of improving consumer confidence hinted at in recent times, and retailers are working hard to read these conditions so that they can continue to deliver for their customers,” said Dickinson.

Lindner Depa said the contract along with claims and related costs incurred as a result of very heavy rains, the termination of Lindner Depa’s (250 million US dollars) contract with NDIA, the termination of Lindner Depa is a joint venture between Dubai-based Depa Limited, whose shares are listed on the Nasdaq Dubai, and Germany’s Lindner AG.

Lindner Depa said the contract was cancelled following the announcement on 20 June, 2012 that its performance bond and advance payment guarantee were pulled due to their refusal to accept new, non-favorable contract terms and conditions.

German-UAE design duo seek compensation from new Doha airport

Dubai, 17 Sept—Lindner Depa, a joint venture company between Dubai-based Depa Limited, whose shares are listed on the Nasdaq Dubai, and Germany’s Lindner AG, said it is seeking compensation from the new Doha International Airport (NDIA).

The claim is based on the termination of Lindner Depa’s contract with NDIA, also called New Hamad Airport (LDA), said in a complaint filed in the US Federal court. Lindner Depa is a joint venture company between Dubai-based Depa Limited, whose shares are listed on the Nasdaq Dubai, and Germany’s Lindner AG.

Lindner Depa said the contract was cancelled following the announcement on 20 June, 2012 that its performance bond and advance payment guarantee were pulled due to their refusal to accept new, non-favorable contract terms and conditions.

“Including these dropped plans, all extension-of-time claims and related costs incurred as a result of very lengthy delays to our works caused by others and acceleration costs,” said the joint venture.

The termination of the contract along with “public comments made against LDA by Akbar Al Baker, head of the New Hamad Airport steering committee and CEO of Qatar Airlines in December 2012 and April 2013 caused significant financial and reputational damage to our company,” said Lindner Depa.

Al Baker blamed the German-UAE firm for failing to do the fit-out works on time. The 15.5 billion dollars New Hamad Airport was supposed to be open in 2010 but the opening date was delayed several times and the new opening date was pushed from 1 April, 2013 to the start of 2014.

Injured Villa defender Okore facing nine months out

LONDON, 17 Sept—Aston Villa’s Danish defender Jores Okore could be out for up to nine months with a knee injury, the Premier League club said on Monday.

“Following clinical examination and the results of an MRI scan, the club can confirm that Jores Okore sustained a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament injury in his left knee in the game against Newcastle on Saturday,” Villa said in a statement on their website (www.avfc.co.uk).

Okore, who will have surgery on the knee, came off in the 30th minute of Villa’s 2-1 defeat.

Reuters
Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visits war vessel of Royal Thai Navy

Nay Pyi Taw, 17 Sept—The Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing visited HTMS Anthong war vessel of Royal Thai Navy in Sattalap of Chumphon Province yesterday morning.

The war vessel honoured the Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services with the 19-gun salute.

At the hall of the war vessel, the Senior General and party heard facts about history of Royal Thai Navy and a vessel, the Senior General and party visited the war vessel.

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing being welcomed by the war vessel. —MNA

Rakhine State development discussed

Union Min Aung Hlaing clarified future prospects for the state development, undertakings for people-centered administrative mechanism and private-sector development, necessary for human resources development and financial assistance.

During the meeting, Union Minister U Soe Than extended greetings.

Yangon poised to reduce traffic congestion

Authorities are trying hard to reducing traffic congestions along the roads in Yangon. At present, overpasses have been built at the traffic lights.

On the other hands, it is important that the road users including vehicles and walkers should abide by the traffic rules. At present, the Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee has issued reminder for vehicles not to stop at the bus-stops except passenger buses.

Traffic congestion on the roads in Yangon is largely due to long time stationary buses, taxis, private cars and trucks at the bus-stops, prompting the authorities to issue the reminder.

After issuing the reminder by Yangon Region Traffic Rules Enforcement Supervisory Committee on 10 September, the two-week educative period was designated for road users. Beyond the educative period, action will be taken against the traffic brokers.

The roads where no car is not allowed to stop except buses are Pyay Road, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Insein Road, Bayintnaung Road, Laydaunhkkan Road, East Shwegondine Road, West Shwegondine Road, Banyadala Road, Merchant, Maha Bandooola, Anawratha, Bagaya, Inya, Bogyoke Aung San, Lower Pazundaung, Hledan, Thamaing Railway Station Roads will not allow long time stationary vehicles.

The prescribed disciplines may contribute to easing traffic congestions in Yangon.

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Plan for Hanthawady International Airport discussed

Yangon, 17 Sept—Tender was invited for State-owned Mandalay, Yangon and Hanthawady airports, and coordination will be made with tender winner Incheon Airport Consortium, said Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung at the coordination meeting with the tender winner company for construction of Hanthawady International Airport at the hall of the Marine Administration Department, here, yesterday afternoon.

The meeting is to adjust the agreements and requirements of both sides, he added.

Director-General U Tin Naing Tun of Department of Civil Aviation reported on arrangements for construction of Hanthawady International Airport. Responsible persons of Incheon Airport Consortium explained the future tasks of the airport project.

New rainfall records

Yangon, 17 Sept—According to the observation at (9:30) hrs MST today, Kyemon (Agro Met) Station set new rainfall record with 5.16 inches today breaking the old record of 4.92 inches on 8-9-2002, announced the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

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