Logo Design Competition further strengthens Israel-Myanmar diplomatic relations

Yangon, 18 Sept—The prize presentation for the Logo Design Competition in commemoration of the 60th founding anniversary of Israel-Myanmar diplomatic relations was held at the hall of National Culture and Fine Arts University (Yangon), here, yesterday morning.

Israeli Ambassador Mr Hagay Moshe Behar in his address said that the logo competition contributed to further strengthening of relationship between peoples from Israel and Myanmar.

Officials awarded first prize winner Maung Kyaw Khaing (Designer), second prize winner Maung Aung Ko Lwin of NCFA University (Yangon), third prize winner Maung Zin Maung Maung, deputy head of Ministry of Information and fourth prize winner Maung Than Htaik Oo (University of Computer Studies (Bhamo).—MNA

Deputy Minister for Culture U Than Swe presents award to a winner of Logo Design Competition in commemoration of the 60th founding anniversary of Israel-Myanmar diplomatic relations.—MNA

MNHRC Website and Resource Centre launched

Yangon, 18 Sept— Jointly organized by Myanmar National Human Rights Commission and Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI), Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Website and Resource Centre was launched at the commission’s office, here, this morning.

The ceremony was organized by Sweden International Development Agency (SIDA).

At the event, Chairman of Myanmar National Human Rights Commission U Win Mra, Senior Programme Manager/Policy Adviser to Sida Mr. David Holmertz and Deputy Director Mr. Rolf Ring of Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) extended greetings.

Next, expert Ms. Lena Olsson of RWI shared knowledge on Myanmar National Human Rights Commission Website and Resource Centre.

(See page 9)
Rural development and poverty alleviation strategy framework plan to be finalized within three months

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—The ministry has been carrying out rural development and poverty alleviation tasks as focal ministry. Into doing so, priority was given to undertaking rural electrification and supply of drinking water which is essential for rural development,” said Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint at work coordination meeting 1/2013 of rural area electrification and water supply committee.—MNA

Light truck plunges into creek, leaving eight dead in Mongphyat

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—A light truck driven by U Kyi Win, 54 of Haeto Village in Mahtaing Township left Mahtaing of Mandalay Region left for Tachilek on Mahlaing of Mandalay Village in Mahlaing Township and one man and five women and one child totalling eight died in the incident.

The injured were rushed to Mongphyat People’s Hospital where one more woman died.

With regard to the remaining persons, Bala (a) Tun Tun Naing, 29 and one woman sustained injuries to heads falling unconscious and 12 persons including driver U Kyi Win were injured.

Mongphyat Myoma Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against reckless drive U Kyi Win under the law.—Kyonmon-Policew Information

Rescue works carried out at eroded villages in Magway Region

SEIKPYU, 18 Sept—Landslides were caused by erosion of Ayeyawady River along the bank of Seikpyu Township of Magway Region.

Members of Myanmar Police Force, Red Cross Brigade members, Fire Services Department personnel and village administra-tive bodies carried out rescue works at Thanzalon, Yay-le-thaung, Mayokekho and Ywa-tha-a-aye villages of Pwintbyu Township under super-vision of Township Administra-tor U Kyi Myint, Com-man-der of Township Police Force Police Major Win Aung and Chairman of Township Development Committee U Kyi Maung.

MPF members, fire brigade members and red cross members evacuated people from four houses in Thanzalon Village of Koetaunt Village-tract to the safe places.

A total of 20 police-
Obama says he wants to test Iran president’s interest in dialogue

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept—President Barack Obama said on Tuesday that Iran’s new President Hassan Rouhani appears to want to open a dialogue with the United States and that he is willing to test whether this is the case.

Obama’s comment in an interview with Spanish-language network Tele- mundo was the latest indi- cation the president would like to jump from the cri- sis over Syria’s chemical weapons to a new search for a diplomatic deal to en- sure Iran does not develop a nuclear weapon.

Last weekend, Obama revealed he and Rouhani had exchanged letters about the US-Iran standoff. Both leaders will be at the UN General Assembly in New York next week, although White House officials say they are no current plans for them to meet.

“There is an opportu- nity here for diplomacy,” Obama told Telemundo. “And I hope the Iranians take advantage of it.” Obama ran for president in 2008 in part by vowing to open a dialogue with Iran.

But there has been no breakthrough and sanctions by the United Nations to weaken Iran’s economy have gradu- ally been increased to try to pressure Tehran to give up a nuclear programme that it denies is aimed at building a weapon.

“In the last week, there is indica- tion that Rouhani, the new president, is somebody who is looking to open dialogue with the West and with the United States, in a way that we haven’t seen in the past. And so we should test it,” Obama said.

Russia says no proof Assad was behind chemical attack

MOSCOW, 18 Sept—Russia and France sharply disagreed on Tuesday over a report by UN investigators into a chemical weapon at- tack that killed hundreds of people in Syria, underscor- ing the difficulties in reach- ing agreement on action at the UN Security Council.

Sitting beside French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius at a news confer- ence in Moscow, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the report had produced no proof that President Bashar al-As- sad’s troops carried out the 21 August attack, and that Russia still suspected rebel forces were behind it.

Fabius took the oppo- site view, saying the report left no doubt that Assad’s forces were to blame for the attack which Washington says killed more than 1,400 people. The United States has also blamed Syrian government forces.

Lavrov acknowledged that the investigators’ re- port 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.

“We have very serious grounds to believe that this was a provocation,” Lavrov said after talks in Mos- cow between two countries with veto powers in the UN Security Council. He said there had been “many provocations” by the rebels fighting Assad’s govern- ment, adding:

“They were all aimed, over the last two years, at provoking foreign inter- vention.” Lavrov said the UN report should be ex- amined not in isolation but alongside with evidence from sources such as the Internet and other media, includ- ing accounts from “nuns at a nearby convent” and a journalist who had spoken to rebel.

“We want the events of 21 August to be investigat- ed dispassionately, objec- tively and professionally,” he said.—Reuters

Russia to hand over aircraft carrier to India by November

NEW DELHI, 18 Sept—India’s second aircraft car- rier, an upgraded and ret- rofitted former Soviet navy vessel, will be handed over to the Indian navy by Rus- sia by November, local me- dia reported on Tuesday.

NDTV news station quoted sources as saying aviation trials on the INS Vikramaditya, including takeoffs and landings by MiG-29K fighter aircraft, were successfully complet- ed in Russia earlier in the day.

It also underwent a full power trial, entailing push- ing the ship to maximum speed at sea and then test- ing all systems for accuracy and endurance.

The 45,550-ton vessel, formerly known as Admiral Gorshkov, was to have joined the Indian Navy last year, but the insulation tiles of its boilers cracked during full power trials.

Since then, the Kiev- class carrier, India’s sec- ond aircraft carrier after the Centaur-class INS Viraat, has undergone stringent testing in the Barents Sea and the White Sea.

The Hindu, an Eng- lish language newspaper, reported on 5 Sept that the INS Vikramaditya will be handed over to the Indian Navy on 15 Nov at a for- mal ceremony in the Rus- sian northern seaport of Severodvinsk on the White Sea, citing sources.

India and Russia signed a $2.3-billion con- tract for refitting the aircraft carrier in 2004.

Last August, India launched its first indi- genously developed aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, which it plans to commission in 2018 following sea trials. Defence Minister AK An- tony said then that the car- rier will play a crucial role in projecting India’s mari- time prowess, especially at a time when China is ex- panding its naval presence in the Indian Ocean.

Australia’s Tony Abbott sworn in as Prime Minister

SYDNEY, 18 Sept—Conservative leader Tony Abbott was sworn in as Australia’s Prime Minister Wednesday morning, more than a week after his Libe- ral-National coalition swept to victory in a general elec- tion, ending the centre-left Labour Party’s six years in power.

Abbott took the oath of office at Government House in Canberra, with Governor General Quentin Bryce congratulating him on officially becoming Aus- tralia’s 28th prime minister.

Members of Abbott’s 42-person team, including ministers, assistant min- isters and parliamentary secretaries, have also been sworn in.

Upon introducing his team to the governor gen- eral, Abbott reiterated his government’s policy com- mitments, “to scrap the car- bon tax, to stop the boats, to get the budget under control and to build the roads of the 21st century.”

The reference to boats operated by people smugg- glers underlined one of the major campaign issues in the lead-up to the 7 Sept election.

He also pledged “to govern for all Australians” and not to forget the mar- ginalized, including people with disabilities, the In- digenous community and women juggling a career and family. “We aim to be a calm, measured, steady and purposeful government that does what it means and does what it says,” Abbott said.

Two injured in clashes in Lebanon’s largest Palestinian camp

BEIRUT, 18 Sept—Clashes erupted on Tues- day in Lebanon’s largest Palestinian refugee camp near the southern city of Sidon, leaving at least two people injured, local secu- rity source said.

The clashes occurred in the Al Taware neighbourhood in the Ain al-Hilweh camp between members of the Palestinian Fatah Move- ment and Islamists, injuring one member of each sides.

The Palestinian liaison committee there exerted ef- forts to appease the clashes. Ain al-Hilweh, the largest Palestinian camp in Lebanon, is home to about 50,000 refugees and is known for harboring ex- tremists and fugitives. It has witnessed recurrence of violence as Islamist and secular Palestinian fac- tions vied for power within the camp. According to a long-standing convention, the Lebanese army doesn’t handle security in the coun- try’s 12 refugee camps.

From both countries have made increasing hints that they are open to direct talks to seek an end to the dec- ade-long nuclear dispute. —Reuters

Since the surprise elec- tion in June of Rouhani, a centrist cleric, officials from both countries have made increasing hints that they are open to direct talks to seek an end to the de- ade-long nuclear dispute. —Reuters

Children, affected by what activists say was a gas attack, breathe through oxygen masks in the Damascus suburb of Saqba, on 21 Aug, 2013.—Reuters

Kyodo News

Bolivian Carmelo Flores Laura is alleged the oldest living human in the world at the age of 123. Xinhua

Xinhua

Kyodo News
Yahoo Japan search engine device produces 3D objects for the blind

Tokyo, 18 Sept—Yahoo Japan Corp has developed a materials printing machine linked with a voice-activated search engine to produce three-dimensional objects for use at a school for blind and visually impaired students.

If users say words such as “elephant” and “car,” it will search for corresponding 3D data in the Internet. If the data is found, the 3D printing machine will create a palm-size object in five to 60 minutes, depending on complexity, the company said on Tuesday.

Apple iPhone fingerprint scanner gets plaudits in early reviews

San Francisco, 18 Sept—The fingerprint reader on Apple Inc’s top-end iPhone 5S received an early thumbs up for ease of use from two influential reviewers, helping dispel concerns about the scanning technology which has been notoriously unreliable in other cell-phones.

FingerScan developed by TechTronix, a latest mapping system, a latest computational engine that can walk through it. Speaking as fast as an operator can walk through it, the engine device produces multiple passwords.

Tesla enters race to build self-driving car

San Francisco, 18 Sept—Electric car company Tesla Motors is working to produce a car capable of running on “auto-pilot” within the next three years, CEO Elon Musk said, joining tech giant Google and rival carmakers in the race to roll a driverless car into the market.

The California-based company’s autonomous car would allow the driver to hand 90 percent of the control of the car over to the vehicle’s computer system, Musk said in an interview with the Financial Times newspaper.

Fully autonomous cars would take longer to develop, he said.

The self-driving car would be developed in-house using Tesla’s own technology, not that of another company, Musk said in comments confirmed by a Tesla spokesperson.

Tesla’s online job board currently has a post for an Advanced Driver Assistance Systems Controls Engineer, who will be responsible for helping “Tesla’s effort to pioneer fully automated driving.”

Australian researchers create first interior 3D map of Leaning Tower of Pisa

Canberra, 18 Sept—Australian researchers have created the first ever interior 3D map of Italy’s iconic Leaning Tower of Pisa by using a breakthrough mobile laser-mapping system, a latest statement from CSIRO, Australia’s national science agency, said recently. According to the statement, developed by the CSIRO, the Zebedee technology is a handheld 3D mapping system incorporating a laser scanner that sways on a spring to capture millions of detailed measurements of a site as fast as an operator can walk through it. Specialized software then converts the system’s laser data into a detailed 3D map. While the tower’s cramped stairs and complex architecture have prevented previous mapping technologies from capturing its interior, Zebedee has enabled the researchers to finally create the first comprehensive 3D map of the entire building. This technology is ideal for cultural heritage mapping, which is usually very time consuming and labour intensive. It can often take a whole research team a number of days or weeks to map a site with the accuracy and detail of what we can produce in a few hours,” said Jonathan Roberts, Research Program Leader at CSIRO’s Computational Informatics Division.

“ar detailed record of the Leaning Tower of Pisa may one day be critical in being able to reconstruct the site if it was to suffer catastrophic damage due to natural disasters such as a fire or an earthquake. Having a detailed 3D model of the world’s most significant cultural heritage sites could also be used to allow people who cannot physically visit these sites to better understand and appreciate their history and architecture,” said Franco Tecchia, Assistant Professor of Italy’s Institute of Communication, Information and Perception Technologies.

New York, 18 Sept—AT&T Inc is planning to announce on Wednesday that it will expand its Latin American reach for business customers through a collaboration with Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim’s America Movil. AT&T will be able to do business in 15 countries, including Argentina, Chile and Colombia, through connections with America Movil networks, according to a representative for AT&T.

Terms of the agreement were not disclosed. The deal will also extend AT&T’s reach to Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay. Previously, AT&T’s Latin American focus was primarily on Mexico and Brazil. AT&T has a long-standing relationship with America Movil and the US company holds a roughly 9 percent stake in the company and has executives on its board of directors.

Since AT&T has been exploring possibilities for expanding in Europe and America Movil has a presence there, some analysts have speculated the companies could combine forces in Europe.
**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Red grapes, blueberries may enhance immune function**

Adrian Gombart, an associate professor in the university’s college of science said in a statement. “Their synergy with vitamin D to increase CAMP gene expression was significant and intriguing. It’s a pretty interesting interaction,” Gombart said. Resveratrol has been the subject of dozens of studies for a range of possible benefits, from improving cardiovascular function to fighting cancer and reducing inflammation. This research is the first to show a clear synergy with vitamin D that increased CAMP expression by several times, the researchers said. The CAMP gene itself is also the subject of much study, as it has been shown to play a key role in the “innate” immune system, or the body’s first line of defence and ability to combat bacterial infection. The innate immune response is especially important as many antibiotics increasingly lose their effectiveness. A strong link has been established between adequate vitamin D levels and the function of the CAMP gene, but the new research suggests that certain other compounds may play a role as well, the researchers reported in the journal Molecular Nutrition and Food Research.

**Asian business sentiment drops sharply in Q3**

SINGAPORE, 18 Sept—Business sentiment among Asia’s top companies deteriorated in the third quarter, led by businesses in export engines such as China and South Korea, ending three consecutive quarters of improving sentiment, the latest Thomson Reuters/INSEAD Asia Business Sentiment survey showed. The Thomson Reuters/INSEAD Asia Business Sentiment Index fell to 66 in the third quarter from 71 in the second quarter when it reached the highest level in more than a year. An index reading above 50 indicates an overall positive outlook.

Some of the weakest readings came from north Asia’s economies of China, South Korea and Taiwan, and regional trading hub Singapore, all of which turned in readings of 50 — highlighting the impact of a stuttering global economy.

“Asian companies are still maintaining a relatively cautious outlook regarding their earnings growth prospects,” said Fan Cheuk Wan, chief investment officer for the Asia-Pacific region at Credit Suisse’s private banking and wealth management unit. “It could be partly related to the recent volatility across the emerging economies over the past three months.”

Asian equities, currencies and bonds have taken a beating over the last few months after the US Federal Reserve hinted it would halt its nearly five-year policy of flooding markets with cheap cash. “This market volatility also inevitably has an impact on the perception and business sentiment of Asian corporates as they are still assessing the global growth outlook,” Fan said.

The survey showed that shipping and financial sectors were the most negative with a third-quarter score of 50, a sharp drop from the shipping industry’s reading of 80 and financials’ reading of 78 in the second quarter.

The poll conducted by Thomson Reuters News in association with INSEAD, a global business and management school, surveyed more than 100 executives in 11 Asia-Pacific countries across sectors including autos, financials, resources, food and retail.

**IBM pledges 1 bln dollars for Linux, open source innovation**

WASHINGTON, 18 Sept — IBM said on Tuesday it plans to invest 1 billion US dollars in Linux, a freely available open source operating system that competes with Microsoft’s Windows, and open source technology in a bid to adapt its Power Systems servers to handle big data and cloud computing applications in the post-PC era.

IBM has long been one of the biggest backers of Linux, and the amount equals a pledge the US company made in 2000 to support the technology. “Many companies are struggling to manage big data and cloud computing using commodity servers based on decades-old, PC-era technology. These servers are quickly overrun by data which triggers the purchase of more servers, creating an unsustainable server sprawl,” IBM Vice President of Power Development Brad McCredie said in a statement. “The era of big data calls for a new approach to IT systems; one that is open, customizable, and designed from the ground up to handle big data and cloud workloads,” McCredie said.

IBM said it opened a Linux centre in Beijing in May and will now establish another in Montpellier, France. Additional centers are located in New York and Austin, Texas.

**Ford on the way to displace diesel with turbo**

CHICAGO, 18 Sept—Ford on Tuesday announced production of the 2 millionth EcoBoost engine, marking the Dearborn-based US auto giant is on the way to displace its diesel engines with turbo engines.

Ford’s production of turbo-charged EcoBoost engines is set to surpass its diesel engines this year. “We now are building five versions of the EcoBoost engine,” Chicago Tribune quoted Ford spokesman Joe Bakaj as saying.

Compared with diesel engines, turbo-charged EcoBoost engines are more energy efficient. Taking EcoBoost 3.5-liter V-6 and Ford’s 5.0-liter V-8 of same 365 horsepower as an example, fuel economy figures rated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for EcoBoost 3.5-liter V-6 are 16 miles per gallon (MPG) in city and 22 MPG in highway, while that for 365-horsepower 5.0-liter V-8 are rated at 15 MPG in city and 21 MPG in highway.

Thanks to fuel savings, auto owners who choose EcoBoost could recover the extra cost in an average of 20 months, ahead of diesel engine payback, despite the fact that there is a 1,095-dollar price difference between them.

**Agenus brain cancer vaccine improves survival in mid-stage study**

NEW YORK, 18 Sept—Biotechnology company Agenus Inc said its experimental brain cancer vaccine increased the survival of patients without their cancer worsening in a mid-stage trial, compared with the standard treatment.

Agenus shares jumped as much as 34 percent on the Nasdaq on Monday morning.

The vaccine, code-named HSPPC-96, showed an almost 18 month median progression-free survival — a 160 percent increase versus current standard treatment of radiation combined with chemotherapy drug temozolomide.

The vaccine was being used in combination with the standard treatment to treat patients with newly diagnosed glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive type of tumour which affects the brain.

**Nissan unveils Datsun 3-row, 5-door hatchback in Indonesia**

JAKARTA, 18 Sept—Nissan Motor Co took the wraps off the Datsun GO+seven-seat, three-row hatchback on Tuesday, its second model to be released under the revived Datsun brand. The 1.2-liter hatchback will go on sale in 2014, as will the Datsun GO five-seat, two-row hatchback, the automaker said. The five-seater model was unveiled in July in New Delhi, India. “It’s exciting to know that, for many Indonesians, the first new car they will buy will be a Datsun,” Nissan President Carlos Ghosn told a news conference.

The models, to be built at a plant southeast of Jakarta, will retail for under 100 million rupiah (about 900,000 yen) and provide a local content rate of 80 percent, the automaker said.

**Kyodo News

Nissan unveils Datsun 3-row, 5-door hatchback in Indonesia**

**Xinhua

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Thanks to fuel savings, auto owners who choose EcoBoost could recover the extra cost in an average of 20 months, ahead of diesel engine payback, despite the fact that there is a 1,095-dollar price difference between them. **Xinhua**
EU team to investigate Gibraltar dispute next week

Spain says claim to the territory, which has a population of 30,000, which ceded to Britain by treaty 300 years ago. The team will “assess the border controls, free movement of people and goods, including fraud and smuggling”, the Foreign Office said, citing an EU document given to its officials in Brussels. They will also check Spanish complaints that Gibraltar impeded its fishing boats by dropping concrete blocks into disputed waters off the territory. Gibraltar said it had created an artificial reef in the Mediterranean to protect fish stocks. “We welcome this confirmation that a monitoring mission will be sent,” a Foreign Office spokesman said. “We stand ready to offer all necessary support to ensure that the mission can conduct its investigation successfully.” Spain tightened border controls over the summer in retaliation for the reef, causing long tailbacks, and threatened to take further action, including a 50-euro ($67) border levy.

Prime Minister David Cameron condemned the threat and said Britain was not prepared to discuss Gibraltar’s sovereignty.

Opposition parties in Spain and Gibraltar’s Chief Minister Fabian Picardo have accused Spain’s ruling centre-right government of using the conflict to divert voters from the weak economy and a corruption scandal involving senior politicians.—Reuters

Mortar attack kills five in Syrian capital

DAMASCUS, 18 Sept—At least five people were killed in Tuesday mortar attacks that targeted several parts of the Syrian capital of Damascus, the pro-government media reported.

The fresh attacks, staged by the rebels, targeted the residential districts of Amara, Qassa, and al-Abbayeen, in southern Damascus, the official news agency SANA said. Five people were killed and another 30 wounded when two mortars struck a marketplace at Bab al-Salam area in Qassa. Another mortar landed at a church in the Qassa area, causing property loss, SANA said, adding that other mortars caused material damage in other southern districts of Damascus.

The fresh attack came amid heavy clashes between the government troops and the rebels in the southern countryside of Damascus.

Chaos as floods submerge Mexico’s Acapulco, death toll rises

ACAPULCO, (MEXICO), 18 Sept—Mexico’s famous beach resort of Acapulco was in chaos on Tuesday as hotels rationed food for thousands of stranded tourists and floodwaters swallowed homes and cars after some of the heaviest storms in decades killed at least 55 people across the country.

Television footage showed Acapulco’s international airport terminal waist deep in water and workers wading out to escape floods that have prevented some 40,000 visitors from leaving and blocked one of the main access routes to the city with mud.

A torrential, three-day deluge—Hollywood stars in its heyday, but had the highest murder rate in Mexico last year amid a surge in drug gang violence.

The flooding has disrupted deliveries of supplies, piling fresh misery on a city heavily dependent on tourist spending. The entrance to a main hillside tunnel into Acapulco was completely blocked with mud.

The rains were spawned by two major storms that converged on Mexico from the Pacific and the Gulf, triggering flash floods that washed away homes and landslides in eastern Mexico.

Tropical Depression Manuel had faded but was strengthening again on the Pacific coast on Tuesday, moving northwest toward the Baja California peninsula. It was expected to become a Tropical Storm again late on Tuesday or early Wednesday, the US National Hurricane Centre said.

Much of Acapulco’s upscale Diamante District was flooded, and tourists were unable to take cash out of bank machines due to lack of power. Fast food outlets were also without power, and insisted on payment in cash.—Reuters

UN chief hopes Kaesong opening normalizes relations with N Korea

NEW YORK, 18 Sept—UN Secretary General Ban Ki moon on Tuesday said he saw the reopening of the Kaesong industrial complex as a positive step towards normalizing inter-Korean relations that have been marred by tension.

“It is my hope that the recent agreement on the resumption of Kaesong Industrial Complex is just the first step towards resuming regular, normal dialogue,” Ban told reporters when questioned about the situation in North Korea, which is formally known as the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

After reaching an agreement, North and South Korea reopened their joint industrial park on Monday in the North’s border town of Kaesong, five months after the zone was closed amid heightened tensions on the Korean Peninsula, according to South Korea’s Unification Ministry.

While admitting it would likely be a “long process,” Ban expressed relief that the two sides are “focusing on points of mutual interest rather than disagreement.”

The UN chief also said the agreement could become “the first block in building mutual trust between the two parties” that could lead to the possibility of reuniting separated families. If carried out he viewed such steps as “confidence-building measures” that could eventually lead to a reconciliation.

Yet, against the backdrop of the promising move are troubling reports that the North has restarted a reactor at the Yongbyon nuclear complex.

“If confirmed, this would be a clear violation of the decisions of the Security Council,” Ban said. “I remain seriously concerned about the nuclear weapons programme of the DPRK and I call upon the DPRK to demonstrate this commitment to a verifiable denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.”—Kyodo News

South African police arrest dozens in violence against foreigners

CAPE TOWN, 18 Sept—Police on Tuesday arrested more than 70 people suspected of attacking foreign-owned shops in Port Elizabeth, about 700 km east of Cape Town.

This xenophobia attack was the latest in a series of similar attacks in the country in the past recent months. The latest violence was sparked by the death of a man who was shot dead by a foreign shop owner on Saturday in nearby New Brighton.

Local residents took to the streets to protest the shooting. The protest turned violent when some demonstrators began attacking shops owned by Somalis.

Police intervened, rounding up more than 70 people for looting and public violence, police Brigadier Marinda Mills said, adding the situation was “tense but stable.”

The looting and related violence were strongly condemned by the City of Port Elizabeth. The attacks on Somalis had put the people of Port Elizabeth to shame, the municipality said in a statement.

A suspected act of criminality by a Somali could never justify the looting and attacking of innocent people, the statement said. “We want to put it straight and clear, these incidents are criminal, cowardly, irresponsible and inexcusable to say the least,” the statement said.

Xinhua
**LOCAL NEWS**

### Toungoo Writers Association meets

**Toungoo, 18 Sept—**Writers Association of Toungoo-Township in Bago Region met at Treasurer U San Hla’s (San-Kaytu) house on 15 September.

### Anti-elephantiasis administered in Kawkareik District

Kawkareik, 18 Sept—Vaccines against elephantiasis were administered by Kawkareik District Health Department in Kayin State on 11 September.

The door-to-door vaccination covers all wards/villages in Kawkareik. The district deputy commissioner and township administrators, health staff, ward/village administrators, departmental personnel, district/township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Organization joined in the efforts to administer all the people in each ward/village. **MMAL-District IPRD**

### Natural Disaster

Singaing, 18 Sept—Flood that engulfed 21 villages in six village-tracts in Singaing Township since 9 September due to the rising water level of Dokhtawady has started to recede on 15 September.

“The river water level waned by 6 inches yesterday. Today, it falls nearly two more inches. The flood water was five feet deep in our village. If the decline continues, we may be able to return to our village within next five days,” Myaukkaing village-tract administrator U Aung Min said.

“Cattle or pigs could not be able to immediately return to the village for fear of animal diseases as the land would be muddy,” he added.

Some flooded villages have yet to see the decline in water level as the river is in stable condition, showing no signs of swelling.

The administrator said there was still a potential to increase the water level if the water level of Ayeyawady River that Dokhtawady River flows into increases. Authorities and donors are providing assistance to the flood victims in the area daily.

“Wells whichers and donors come virtually daily. They come and donate purified drinking water, rice and instant noodle. The District General Administration Department have also provided aids,” Ma Khin Toe Toe Kyaw, in-charge of the relief camp said.

Among the donors were social organizations and political parties.

The lunch boxes were provided by nearby villages that escaped the flood as all five villages in the village-tract were suffered from the flood, Ma Khin Toe Toe Kyaw said.

Healthcare centers are opened in each relief camp. There is no major health problems in the relief camps. **MMAL-Tun Tun Naing**

### New waste collection system adopted in Kyaukme

Kyaukme, 18 Sept—Kyaukme Township Development Affairs Committee and Central Market Development Committee have started a new waste collection system in the central market in order to keep the market clean and healthy.

Staff Officer II (Tax) U Tin Shein supervised the collection of wasters with bell rings.

The shopkeepers were informed about the new waste collection system through loud speakers.

**MMAL-090**

### Roads and wards in Pyay flooded

Pyay, 18 Sept—Some roads and wards in Pyay have been under water since 15 September as the water level of Ayeyawady River has risen due to heavy rains these days.

Sugar Mill Road-Malargon in Nawin ward and roads and wards in Bagwa Area suffered the flood. These lowland areas lie beside Nawin creek that flows into Ayeyawady River. If the flood does not recede within three days, it could pose a threat to the area with the potential water level of three feet above the danger level.

As the occupants of the area have made preparations, there is no loss of lives or property in the flood. **MMAL-District IPRD**

### Myitnge police distribute food to flood victims

Myitnge, 18 Sept—Police Force members in Myitnge distributed food and snacks to the flood victims on yesterday morning.

A total of 16 members of policemen participated in the efforts to distribute food to the flood victims in east Thayagon ward in Myitnge in Amarapura Township. Commander of Myitnge Police Station IP Hla Tu and Police Sub-Insppector Mya Soe led the campaign.

The police station ordered snacks from the tea shops of Myitnge and distributed the flood victims door to door.

“We’re heartened beyond compare for a chance to offer food to those who are in distress,” the commander said.

Executives U Ye Naing and U Kan Htoo of east Thayagon ward helped them distribute the snacks to the flood-hit residents at relief camps. **MMAL-Maung Maung Soe (Myitnge)**

### Hsipaw Maha Muni Pagoda Puja

Hsipaw, 18 Sept—A coordination ceremony to organize alms offering ceremony to the entire monks in Hsipaw Township in commemoration of 110th anniversary Pagoda Pujaniya of Hsipaw’s landmark historic Maha Muni Buddha Image was held in Township Meeting Hall on 14 September.

The pagoda was built by Hsipaw Emirate Saw Kyar Thaung and royal family 121 years ago and is a replica of Mandalay Maha Muni Buddha Image.

The meeting focused on future plans which include the land ownership of the association and providing painting and writing courses to the schools by the association. **MMAL-136**

The District General Commander of Myitnge Police Sub-Inspector Mya Hla (San Hla Hla) led the campaign.

The shopkeepers were informed about the new waste collection system through loud speakers.

**MMAL-Sai (Hsipaw)**

Patron of the association U Aye Shwe-Kaytu (Aye Shwe-Kaytumati) read out the financial statement and it was then confirmed by those present at the meeting.

The door-to-door vaccination covers all wards/villages in Hsipaw. The district deputy commissioner and township administrators, health staff, ward/village administrators, departmental personnel, district/township Maternal and Child Welfare Association and Women’s Affairs Organization joined in the efforts to administer all the people in each ward/village. **MMAL-District IPRD**

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**MMAL-Sai (Hsipaw)**
LITERATES WHO DO NOT READ

Myanmar has high literacy rate. But what is the use of being literate without reading? Myanmar has the population of nearly 60 million. But the most successful newspaper sells a region of 200,000 copies. A publication that sells 10,000 copies is a complete best-seller. So, Myanmar has quite convincing number of literates who read little or none.

A relatively greater freedom on World Wide Web attracted various Internet users in Myanmar. They read. Yet they mostly read news stories, some blog posts and some short articles in a quick scroll-down manner. Most of the netizens don’t digest. They rather collect information than knowledge. The internet has a lot to offer, but does it surpasses the books in essence. There are a lot of arguments which one is better—Internet or Books. This piece of writing has nothing to do with these arguments. Internet or books has their own advantages.

Our country has poor access to internet. The number of computer literates is not as high as the people who are literate. So, we cannot totally rely on the electronics media to encourage reading habits.

We have long used small rural libraries as a tool to promote reading habits among the community. We need libraries, but they are not the best catalysts for boosting reading habits of the community. The mini book corners at public places are said to be successful so far. But it is not still enough to encourage the literates read. So, we need to try our best to make our dreams come true.

4th Junior Golf Myanmar Tournament kicks off

YANGON, 18 Sept—Under the supervision of Myanmar Golf Federation, the Junior Golf Myanmar organized the first round of the 4th Junior Golf Myanmar Tournament 2013 at Pun Hlaing Golf Club in Hlinethaya Township yesterday morning.

A total of 35 golfers competed in the men’s and women’s U-24, U-18, U-14 and U-10 events. Junior Golf Myanmar (JGM) holds monthly golf tournament for turning out new generation golfers.

Press Release Team

Now, each and every ministry at the Union level has press release team (or) spokesperson person. Workshops were organized and trainings were provided to develop their capacity and 370 officials from different departments underwent training in six batches at the Ministry of Information provided by local and foreign experts and trainers in a year. There are also similar organizations in other democracies tasked with communicating government policies to the public. One of the associations famous among them is National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC). Government communicators need to follow the code of ethics in releasing news, answering queries and holding press conference. I think NAGC’s ethical code would set an example to press release teams here in Myanmar.

The following is its ethical code:

“Members will—
• Conduct themselves professionally, with truth, accuracy, fairness, responsibility, accountability to the public and adherence to universally accepted standards of good taste.
• Conduct their professional lives in accord with the public interest, on the assumption that each of us is a steward of the public’s trust.
• Convey the truth to their own agencies’ management, engaging in no practice which could corrupt the integrity of channels of communication or the processes of decision making.
• Internationally communicate no false or misleading information and will act promptly to correct factual errors or misleading information or rumours.
• State explicitly the names and titles of individuals involved in making policy decisions, the details of decision-making processes, and how interested citizens can participate.
• Refrain from competing or competing interests and will fully comply with all statutes, executive orders, and regulations pertaining to personal disclosure of such interests.
• Avoid the possibility of any improper use of information by an ‘insider’ or third party and never use inside information for personal gain.
• Guarantee or promise the achievement of no specified result beyond the member’s direct control.
• Accept no fees, commissions, gifts, or promises of future consideration, or any other material or intangible valuable that is, or could be perceived to be, intimately linked with public service employment or activities.
• Safeguard the confidentiality of both present and former employees, and of information acquired in meetings and documents, as required by law, regulation and prudent good sense.

Not wrongly injure the professional reputation or practice of another person, private organization, or government agency and be accurately quoted or Authorized to speak. They then have to write down the news report without confirmation before too late. Probability of a false information or distortion is the first to suffer, then the public and the media. Consequences include making corrigendum, engaging in disputes and suing. I would like to request the press release team that they need to inform the public of the difficulties and how the problems are being dealt with. The press release team, for example, could be solely responsible for dealing with the media. The responsible staff must promptly reply to questions from media or refer to any specific contacts if they have no adequate answer. Any deviation needs be avoided. It is only for providing information rapidly. The reporter would be pleased to speak directly to the expert. It could be negotiated with the reporter if it needs time to arrange the conversation. The reporter may find it hard should be marathon procedure takes time as they also need to meet the specific deadline.

Everyone says this is the information age. There are many means of communication. Rapid communication narrows the distance. The responsible of journalists facing real-time challenges to get high-quality, fair and accurate news reports. The major challenge is that the information department’s officials are reluctant to provide information. The major ethical of the journalist is that his/her report is accurate and the mal-
All citizens have equal rights before the law... (from page 1) government to effectively proceed with the complaints and appeals of the people for the confiscated lands with correct and firm evidence under the law. At this juncture, the Union government is carrying out political, economic and administrative and management system reforms over more than two years period. Land reform is being undertaken systematically implementing the land use policy and land use management to be able to carry out rural and urban development projects and investment projects for fulfilling the basic needs, job opportunity and daily life requirements.

Land reform is being undertaken for betterment of agricultural sector through morale, type of farmland, quality strains, agricultural mechanization and cultivation methods. With regard to land policy for solving the land disputes based on confiscation so as to extend regulations and units of the Tatmadaw, the President has given guidance that the military units are not to rent its confiscated lands to the people for cultivation and not to carry out the mutually beneficial tasks, to take actual areas for security measures of units, headquarters and training grounds and to hand over the vacant lands to the original owners except actual required farmlands. The guidance is inclusive of not only the Ministry of Defence but also other ministries, Nay Pyi Taw Council and region/state governments.

In conclusion, the Vice-President urged them to properly deal with the confiscated farmlands and other lands in line with the basic points of good public service reform adopted by the government:
- to give swift, smooth and satisfactory services to the people;
- to remove red tape of government departments that poses obstacle to the public service works;
- to cultivate practice of effective service so as to fight bribery and
corruptions;
- to enable the State to sincerely take accountability and responsible in giving public services between public service officers and personnel;
- to raise attention on values, accountability and transparency in dealing with the people, and;
- to promote the trusts of people on government and departmental personnel.

Vice-Chairmen of the Central Committee Union Ministers Lt-Gen Ko Ko and U Myint Hlaing reported on tasks of the central committee and farmland management and Secretary of the central committee Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Zan Myint, formation of land utilization and implementation of land management committees at different levels and duty and functions. Next, the Union ministers, region and state chief ministers and the chairman of the Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee presented reports on farmland matters, and the vice-chairman of the central committee reviewed the discussions.

After that, the Vice-President made a conclusion remark saying that the Union government pays special attention to the farmlands of the farmers who are 70 percent of the population of the nation. The rule of law plays a crucial role in solving problems. All the citizens can enjoy rights equitably under the law. The cases of farmlands are to be submitted with the firm evidence and firm reasons. Region and state governments are to do their works in a transparent manner under the law and inform the people of their work processes. He urged to place special emphasis on solving the cases promptly and correctly.

Also present at the meeting were central committee members Union Ministers Lt-Gen Wai Lwin, U Thein Nyunt, U Win Tun, Dr Myint Aung, U Kyaw Lwin and U Maung Myint and region and state chief ministers and chairmen of the Pyithu Hluttaw Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Development Committee U Soe Naing and officials.—MNA

Agreements of First Thailand-Myanmar High Level Committee Meeting signed

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—The Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation held by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services General Min Aung Hlaing and Joint Chairman of Thailand High Level Committee Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn delivered opening speeches on the occasion.

Then, the secretary of Thailand High Level Committee explained organizational set-up and miscellaneous matters. Afterwards, two chairmen approved 1st Thailand-Myanmar High Level Committee Meeting’s minutes.

The two joint chairmen addressed closing speeches and signed and exchanged the notes. After the meeting, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and Supreme Commander of the Royal Thai Armed Forces General Tanasak Patimapragorn had a lunch together with committee members.

Joint Secretaries meeting of 1st Thailand-Myanmar High Level Committee Meeting was held at the Ministry of Culture, here, this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu.

Speaking on the occasion, the Union minister said that bi-annual assessment report of the council could be presented to the ASEAN Secretariat in time with the participation of relevant ministries. All are urged to actively cooperate in serving ASEAN Chairmanship-2014.

He continued that the meeting calls for respective ministries to review under-takings of Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu.

Next, officials reported on their works in a transparent manner under the law.

C-in-C meets Myanmar ambassador, staff and students in Bangkok

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—The Myanmar Tatmadaw delegation led by Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing arrived at the residence of the Myanmar Ambassador in Bangkok at 7 pm local time yesterday.

The Senior General and party were welcomed by Ambassador U Tin Win, staff of the Myanmar Embassy and Military Attaché Office and scholarship Myanmar students.

The Senior General explained latest development of Myanmar, promotion of good relations between Myanmar and Thailand and progress of peace-making process.

The Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services presented gifts, foodstuff and cash assistance to them.

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Union FM signs agreement with IAEA

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—A protocol signed between the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the International Atomic Energy for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was signed yesterday at the IAEA headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin and Director-General Mr Yukiya Amano signed the protocol on behalf of the Government of Myanmar and IAEA respectively.

Currently, Myanmar is undertaking a process of preparing herself to implement the protocol. The process, among others includes drafting a domestic law, forming a national authority for implementation of the protocol and establishing a State System of Accounting and Control. When this preparatory process is completed, Myanmar will inform the Agency by a written notification to trigger the entry into force of the Additional Protocol for Myanmar.

Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council’s meeting 3/2013 held

NAY PYI TAW, 18 Sept—Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council’s meeting 3/2013 was held at the Ministry of Culture, here, this afternoon, with an address by Chairman of Myanmar ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Council Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu.

Next, officials reported on their works in a transparent manner under the law.
Diamond Jubilee Buddha Pujaniya planned for Thambuddhe Pagoda

MONYWA, 18 Sept—The 75th anniversary of Mohnyn Thambuddhe Pagoda in Monywa of Sagaing Region will be held on a grand scale, said President Nayaka of the monastery Sayadaw Ashin Sumana.

“We planned to hold the celebration in Tazaungmon in 2014. The invited monks will be donated and other commemorative ceremonies will be held,” said the Sayadaw.

In addition, a plan is underway to publish the diamond jubilee commemorative publications and calendar.

The diamond jubilee festival will be held ahead of the Buddha Pujaniya of the Mohnyn Thambuddhe Pagoda.

The pagoda was built in 1301 during the Second World War. Construction period ran 20 years and it will turn 75 years in 1376 Myanmar Era. Due to significant architectural works, the pagoda is famous not only in the nation but across the world. A total of 582,363 Buddha images were enshrined at the pagoda, attracting the pilgrims at home and abroad.

At present, all-round renovation is being carried out at the pagoda as part of preparations for the golden jubilee festival.

Kyemon-Ko Tun (IT)

Educative talks on protection of girls held in Bokpyin

BOKPYIN, 18 Sept—The educative talks on protection of girls was held at the hall of Aungmingala Post-Primary School in Bokpyin on 15 September.

Member of Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Aye Po gave lectures on protection of girls against violence and other knowledge.

Head of Township Information and Public Relations Department Daw Phyu Thein explained widening the knowledge through reading for avoiding the violence, cultivating the reading habit by reading at the library and advantages of reading.

The talks was attended by 180 girl students.

Kyemon-Bokpyin IPRD

Be correct measures for people

MANDALAY, 18 Sept—At the fourth day seventh regular session of the First Mandalay Region Hluttaw on 17 September, Region Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Aung Kyaw Maung said that if the case of extorting money, the vehicle owners are to make complaints to the authorities with date, time, and place attached to the number of plates. The investigation will be conducted quickly. If the case is correct, deterrent action will be taken against crime broker, he said.

He replied to the question by Region Hluttaw representative U Pyay Win on collection of money from the inspecting the vehicles and cargo trucks hearing for other townships from Mandalay.

In Thabeikkyin Township of Mandalay Region, any checkpost is not stationed to inspect the vehicles and check the buses and trucks. Security personnel are discharging duties on patrol and at outposts.

Instruction has been issued to all the security personnel not to collect any money on the ground of security and other matters.

The combined teams in the township, acting on tip-off, checked the vehicles and seized illegal timber carriers in Chaunggyi and Zayatgwin villages of Thabeikkyin Township.

Kyemon-DCE (Mandalay)

Motorcycles head on collision

MEIKTILA, 18 Sept—Two motorcycles headed on collision between mile posts 341/4 and 341/5 on Yangoon-Mandalay Highway near Taungdaw village of Meiktila on 16 September afternoon.

Bashan-110 driven by Hlaing Bwe, 20 and Thaw Zin Phyo, 21 of Yamyaeung Ward bumped against Loujia-110 by Ma Win May, 27 and Ma Nu Nu Htwe, 26 of No 19 Tamdaw Heavy Industry-Meiktila from Meiktila to Thabeikkyin Township. The talks was attended by 180 girl students.

Kyemon-DCE (Mandalay)

Branches of trees over power lines cut in Myanaung

MYANANG, 18 Sept—Electricians and workers of Myanmar Township Electrical Engineer Office of Ayeyawady Region cleared and cut the branches of trees over 11 KV power line at the entrance road to No 51 Infantry Regiment in Ward 6 of Myanang on 17 September.

Power line in-charge U Paw Tun and party of the township office carried out cut of branches over the power line in the urban areas of Myanang in September. Their works was undertaken with the purpose of not losing the electricity due to touch of branches and power line, under the supervision of Township Electrical Engineer U Aung Shwe.

Kyemon-Nay Win Zaw (Myanang)

Take preventive measures against DHF

HRD

Toungoo Township Education Network officials meet KMA CEO

Toungoo, 18 Sept—The leading committee of the Toungoo Township Education Network and the Chief Executive Officer of Kaung Myanmar Aung Education Foundation held a talks for Education, Health, Economic and Environment Conservation at Taawin Keturami Hotel in Toungoo on 16 September.

General Secretary of the network Dr Ba Swe (Taawin Hospital) explained tasks of the education network in detail.

CEO Saya Hla Myint of the KMA Foundation disclosed assistance to be provided by the foundation and future tasks for the education network.

Kyemon-129

Accident
Philippine army says Muslim rebels fleeing southern city

ZAMBOANGA CITY, (Philippines), 18 Sept—Philippine forces freed scores of civilian hostages on Tuesday as fighting subsided in a port city where hundreds of rogue Muslim guerrillas have been battling for more than a week.

The fighting, in which nearly 100 people have been killed, has highlighted lingering grievances in the Catholic-majority country despite its growing economy and an agreement with the biggest Muslim rebel group that was meant to bring peace.

The guerrillas who stormed into the city of Zamboanga on Monday last week belong to a breakaway faction of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

They object to a deal aimed at ending 40 years of conflict signed last October with the main Muslim rebel group, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), and are trying to derail it.

An army spokesman said on Tuesday the guerrillas were fleeing from Zamboanga and heading to outlying islands, off the main southern island of Mindanao. While the army had freed about 200 hostages since late on Monday, the fleeing rebels had taken captive a team of police officers, including the Zamboanga City police chief, police said.—Reuters

Up to 300 tons of cesium-tainted wood chips found near Lake Biwa

OSU, (Japan), 18 Sept—Around 200-300 tons of wood chips were found abandoned near Lake Biwa in Shiga Prefecture, with samples taken from the pile showing a reading of up to 3,000 becquerels of radioactive cesium per kilogram, prefectural officials said on Tuesday.

The radioactive reading was below 8,000 Bq, which requires special measures, such as one to keep the contaminated material from contacting water but exceeded 100 Bq, a level deemed unfit for recycling, they said.

The prefectural government is investigating from where the chips were brought. They were found in the dry bed of the Kamo River in Takashima city and some other locations near the lake, the officials said.

The chips were also laid on a path used for river embankment work and were also found in 77 sandbags, the prefecture said, adding that nearby residents alerted the prefecture in late April.

A man suspected of having left the chips there said he laid the chips on the path to make it easier to pass through, the officials said.

The prefecture has not been able to contact the man since 30 April.

The prefecture plans to issue a removal order for the chips saying that leaving the material they may violate the river law. “The site is an estuary leading to Lake Biwa, and leaving (the chips) there without permission is extremely malicious. We will deal with the matter strictly,” said Shiga Gov Yukiko Kada.—Kyodo News

Japan and Vietnam agree to introduce Japanese-style postal system

TOKYO, 18 Sept—Japan and Vietnam have reached a formal agreement to help the latter introduce a Japanese-style postal system, Japanese government officials said on Tuesday.

Mashiko Shibayama, Japan’s senior vice minister of internal affairs and communications, reached the agreement with Vietnam’s Minister of Information and Communications Nguyen Bac Son during talks in Vietnam on Monday.

The two governments will set up working-level talks and consider specific measures such as the introduction of automatic postal code-reading and sorting machines, according to the officials.

As well as introducing the machines, Japan will offer its expertise in managing an efficient logistics network and developing human resources. Japan’s postal system is highly regarded for its reliability in collecting and delivering items.—Kyodo News

Vietnam, New Zealand aim 1 billion USD trade by 2015

HANOI, 18 Sept—Vietnam and New Zealand on Tuesday set a target to lift bilateral trade turnover to 1 billion US dollars by 2015.

The consensus was reached at the talks between Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Vu Van Ninh and New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Bill English in Vietnam’s capital Hanoi, reported the online newspaper of Vietnamese government.

Towards the set goal, the two sides will coordinate to efficiently implement high-level agreements and focus on carrying out the 2013-2016 action plan as well as the agreement on double taxation avoidance signed in August. The bilateral trade turnover stood at 700 million US dollars in 2012.

The two sides agreed to boost exchange of high-ranking visits and cooperation in national defence, security, agriculture, milk and beverage production, processing industry, energy and wood exploitation, mining, law, education-training, tourism, labour and people-to-people exchange. The Vietnamese official underscored Vietnam’s policy of treasuring cooperation with the South Pacific nations, including New Zealand.

Deputy Prime Minister Ninh said Vietnam will actively work with New Zealand and relevant countries to soon accomplish negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, Bill English, for his part, hailed Vietnam as one of New Zealand’s important partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Asia-Pacific region as well.

Singapore’s R&D investments have encouraging outcomes

SINGAPORE, 18 Sept—Singapore’s research and development investments are seeing encouraging outcomes, local broadcaster Channel NewsAsia reported on Tuesday, citing an official of the National Research Foundation.

Low Teck Seng, chief executive officer of the National Research Foundation, said the foundation has partnered 15 technology incubators and five early stage venture funds over the years.

“Together we have invested in more than a hundred companies through them... of which, quite a few have done well, and we have exited (our investments),” he said.

Singapore is now half way through a five-year plan for boosting research and development. Under the Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2015 scheme, the 16.1 billion Singapore dollars (12.7 billion US dollars) plan aims to support the government’s long-term vision to develop an innovative and entrepreneurial economy like Sweden, Finland or Israel.

According to the AGENCY for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR), activity in the innovation and enterprise space has picked up in recent years. It spun off over 40 start-ups in the past five years, with the majority taking place in the last two years.

There were 400 licenses over the same five-year period, 70 percent of which were issued in the last two years.—Xinhua

Photo taken on Sept. 17, 2013 shows the west 2nd Ring road at the afternoon rush hour in Beijing, capital of China. Due to the coming of national holiday and a light shower, Beijing suffered from heavy traffic on the main roads on Tuesday.—Xinhua
Sudan slams US for rejecting Bashir’s participation in UN meetings

KHARTOUM, 18 Sept—Sudan slammed on Tuesday the US state department for rejecting to issue visa for Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir to attend the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

On Monday, the US state department said it received a visa application for al-Bashir to attend the 69th Session of the UN General Assembly, noting that al-Bashir should not make such a trip because he is accused of war crimes.

The visit of the president would be to the UN headquarters and not to the United States itself which does not have any legal right to object to the participation of any official from any country enjoying full membership of the international organization in the UN activities, the Sudanese foreign ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

The statement, a copy of which was obtained by Xinhua, said the United States had committed war crimes and genocide, including invasion of Iraq in 2003 that left over one million people killed.

The ministry reiterated Sudan’s adherence to its full right in participating, at the highest levels, at the meetings of the 69th session of the UN General Assembly, urging the United States to fulfill its duties and issue the necessary entry visa as soon as possible.

In 2009, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant against al-Bashir for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in the country’s restive region of Darfur, which was rejected by Khartoum.

Yemen extends national dialogue to October due to south issue dispute

SANAA, 18 Sept—Yemen’s national reconciliation dialogue that due to end on Wednesday is extended to October as participants need more time to debate on the south issue, a spokesman told Xinhua on Tuesday.

“Negotiations about the future link between the country’s north and south regions, as well as changing the republic into a future federal state are going," said Mohamed Qahtan, the spokesman of the committee handling the north-south issue.

“The final session is postponed to the first week of October,” he said.

He said that the delegates are considering a six-point accord, including “a solution to the southern issue to preserve the security and stability of Yemen’s unity”, and to determine “a transitional period before to make a complete move to the new federal state.”

Private institutions encouraged to play big role in eldercare

BEIJING, 18 Sept—Private institutions have been encouraged to play a big role in China’s elderly care industry, the Ministry of Civil Affairs said on Tuesday.

Li Liguang said private firms should lead the industry via government procurement, and reform public eldercare institutions and nongovernmental organizations with government subsidies.

The ministry also wants pilot regions to find innovative ways when it comes to financing, land use, taxes, talent management and technologies, Li said.

On 13 Sept, the State Council, China’s cabinet, issued a guideline to accelerate the development of the country’s elderly care services.

“Civil affairs government organs at all levels should fully implement the guideline to ensure a solid eldercare network," Li said, adding that the ministry will dispatch work teams to supervise local eldercare operations in May and June next year.

TRADEMARK CAUTION

International Food Manufacturer (I.F.M) (Pte.) Ltd., a company incorporated in Singapore and having its registered office at 261 Pandan Loop, Singapore 128436 is the owner and proprietor of the following Trademarks:

Trademark: "SUPER CHEWS" in Class 30.

In respect of “Biscuits; cereal-based snack food; confectionery: crackers; peanuts; confectionery; sugar coated nuts; fruit jellies [confectionery]” in Class 30.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate For International Food Manufacturer (I.F.M) (Pte.) Ltd.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd., #1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 19 September 2013

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Trademark: "Smoke" in Class 29.

In respect of “Processed peanuts, roasted peanuts in shell, and roasted peanuts without shell; fried nuts, beans and peas; meat, fish, poultry, and seafood, all cooked or ready for food” in Class 29, and “Unprocessed peanuts in shell and without shell” in Class 31.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Mark shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate For Mei Heong Yuen Food Industries (Pte.) Ltd.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd., #1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 19 September 2013

TRADEMARK CAUTION

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Trademark: "Candy" in Class 31.

In respect of “Bonbons, Bonbons made of sugar, Candies [sweets], Candy, Candy bars, Candy mints, Candy with caramel, Candy namely dragées, Chocolate, Confectioneries namely snack foods made of chocolate, Confectionery made of sugar, Fruit jelly candy, Gummy candies, Sugarfree sweets” in Class 30.

Fraudulent or unauthorised use or actual or colourable imitation of the Marks shall be dealt with according to law.

U Than Maung, Advocate For International Food Manufacturer (I.F.M) (Pte.) Ltd.
C/o Kelvin Chia Yangon Ltd., #1508-1509, 15th Floor, Sakura Tower, Yangon. The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Dated 19 September 2013
Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie rent lavish mansion for vacation

SYDNEY, 18 Sept—Hollywood couple Brad Pitt and fiancée Angelina Jolie have reportedly rented a luxurious mention here, for which they are paying 23,270 pounds per week.

The couple is spending some family time with their six children — Maddox, 11, Pax, nine, Zahara, eight, Shiloh, six, and four-year-old twins Knox and Vivienne, reports mirror.co.uk. The mansion is a huge property and includes 12 bedrooms, a private tennis court, a swimming pool, a gym, and a cinema room. Estate agent Julie Nordgren, who leased out the property to the couple, said: “It’s without doubt one of the finest properties in Sydney.”—PTI

Britney Spears’ new single leaks online

LONDON, 18 Sept—Pop star Britney Spears’ new single has leaked on YouTube a day early and the blonde beauty is encouraging her fans to put off listening to the song until the real thing is played on radio.

“The 31-year-old singer was left disappointed after a low quality version of her new track emerged on YouTube, reported Contactmusic.

Writing on her official Facebook page, she said, “Woke up today and saw that a low quality version of Work Bitch had leaked. will.i.am, Otto Knows, and I worked so hard on this song! Can’t wait for you all to hear it like you’re supposed to.”

Lindsay Lohan dating former NFL player Matt Nordgren?

LOS ANGELES, 18 Sept—Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan is reportedly dating former NFL player Matt Nordgren.

The 27-year-old actress is said to be staying sober post her 90-day rehab stint and spending her days with him, reported E! online.

“I’m not surprised about Lindsay and Matt. They have a history of hooking up during New York Fashion Week. Last year, they had a wild night of partying and hooking up. So it’s not shocking they’re hanging out again this time of year,” a source said.

Jaden Smith is too cool for school

LOS ANGELES, 18 Sept—Teen actor Jaden Smith has criticised the school system, saying it brainwashes young people.

“The 15-year-old took to microblogging website Twitter to express his views, reports aceshowbiz.com.

“If everybody in the world dropped out of school, we would have a much more intelligent society,” he tweeted.

“School is the tool to brainwash the youth,” he added, and later also posted, “Education is rebellion.”

Son of Jada Pinkett and Will Smith, Jaden and his sister Willow previously went to private school — New Village Leadership Academy — here. Now the siblings are reportedly home schooled after the academy was closed earlier this year.

Robert Pattinson wants to design clothes

LOS ANGELES, 18 Sept—Twilight star Robert Pattinson is eyeing a move into the fashion industry after discovering a passion for designing women’s clothing.

The 27-year-old actor, who is the face of fashion house Christian Dior, has started working on a book of sketches and hopes to one day take his new hobby to a professional level, reported Daily Mirror.

“I want to get more involved with the industry, I really like it. I like drawing couture dresses. I started doing it and was like “What is happening?” Suddenly I had a sketchbook full of desserts,” Pattinson said.

“I like the artistry of it, it’s like costume design. The speed of it means you can just move so much quicker. I like designing clothes,” he said.

The actor even dreams of presenting a runway collection one day, adding, “I actually really want to do it. Though it could be incredibly embarrassing.”

Robert Pattinson is the face of fashion house Christian Dior.

Jaden Smith in a still from The Karate Kid.

Jaden Smith in a still from Gulliver’s Travels.

Angelina and Brad

Pop star Britney Spears

Troubled actress Lindsay Lohan

PTI
Guardiola proud of Bayern after holders crush CSKA

MUNICH, 18 Sept— Holders Bayern Munich made a sparkling start to their Champions League title defence on Tuesday as Pep Guardiola’s side eased past CSKA Moscow 3-0 in their Group D opener at the Allianz Arena.

Bayern, attempting to become the first team to win the trophy in back-to-back seasons, got off to a dream start when David Alaba floated a vicious free kick over the wall and past keeper Igor Akinfeev in the fourth minute. Croatia Mario Mandzukic added a second goal in the 41st minute, heading in an Arjen Robben free kick, before the Dutchman made it 3-0 midway through the second half.

“We played good football especially in the first half,” coach Guardiola told reporters after celebrating the victory with his players on the pitch.

“I am very proud of my team because the first game after what happened last season was always going to be a hard one.” Guardiola, who won 14 titles in his four years at Barcelona, is under pressure to deliver silverware after Bayern last season became the first German team to capture the Champions League-Bundesliga-German Cup treble.

The Spaniard replaced Jupp Heynckes in the close season after taking a year off following his decision to leave Barca.

Bayern seemed to be a hard one.” Guardiola is under pressure to deliver silverware after Bayern last season became the first German team to capture the Champions League-Bundesliga-German Cup treble.

Platini to decide on FIFA top job ‘during or after World Cup’

LONDON, 18 Sept— UEFA president Michel Platini has said that he will make a decision on whether to run for FIFA presidency next year at the earliest.

“I have not yet decided what I will do in the future, and I want to have a few additional months to think,” he told UEFA members in Dubrovnik ahead of this week’s executive committee meeting, “I will take my decision during or after the FIFA World Cup in Brazil, not before.”

FIFA president Sepp Blatter’s mandate runs until 2015 and Platini has long been considered a natural replacement for the 77-year-old Swiss.

“I deeply love UEFA, and it would be heart-breaking to choose another path, but at the same time, the question continuously pops up and it is a legitimate one,” said the former France captain.

“This is the reason why it is important for me to take my time, to make sure I take the right decision.”

Furthermore, these elections are in two years’ time, and I think it would be egotistical of me to make Platini to decide on FIFA top job ‘during or after World Cup’

Platini to decide on FIFA top job ‘during or after World Cup’

Michel Platini: it is a topic for debate or discussion now when football faces much more important issues than me or my situation.

“Let’s concentrate on the key current matters and we will have the occasion to think about my future in the coming months.” — Reuters

Ronaldo treble sends Real to 6-1 win in Istanbul

ISTANBUL, 19 Sept— Cristiano Ronaldo celebrated his contract extension by grabbing a second-half hat-trick as Real Madrid thrashed Galatasaray 6-1 in their Champions League Group B opener on Tuesday.

Real, who started with world-record signing Gareth Bale on the bench, went ahead in the 33rd minute when midfielder Isco’s shot went in off the post.

Forward Karim Benzema doubled their lead in the 54th, calmly sloting past Fernando Muslera, before Ronaldo netted after 63 minutes and added his second three minutes later with Bale, who had just come on, involved in the build-up.

Benzema scored again in the 81st minute, tapping the ball home following a cross from Ronaldo, before Umut Bulut got a consolation for Leverkusen after 79 minutes, completed his hat-trick in added time when he sailed past three defenders before firing a powerful left-footed shot into the net.

It was his second Champions League goal against the Bavarians.

Brazilian midfielder Felipe Melo went close in the second minute with a powerful shot forcing a diving save from Iker Casillas.

Lopez was called into action almost immediately, smothering the ball after a close-range effort from Melo and on the half-hour mark he pulled off a stunning save to keep out a header from Ronaldo.

The Spaniard replaced Jupp Heynckes in the close season after taking a year off following his decision to leave Barca.

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Real Madrid’s Cristiano Ronaldo (L) heads the ball past Galatasaray’s Felipe Melo during their Champions League Group B match at Turk Telekom Arena in Istanbul on 17 Sept, 2013. — Reuters

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Tiger in prime position for East Lake despite some doubts

Atlanta, 18 Sept—Tiger Woods heads into this week’s season-ending Tour Championship in pursuit of his sixth victory of the year as the top seed in the FedExCup standings, yet a few question marks are still hovering over his game.

No one has come close to his six PGA Tour wins during 2013 but the American world number one has lost some momentum in the last two FedExCup playoff events with poor putting undermining his once redefined ability to close out tournaments.

After getting into prime position to contend for the Deutsche Bank Championship outside Boston just over two weeks ago, Woods fell back into a share of 72 and 73 in the last two rounds. At the weather-delayed BMW Championship in Chicago, the lowest scoring average he managed only 71.43. “Eliminate the simple mistakes on the greens, and I would have been all right,” said the 14-times major champion said of his final round at Conway Farms.

“I would have been in there with a better chance. But I’m in good shape this week at East Lake,” he added, referring to American Brandt Snedeker, who clinched the 2012 Tour Championship and FedExCup honors after starting the week fifth in the standings.—Reuters

British government sells 6 pct stake in Lloyds bank

London, 18 Sept—The British government on Tuesday announced that it has sold six percent of the shares of the Lloyds Banking Group for 3.2 billion pounds (about 5.1 billion US dollars), paving way for the part-nationalised lender’s full return to the private sector.

“This can confirm this morning that we have sold 6 percent of Lloyds Bank at 75p a share. That is a profit of 3.2 billion pounds (about 5.1 billion US dollars), paving way for the part-nationalised lender’s full return to the private sector.

Money back for the taxpayer, and it’s another step in reducing our national debt,” Osborne said.

The government had owned a 39-percent stake after it bailed the Lloyds bank out for 20.3 billion pounds in the 2008 financial crisis. Its stake has now been reduced to around 33 percent, according to UK Financial Investments, which manages the stake for the government. That means the government has made a profit of 61 million pounds

Osborne received advice from the UK Financial Investments on Monday that it would be appropriate to begin the process to sell part of the government’s shareholding in Lloyds. The Chancellor agreed with that advice and authorized the process to begin.—Xinhua

China issues stricter regulation on vehicle exhausts

Beijing, 18 Sept—China’s Ministry of Environmental Protection on Tuesday issued a stricter regulation on light vehicle emissions, the fifth of its kind in the country, which will be fully implemented nationwide on 1 Jan. 2018. Beijing now has a supply of low-sulphur fuel and is qualified to implement the new regulation. The State Council, China’s Cabinet, has approved Beijing to carry out the new standard immediately after its release.

Cities with such fuel supply are encouraged to implement the fifth standard in advance, the ministry said. The fifth standard is equivalent to the current regulation on light vehicle emissions in Europe, according to the ministry. Compared to the fourth standard, the fifth further lifts emission control requirements, including stricter control for nitric oxide and particulate matters, and adds a new indicator of polluting control.

New vehicles must meet the fifth standard with other tests, such as doubling the mileage when testing for automotive emissions.—Xinhua

Tiger Woods of the US hits from the second tee during the third round of the BMW Championship golf tournament at the Conway Farms Golf Club in Lake Forest, Illinois, on 14 Sept. 2013.—Reuters

MYANMAR TV
(19-9-2013, Thursday)

6:00 am 12:25 pm
6:15 am 2. “Sermon On Fullmoon Day of Tathawdin” (Gangadhama An Khadaw Nay)
7:00 am 2:00 pm
7:20 am 3:00 pm
4. People Talks 18. News
8:00 am 4:15 pm
8:25 am 4:40 pm
6. My Mind Game My SEA Games
9:00 am 5:00 pm
9:20 am 5:15 pm
8. The Nine Precinct
10:00 am 5:30 pm
10:00 am -Third Year (Eco)
10:15 am 6:00 pm
11. Kyae Pwint Myaie 24. India Drama Series
Yin Khone Than
10:35 am 6:15 pm
10:45 am 6:20 pm
13. Myanmar Traditional Performing Arts Competitions
11:10 am 26. Approaching Science Discovery World
12:00 pm 7:00 pm
12:20 pm 7:15 pm
1. Myanmar Video
8:00 pm 7:20 pm
2. News/Weather Report
9:00 pm 7:25 pm
3. News/International News
10:00 pm 7:30 pm
5:30 pm 7:35 pm
26. Approaching Science Discovery World
6:00 pm 8:00 pm
24. India Drama Series
7:00 pm 8:00 pm
27. News
7:15 pm 8:30 pm
28. TV Drama Series
8:00 pm 9:00 pm
8:35 pm 9:15 pm
30. Teleplay
9:00 pm 9:30 pm
31. News
10:00 pm 9:45 pm
32. Clever
12:00 pm 10:15 pm
33. TV Drama Series
12:30 pm 10:30 pm
34. TV Drama Series

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Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker leaves for Brunei

Yangon, 18 Sept—Chairperson of Pyithu Hluttaw Rule of Law, and Tranquility Committee Daw Aung San Suu Kyi gave lectures in the Universities of Poland and Hungary and addressed the 17th Annual Forum 2000 Conference held in Czech Republic. MNA

Notice to MRTV’s shift to digital from analogue

Since 1980, Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) has been broadcasting its programmes through Analogue system. With the advancement in technology, MRTV will transform from Analogue system to Digital Video Broadcasting—Terrestrial-2 (DVB-T2) which is ASEAN Digital Standard and transmit its programmes through Free to Air (FTA) system. As a first phase, the move will start from transmitters in Yangon, Mandalay (Sagaing) and Nay Pyi Taw (Pynnmana) as of 15 October. As a second phase, digital transmitters will be installed in the transmitting stations in Myitkyina, Taunggyi, Kengtung, Lashio, Sittway, M nhu, Kalay (Kennedy), Falam, Popa, Meiktila, Toungoo, Nyauunglein, Bago, Pyay, Loikaw, Mwalamyine, Hpa-an, Kayangon, Pathein, Hinthada and Dawei from November, 2013 to May, 2014. As a third phase, installation of digital system will be at 56 stations in 2014-2015 FY and 110 stations in 2015-2016 FY as a fourth phase. Digital TV with DVB-T2 and MPEG-4 Tuner systems and Analogue TV with DVB-T2 and MPEG-4 Set-top boxes can receive MRTV’s programme for Digital (DVB-T2) system. Five digital channels—MRTV Channel, Myanmar International (MT Channel), Hluttaw Channel, National Races Channel and Farmers Channel will be transmitted from 6 am to 11 pm daily through Free to Air system. Plan is underway to extend new channels including the rest of national races channels. MRTV continues broadcasting TV channels through Analogue system till next three years for the interests of Analogue TV owners. MNA

Myanmar’s interest closely intertwined with Thailand’s: C-in-C

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Sept—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing paid a call on Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra at Thai Governmental House. MNA

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

Nay Pyi Taw, 18 Sept—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of H.E Sheikh Sultan Bin Saif Bin Hilal Al Mahrooqi as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. MNA

The Speaker and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swea, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyine, chairpersons of the committees of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, officials of the Yangon Region Hluttaw and Hluttaw Office and Charges d’Affaires ai from Malaysia, Thai and Brunei Embassies.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing presents gift to Thai Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra at Thai Governmental House. MNA

Thailand’s Prime Minister Mrs Yingluck Shinawatra, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard with Myanmar President Thein Sein during their meeting with President Thein Sein. MNA

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann being seen off by officials at Yangon International Airport. MNA

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi concludes European tour

Yangon, 18 Sept—A Myanmar delegation led by Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann left here by air this afternoon to attend 34th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary General Assembly to be held in Brunei Darussalam and to pay a goodwill visit to Thailand. The Speaker and party were seen off at Yangon International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swea, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyine, chairpersons of the committees of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw, officials of the Yangon Region Hluttaw and Hluttaw Office and Charges d’Affaires ai from Malaysia, Thai and Brunei Embassies.

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker was accompanied by Pyithu Hluttaw International Relations Committee Chairman U Hla Myint Oo, Investment and Industrial Development Committee Chairman U Hay Myint and Hluttaw representatives.

A Hluttaw delegation led by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Dr Soe Yin who will attend the 34th ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary General Assembly left for Brunei Darussalam in advance yesterday morning. MNA