President U Thein Sein felicitates
Cambodian Prime Minister

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives Chairman of Board of Directors from Telenor Group

YANGON, 26 Sept — The Elders including Former US President Jimmy Carter, former president of Finland Martti Ahtisaari and former Prime Minister of Norway Gro Harlem Brundtland have encouraged all parties in Myanmar to advance national reforms and support peace accords, in a press conference here today.

The Elders have concluded their first visit to Myanmar. After hearing from leaders and civil society representatives, they expressed their support for the country's peaceful political transition and their anticipation of further engagement in the region.

Concluding a three-day visit to Myanmar, the Elders offered their support to the people of Myanmar during this exciting period of transition. They also encouraged decision-makers responsible for the implementation of the political reform process to make further progress.

Welcoming the work of local and international actors involved in supporting the peace process with ethnic minority armed groups and addressing ongoing violence in Rakhine state, the Elders noted that they anticipated remaining engaged in the country in the coming years.

Commenting on Myanmar’s political process, Jimmy Carter, former US President and Elders’ said: “We had constructive discussions with President U Thein Sein and members of his government, as well as Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing in Nay Pyi Taw. We were impressed by the pace with which reforms are proceeding. Myanmar is becoming a more open society. The release of political prisoners is particularly encouraging. We hope that there will be no political prisoners by the end of the year, as the President has promised.”

“We have also been struck by the growing contribution and leadership of women in civil society, and yet they are under-represented in the political process. A truly vibrant democratic society cannot thrive without women’s equal status in all aspects of life,” Jimmy Carter said.

The Elders encouraged a comprehensive resolution to the ethnic conflicts in the country including a political dialogue involving all relevant parties.

Commenting on the prospect of peace between the government and the ethnic minority armed groups in the border regions Martti Ahtisaari, former President of Finland, said “I always say that building peace only begins once hostilities cease. This is the start, not the end, of a process.”

“For Myanmar to reap the benefits of peace, careful attention will need to be given to how the factors underlying conflict are managed, in particular the context for land and other natural resources,” Martti Ahtisaari said.

“Although no two conflicts are ever the same, post-conflict societies share at least one trait: their success depends on the abandonment of an adversarial mindset, on addressing common challenges together. Ultimately, no one can want peace more than the Myanmar people,” Martti Ahtisaari said.

Commenting on the inter-communal strife affecting several parts of the country Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway and Deputy Chair of The Elders, said: “A lot of attention has been given to the tensions between people of different faiths in Myanmar, but we have also been struck by the extent of the divisions within religious groups. We have encouraged the religious leaders to work for compassion and tolerance.”

“It could take decades to overcome the ingrained prejudices promoted by extremist voices in parts of the country. This will require far-reaching cultural changes in all parts of society, including through changes in the education curriculum.”

The Elders is an independent group of global leaders who work together for peace and human rights. They were brought together in 2007 by Nelson Mandela. — MNA

The Elders meet the press.—MNA

The Elders support peaceful political transition, peace accords

Yangon, 26 Sept — The Elders received a delegation led by Mr Svein Aaser, Chairman of Board of Directors of Telenor Group, at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this morning.

Present on the occasion together with the Vice-President were Deputy Ministers U Thant Kyaw and U Thaung Tin and officials.

At the call, they frankly discussed the reform processes of information and technology sector, increase of telephone density for contributing towards economic development, creation of job opportunities for local communication technicians and soonest implementa-

Vice-President U Nyan Tun poses documentary photo with Mr Svein Aaser, Chairman of Board of Directors of Telenor Group at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 26 Sept—U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, has sent a message of felicitations to His Excellency Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen on his re-election as Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.— MNA

New Light of Myanmar
THE MOST RELIABLE NEWSPAPER AROUND YOU

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Health Care Service

Hepatitis B vaccine given to novices in Toungoo

TOUNGOO, 26 Sept—The Hepatitis B vaccines were given to 150 novices in Toungoo Township, doctors and nurses injected the vaccine to the novices under the arrangement of Ahlam Aleyoma (Toungoo) Novice Health Care Service Association.

The vaccine will be given to the remaining novices.

It needs to inject the vaccine to the novices for five times during the designated period, said Chairman of the Association Dr Ba Swe.

The association also donated personal goods and stationery to the novices.

A nurse gives Hepatitis B vaccine to a novice in Toungoo.

Accident

Passenger train derails on Yaksawk-Thazi

THAZI, 26 Sept—A derailment of passenger train caused between mile posts 320/3 and 320/4 of Yinnabin and Phayangahsu stations in Thazi Township of Meiktila District in Mandalay Region at 1.25 am on 14 September.

The 144-down Yaksawk-Thazi train leaving Yaksawk derailed at 10.27 pm on 24 September.

The incident did not cause any casualty for passengers and staff.

Manager of Thazi Coach Shed U Myo Htaik and workers arrived at the scene and carried out repairing works. The rail transportation returned to normalcy at 8.10 am on 14 September.

Kyemon-Chantha (Meiktila)

Pakokku, bustling with cargo ships in rising water level

The jetties in Pakokku of Magway Region are bustling with rice motorboats, ships and cargo barges with the loads of cement and so on when its water level is rising in the month of Tawthalin.

“This year, motorboats do not take rice from Pakokku. These motorboats carried rice of bags from Monywa, Yesagyo and Myingyan. They anchored at Pakokku as a station. The entrepreneurs directly placed an order for buying the rice. When water level is declining, the motorboats dock at Pakokku as a siphon to transport the products to the destinations. When water level is rising, the watercrafts carry rice to Monywa,” said a rice merchant of Pakokku.

Pakokku has been a station for many years to transport rice to Pantaung Ponnya region, Kabaw region, Bantkyi region and Chin State. Rice merchants from Pakokku stayed in Myaungmya and Hinthada of the delta region for six months and Pakokku for six months in trading rice and paddy in rotation. In September, if the great volume of rice flows into Pakokku from Hinthada and Myaungmya, transport charge will be cheap.

Transport charge for Myaungmya-Pakokkuroute through water way is fixed at around K 1000 per bag of rice. In the rainy season, although only lesser volume of rice from Shwebo flows into rice market in Pakokku but inflow of rice from the delta becomes larger. Prices of rice are K 33000-34000 per bag of Shwebo Pawhsan and K 32000-33000 for Myaungmya Pawhsan. Prices of Myaungmya summer rice is sold at K 19000/15000 per bag and monsoon rice K 22000/23000 per bag.

From December to September, about 50000 to 100000 bags of rice on average flow into the market. In January and February, rice brokerages in Pakokku are so busy with customers.

Kyemon-Nay Oo Maung (Pakokku)

Natural Disaster

Heavy rains cause three-hour traffic congestions in Yangon

YANGON, 26 Sept—The main roads in Yangon were inundated due to heavy rains on 24 September.

In consequence, traffic congestions against inundation happened on Lanni Road, Roundabout, Shwetaunggyar, Thamaing, Botataung, Tamway, U Wisara Roundabout, Myepong and Strand Road.

The traffic congestions caused three hours delays for transportation for workers, staff and local people.

“It may set record for traffic jams in heavy rains in Yangon. I left home at 7 am for the office. I was subject to traffic congestions and arrived at the office on Hledan at 10 am,” said a staff of company. The traffic congestions reached the lanes and streets in the wards of townships in addition to the main roads.

“I drove the car along Shwetaunggyar Road to evade University Avenue, but almost all the streets were blocked. Shwetaunggya Road was under inundation,” said a driver.

Some staff of companies took half-day leaves due to traffic jams.

“Some staff living in Dagon Myothit Township unavoidably took half-day leave,” said a staff of the bank on Strand Road.

Traffic police were busy in traffic congestions. Some members of the Traffic Police Corps assigned more members to the congestion areas, said an official of No. 27 Traffic Police Platoon in Tamway Township.

“Traffic police members controlled the traffic jams caused by heavy rains at the Tamway Roundabout and Tamway Mosque,” said an official of Traffic Police Corps from Tamway Township.

Kyemon-Kyi (Yankin)
Abe at Wall Street vows to keep nuclear energy, pitches deregulation

NEW YORK, 26 Sept—Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe told Wall Street on Wednesday that along- side his push for deregulation and empowering wom- en to spur the economy, Japan will contribute its nuclear safety technology to the world by overcoming the Fukushima crisis.

Abe also said Japan, together with the United States, should lead multi- lateral efforts toward con- cluding the Trans Pacific Partnership free trade pact by the end of this year.

Western envys tout deal on core of UN Syria draft, Russia denies it

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—Envys from the United States, Russia, France, China and Britain have come to an agreement on the core of a UN Security Council resolution to get rid of Syria’s chemical weapons, three Western diplomats said on Wednesday, but Russia denied such an accord had been reached and insisted work was “still going on.”

Diplomats from the five veto-wielding permanent members of the Security Council have been haggling over the details of a resolu- tion to back an accord ham- mered out by Russia and the United States on 14 Septem- ber in Geneva to eliminate Syrian President Bashar al- Assad’s chemical weapons arsenal.

Wednesday’s develop- ment came after the foreign ministers of the five council powers met over lunch with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, the diplomats said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Several envys said a draft resolution could be pre- sented to the full 15-nation council soon, and the five permanent members would also meet on Friday to dis- cuss a proposed Syria peace conference in Geneva.

“We have a few details to solve. But I think we shall reach a common resolution maybe today or tomorrow,” said French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius. A Western diplomatic source said: “It seems that things are moving forward,” adding that there was “an agreement among the five on the core.” “We are closer on all the key points,” he said. A third diplomat also suggested a deal on the draft resolution was within reach.

However, Russia reject- ed the Western diplomats’ suggestions that there was an agreement on the core of a draft resolution.

“I have just their wishful thinking,” said the spokesman for Russia’s UN delegation. “It is not the re- ality. The work on the draft resolution is still going on.”

A US official cited pro- gress while cautioning that there was still work to be done. “We’re making pro- gress but we’re not done yet,” the official told Reuters.

One of the Western dip- lomats said “there has been real progress. There was an agreement between the five on the core of the project.”

Another diplomat also said core issues had been agreed, but there are “still some areas of outstanding disagreement” and there were no plans yet to circulate a draft resolution to the full council—a key step before putting it to the vote.

Negotiations on a draft in New York had come to a standstill while Russia and the United States struggled to reach an agreement accept- able to both. But it appears that after talks between US Secretary of State John Kerry and his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov on Tuesday, the deadlock was broken.

India-US ties lose shine over economic differences

NEW DELHI, 26 Sept—When India’s Prime Min- ister Manmohan Singh last visited the White House in 2009 he was feted at Presi- dent Barack Obama’s first state dinner, a star-studded affair that reflected the ex- citement about blooming ties between the two big democ- racies.

Back then, optimists in Washington saw India as a counterbalance to a rising China and a new engine for the US economy. In a din- ner toast, Obama talked of his “duty” to bring the two countries closer.

That duty has only been partly fulfilled. As the two leaders prepare to meet again at the White House on Friday for a working bilateral meet- ing, Obama is under pressure from lobby groups and law- makers seeking at what they see as India’s protectionism and lax enforcement of intel- lectual property rights.

India’s $60 billion trade with the United States is widely seen as less than it could be and is just an eighth of US trade with China. Even India’s national secu- rity advisor accepts there is a perception the relationship is drifting off course.

“It arises from the mac- ro-economic situation,” US- India friends mention concerns about economic reforms and specific policy issues in In- dia. These concerns are not unique to the US They are, first and foremost, of concern to Indians,” National Secu- rity Adviser Shivshankar Menon said on Friday.

India has still not shaken off memories of foreign clean energy technology are contentious and US com- panies gripe about “unfair” imports from India of every- thing from shrimp to steel pipes. In June, more than 170 US lawmakers signed a letter to Obama about Indian poli- cies they said threatened US jobs.—Reuters

India’s Prime Minister Manmohan Singh attends a BRICS leaders’ meeting at the G20 Summit in Strelina near St. Petersburg, on 5 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

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India says it wants to resolve nuclear row within months

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—India’s new govern- ment, stepping up a cam- paign to project a more moderate image abroad, said on Wednesday it wants to jump-start talks with world powers to resolve a decade- long dispute over its nuclear programme and hoped for a deal in three to six months.

Iranian Foreign Minis- ter Mohammad Javad Zarif is set to hold talks on the nu- clear issue on Thursday with US Secretary of State John Kerry as well as diplomats from Britain, France, Rus- sia, China and Germany, in a rare encounter between top American and Iranian offi- cials.

“The only way forward is for a timeline to be in- serted into the negotiations that’s short,” new Iranian President Hassan Rouhani was quoted as telling the Washington Post, through a translator, during a visit to New York, where he ad- dressed the United Nations General Assembly on Tues- day.—Reuters
Tokyo Electron takeover could be a mold-breaker for Japan

Tokyo, 26 Sept.—Applied Materials Inc’s $10 billion acquisition of Tokyo Electron Ltd is more than just a milestone foreign takeover in Japan — it’s a rare forward-looking deal in a country where selling to an overseas rival is usually a last resort.

US-based Applied Materials, the world’s largest maker of chipmaking equipment, and third-ranked Tokyo Electron announced the all-stock deal late on Tuesday. On completion, it would be the biggest foreign takeover of a Japanese manufacturer. While board representation is to be split evenly, Applied Materials shareholders will own 68 percent of the new company, keeping them firmly in control.

Analysts were surprised by the move in part because Tokyo Electron has a solid balance sheet and didn’t need a deal to survive. That makes the deal stand out against other big inbound transactions, many of which involved a struggling target — such as Citigroup Inc’s $16 billion purchase of broker Nikko Cordial in 2007-08 and Renault SA’s $5 billion injection into Nissan Motor Co almost a decade earlier.

Edward Johnson, a partner at law firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, said the willingness of a blue-chip Japanese company like Tokyo Electron to cede control to a foreign rival could encourage other Japanese firms to consider similar moves.

“I don’t think it’s a one-off. I think it has broader implications,” said Johnson, whose practice includes advising foreign companies on investments in Japan.

While Japanese companies spent a record $83 billion on overseas acquisitions in 2012, inbound deals totaled just $15 billion.

Reuters

HTC aiming to triple its Indian smartphone market share to 15 percent

MUMBAI, 26 Sept.—Mobile handset maker HTC on Wednesday said it is eyeing almost threefold jump in its market share to 15 percent as it focuses on ramping up distribution network and service support to strengthen its foothold in country’s growing smartphone market.

The company said it also intended to launch smart phone with less than Rs. 10,000 price range though it ruled out launching phones in the price range of Rs. 5,000-6,000.

“We want to get 15 percent market share in next three quarters,” company’s Country Head, Faisal Siddiqui told reporters.

The company said it presently had about 3-6 percent market share in the country’s mobile handset market. “We are focusing on increasing our reach and ensuring consumers have access to our after sales service support to gain market share,” Siddiqui said.

As part of plans to expand its reach, HTC has appointed four national mobile handset national distributors.

“Currently, we are selling through 4,000 multi-brand outlets and want to increase it to 7,000 outlets in the next six months,” he said.

The company has planned to expand after sales service network to 400 shops from the present 250.

Asked about launching more handsets, he said the company will come out with 3-5 new models with a price range between Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 40,000 by December this year. He said it was also looking at bringing out mobile phones in the price range of less than Rs. 10,000.

“Country’s smartphone market is projected at 25-26 million units this year, out of which 50 percent will be of handsets priced at less than Rs. 10,000,” he added.

The company has most of that opportunity to capitalise on its handsets’ popularity with ordinary Indians, a clientele far removed from its traditional corporate and government “CrackBerry” users, a mistake that offers lessons for rivals like Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co Ltd.

“Indonesia was an opportunity lost-and-at what cost,” said a former BlackBerry executive familiar with the company’s strategy, who declined to be identified as he did not want to jeopardise business ties with his ex-employer.

As smartphone prices fall and the number of global users rises, companies must either focus on niche markets, like Apple does with its high-end devices, or rapidly roll out a wide range of products at prices that would appeal to all customers, a strategy market leader Samsung has wielded with much success. BlackBerry’s stuttering approach meant it did neither.

After failing to spark interest with its upgraded operating system and devices, BlackBerry said last week it would step back from the consumer market and focus on enterprise customers. It also agreed to go private in a $4.7 billion deal led by its biggest shareholder.

Turning its back on the mass market for a sea of missteps BlackBerry made in lucrative emerging markets like Indonesia, where telecom networks and users embraced the devices long before the firm acknowledged the need to tailor its business to make the most of that opportunity.

Reuters

BlackBerry’s decline in established Indonesian market a lesson for Apple, Samsung

JAKARTA, 26 Sept.—Indonesia has long been a surprising jewel in the crown of BlackBerry Ltd, a rare market where its devices enjoyed mass appeal. But the country also highlights the struggling company’s failure to embrace the emerging economies that are leading smartphone sales growth across the globe.

Indonesia is still one of BlackBerry’s biggest markets, accounting for about 15 percent of global users but its share of smartphone sales in Southeast Asia’s biggest economy has fallen fast to 21 percent in the second quarter from 39 percent a year earlier, according to data from telecoms consultancy IDC.

Industry experts say BlackBerry was too slow to capitalise on its handsets’ popularity with ordinary Indonesians, a clientele far removed from its traditional corporate and government “CrackBerry” users, a mistake that offers lessons for rivals like Apple Inc and Samsung Electronics Co Ltd. “Indonesia was an opportunity lost-and-at what cost,” said a former BlackBerry executive familiar with the company’s strategy, who declined to be identified as he did not want to jeopardise business ties with his ex-employer.

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Reuters

China unveils its first and unnamed moon rover

BEIJING, 26 Sept.—Chinese scientists described the country’s first moon rover on Wednesday and invited the global public to come up with a name for it.

Fang Xiaoqin, director of the aerospace department of the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, depicted the lunar rover an orbiter adaptable to harsh environments; a highly efficient and integrated robot; and a high-altitude “patrolman” carrying the dreams of Asia.

The Chang’e-3 mission to moon, named after a Chinese lunar goddess, will take place in December, when a Chinese spacecraft will soft-land on a celestial body for the first time.

The rover has two wings, stand on six wheels, weighs 140 kg and will be powered by solar energy.

“When it arrives in lunar orbit and lands, the rover will choose the best landing site and gently touch down the moon’s surface, using optical and microwave sensors to avoid rocks and craters,” Zhao said.

The rover will “select the best route, use minimal fuel and make the smallest possible error” during landing and is capable of hovering to steer clear of obstacles, he said.

Domestic and overseas compatriots can submit their proposed names for the rover through the Internet and the official name will be announced in November after an online poll on the selected proposals.

Li Benzheng, deputy chief designer of China’s lunar probe programme, said the name of the rover should express the wishes of Chinese people both at home and abroad, feature the modern and national traits to inspire people.

Li noted the rover will recognize obstacles on the moon’s surface, and plot a path of least resistance by a combination of onboard navigation systems and remote control from the command centre. The rover can “test”, automatically entering a dormant state to recharge its batteries, and return to work after a while.

New Light of Myanmar
WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — US house prices edged up one percent in July on a seasonally-adjusted basis, marking the third consecu- tive monthly increase, of- ficial data showed on Tues- day.

House prices rose 8.8 percent in July from a year ago, according to the monthly House Price Index of the Federal Housing Fi- nance Agency (FHFA).

Though the upbeat figures indicated a steady improvement in the US housing market, the situa- tion varied from region to region. Among the nine cen- sus divisions, prices of the Pacific division, including Hawaii, Alaska, Washing- ton, Oregon and Califor- nia, climbed the most by 20.8 percent from a year ago, while the East South Central division, including Kentucky, Tennessee, Mis- sissippi and Alabama, saw the smallest annual increase of 3.8 percent.

The house price index in July, said the FHFA, was still 9.6 percent below the April 2007 peak level and roughly the same as the March 2005 level.

The FHFA measured changes in real estate values using purchases of proper- ties with mortgages backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. It did not provide a specific price for houses.

The US National As- sociation of Realtors last week reported that the median existing home price for all housing types was 212, 100 US dollars in August, up 14.7 percent from a year earlier.—Xinhua

**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**US durable goods edge higher, fiscal uncertainty weighs**

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — Orders for long-lasting US manufactured goods barely grew in August in a possible sign that com- panies are holding back on investments due to un- certainty over government spending. Other data on Wednesday showed sales of new US homes last month were near their lowest level of the year, a sign that a rise in interest rates was weigh- ing on the economy.

Durable goods orders rose 0.1 percent during the month, driven by the strongest rise in vehicle orders since February, Commerce Department data showed. The data also showed ship- ments of non-military capi- tal goods other than aircraft grew 1.3 percent during the month, snapping two straight months of declines.

The reading for these so-called “core” shipments feeds directly into the gov- ernment’s estimates for total economic growth and the increase supports the view that government austerity has so far taken only a mod- est bite from national output. But concerns are growing. “Companies are still cau- tious in their capex (capital expenditure) due to the un- certain economic scenario,” said Annalisa Pizza, an an- alyst at Newedge Strategy.

The data, which cover everything from toasters to tanks, had little impact on sentiment on Wall Street, where eyes have grown more focused on debates in the US Congress over govern- ment spending and the national debt. Stock index futures were little changed.

**US house prices up one pct in July**

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**BUSINESS & HEALTH**

**Don’t put them in refrigerator**

1. Tropical fruit
2. Green pepper
3. Leaf vegetables
4. Baked food

**FDA strengthens hepatitis B warning on 2 cancer drugs**

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — US health regula- tors have strengthened the warnings on two blood can- cer drugs to reflect the risk that they might reactivate the hepatitis B virus in patients previously infected with the disease.

The warnings affect GlaxoSmithKline Plc’s Arzerra, which was ap- proved in the United States in 2002 for chronic myelo- phytic leukemia (CML); and Rituxan, a drug made by Roche Holding AG and Biogen Idec Inc that is ap- proved to treat a variety of conditions including CML, non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma and rheumatoid arthritis.

The US Food and Drug Administration said the risk is already described in the warnings and precautions section of the label for both drugs but that cases of re- activation continue to occur and some patients have died. Now the information will be placed in a black box, indicating the most se- rious type of risk.

The FDA said it rec- ommends that physicians screen all patients for hepa- titis B infection before starting treatment with the drugs, and monitor patients with evidence of prior hepa- titis B infection for signs that the virus has been reac- tivated, including for sev- eral months after therapy has stopped.—Xinhua

**Spain revises up 2014 GDP growth forecast to 0.7 pct**

MADRID, 26 Sept — Spanish government would revise up the 2014 gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast to 0.7 per- cent from the previous pre- ddicted 0.5 percent.

Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy confirmed on Tuesday when speaking at the Spanish parliament during the government con- trol session held at the Sen- ate.

The forecast was in line with the prediction made by Spanish Saving Banks As- sociation on 16 September, which also said the Spanish economy would grow by 0.7 percent year on year in 2014.

The Prime 2014 General State Budget will be approved at the cabinet meeting on 27 Friday and will include these new economic fore- casts.

Rajoy said that the economic situation had im- proved but warned that the government had to be care- ful because there were still important imbalances that Spain should correct, such as reducing the deficit.

On Tuesday, the Mini- nistry of Finance released the latest data on the state budg- et deficit that reached 4.62 percent of the country’s GDP to 47.579 billion euros (64.167 billion US dollars).

Rajoy’s statements confirmed what he said in an interview published by The Wall Street Journal, where he claimed that “Spain is out of recession but not out of the crisis.”

Rajoy said in the inter- view that the Spanish econ- omy would grow between 0.5 percent and 1 percent, but ruled out predicting when the Spanish unem- ployment rate would start decreasing, which currently is above 26 percent.

Xinhua

**UNSG’s MESSAGE ON WORLD TOURISM DAY**

27 September 2013

With unsustainable consumption and climate change threatening global water resources, this year’s World Tourism Day highlights the responsibility of the tourism industry to safeguard and intelligently manage water. In this International Year of Water Cooperation, I urge tourism establishments to cut consumption and improve waste management and I call on individuals to play their part by making environmentally conscious choices when they travel. By making water saving a priority we can all help to build the future we want.—UNWTO

**Top banks have $155 billion capital shortfall, most in Europe**

LONDON, 26 Sept — The world’s biggest banks would need to boost their capital by 115 billion eu- ros ($155 billion) to com- ply with tougher rules and more than 60 percent of that shortfall is in Europe, where lenders have been slower to strengthen.

The capital shortfall fell by 83 billion euros dur- ing the second half of last year as banks retained more of their profits and raised capital, although the pace of improvement was not as quick in Europe as else- where.

The Basel Committee of global regulators said on Wednesday the shortfall at top international banks was based on a target to hold a minimum core capital level of 7 percent, plus capital surcharges required for the biggest banks. Its finding was based on their balance sheets at the end of last year.

Some 70 billion euros of the shortfall was at banks in the European Union, rep- resenting 61 percent of the global deficit. The shortfall at EU banks was cut by 29 billion euros in the second half of last year, according to a European Banking Au- thority (EBA) estimate.

Markets and regulators have been putting pressure on banks to move early to comply with the global Ba- sel III accord being phased in, to dispel any doubts about their ability to thrive and encourage investors to buy their bonds and shares. Basel roughly triples how much capital banks must hold compared with before the financial crisis, when many undercapital- ized banks were bailed out or rescued by taxpayers.

It requires banks to have a core capital buffer equivalent to at least 7 percent of their assets on a risk-weighted basis by Jan- uary 2019.—Reuters
Ecuador’s FM says South America studies how to curb US ‘spying’

Ecuador’s Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino gestures during a news conference on the hidden spy microphone uncovered at the office of Ana Alban, the Ecuadorian ambassador to the United Kingdom, in Quito, on 3 July, 2013.—Reuters

NEW YORK, 26 Sept — South American nations are jointly exploring the creation of a communications system to curtail US spying in the region, Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said on Wednesday. He said the idea was to set up a common platform to “minimize risks of being spied on” and added the project was an outgrowth of the disclosures by former US National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden on US spying worldwide. The new project is under consideration by the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), which groups the 12 governments of the continent. UNASUR is based in Quito, Ecuador’s capital.

“We have decided to begin to work on new Internet communication systems of our countries, of our societies, to avoid continuing being the object and prey of illegal spying that US spying entities have developed against us,” Patino said in an interview with Reuters at Ecuador’s mission to the United Nations in New York City. UNASUR’s defence council — made up of the region’s defence ministers — is in charge of examining how to implement the idea.

“The ministers of defence have instructed their technical teams to examine the project,” he said. “I understand there have been meetings at a technical level to advance the creation to minimize the risk of espionage.”

Those meetings had taken place in recent weeks, he added.

Latin American countries raised a storm of protest after, according to NSA leaks by Snowden, the agency spied on an array of names in the region.

On Tuesday, in a speech to the UN General Assembly, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff accused the United States of violating human rights and international law through espionage that included spying on her email.

Rousseff had expressed her displeasure last week by calling off a high-profile state visit to the United States scheduled for October over reports that the NSA had been spying on Brazil.—Reuters

Bundestag opens job centre for Merkel’s defeated allies

BERLIN, 26 Sept — Germany’s labour office set up shop in parliament on Wednesday to advise hundreds of Free Democratic Party employees cast adrift by Sunday’s election, which left the FDP unrepresented in the Bundestag (lower house) for the first time since 1949.

Chancellor Angela Merkel’s junior coalition partner was booted out of parliament when it missed the 5 percent threshold for seats. The FDP has served in more governments than either of the two biggest parties, the conservatives and Social Democrats.

But the outcome of the latest election was bad news for the free-market party’s 93 lawmakers, including five cabinet ministers, and for its 650 staff.

“The queue to talk to the 30 unemployment agency advisers sent to parliament stretched down a hallway, where glum people filled out forms and, asked about job prospects, shook their heads.

“It can’t get much worse than this,” said a 32-year-old FDP staffer who declined to give his name. “We can put all the work from the past four years through the paper shredder.”

He said FDP workers had received dozens of emails mocking their fate since the election, “but the computers are being turned off in the next few days anyway”.

Andreas Ebeling, spokesman for the office, said many FDP people could network to find work with non-governmental organizations or in political and business consultancy roles.

Failing that, he said, there might be job opportunities with Merkel’s Christian Democrats (CDU), who boosted their share of the vote and will have 74 more seats in the lower house — presuming Merkel finds a new governing coalition partner.

REUTERS

Railway suicides surge after series of rainy, cloudy days

KYOTO, 26 Sept — Railway suicide cases tend to increase after a series of cloudy and rainy days, a team of researchers from two Japanese universities said on Wednesday in an international academic journal.

Patrolling train stations and railroad crossings on days preceded by poor weather and installing high-intensity white light bulbs designed for treating depression at platforms and train cars may help prevent suicides, the researchers from Kyoto University and Shiga University of Medical Science said.

The study, published in the Journal of Affective Disorders, examined the length of daylight on the days prior to the days that had seen suicide-related train service cancellations or delays of over 30 minutes during a five-year period starting 2002. The data were taken from Tokyo, Kanagawa, and Osaka, the three prefectures with the highest numbers of railway suicide cases in Japan.

The number of such cancellations and delays occurred in the days preceded by three consecutive days of rain and cloudy weather than on the days preceded by consecutive days of poor weather including at least one clear day in between, the study said. Suicide cases rose on the days preceded by seven consecutive days of rain or cloudy weather, the researchers said. They added that the weather of the day before an attempt apparently had no influence on the trend.

Kyodo News

Researchers say Hacker ‘mercenaries’ linked to Japan, South Korea spying

WASHINGTON, 26 Sept — A small, sophisticated international hacking group was responsible for a widely publicized 2011 spying attack on members of Japan’s parliament as well as dozens of previously undisclosed breaches at government agencies and strategic companies in Japan and South Korea, security researchers said.

Researchers at Kaspersky Lab believe they have found a squad of hackers for hire, who contract out to governments and possibly businesses, in contrast to recent reports on hacks said to be carried out by full-time government employees.

“We have what we think is the emergence of small groups of cyber-mercenaries available to perform targeted attacks,” said Kaspersky’s army local time (1642 GMT) of the strongest earthquake in a generation in the Pacific Ocean was 46 km south of the district of Acari in Arequipa department, the US Geological Survey said. The quake was also felt in departments like Huancavelica, Cusco, Ica, Ayacucho and Lima, causing panic among population there, the Peruvian Geophysics Institute said.

REUTERS

Peru’s strong earthquake claims three lives

LIMA, 26 Sept — The 6.9-magnitude earthquake that hit southern Peru on Wednesday has killed three people in the district of Chaparra, in the Caraveli province of Arequipa department, local daily “El Comercio” reported on its website. The three people were buried in a mine during work, while the other 12 workers were injured, the daily online said.

Miguel Alyazza, chief of Civil Defence in Arequipa, arrived at the mine to confirm the information, said the daily.

The head of the National Institute of Civil Defence, Alfredo Murugayto, said his agency was monitoring the area and no significant damage has been reported.

The epicentre of earthquake that occurred at 11:42
**HRD**

**MWAF organizes educative talks in Bago**

**BAGO, 26 Sept—** An educative talk on healthcare was given by social and cultural working group of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation at a Dhammayon in southern Zadami ward in Bago of Bago Region on 21 September.

Joint leader of the working group Associate Professor Daw Thet Htar Win, Health group leader Dr Than Thun Oo and Dr Su Su Hnin gave talks. Physicians of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation provided treatment to diabetes and hypertension patients after the talk.

*MMAL-183*

**Educative talks on violence against women given**

**BHAMO, 26 Sept—** An educative talk on violence against women in Women’s Affairs Organization in Bhamo Township were held in No (3) Basic Education High School on 21 September.

**Tourism Industry**

**Nay Pyi Taw to host World Tourism Day**

**YANGON, 26 Sept—** World Tourism Day ceremony will be organized in Myanmar International Convention Centre in Nay Pyi Taw on 27 September.

**MMAL-Myat Sandi Thin Zaw**

**Stipends granted to WVO offsprings**

**HYANGIRWE, 26 Sept—** Myanmar War Veterans Organization (Central Headquarters) granted stipends to offsprings of its members in Hlainghwe Township for 2013-2014 fiscal year at Township WVO office on 22 September.

**Kyaukme**

**IPRD opens mini book corner**

**KYAUKME, 26 Sept—** As Kyaukme Township Information and Public Relations Department is providing books, periodicals and publications to the public with the opening of a mini book corner in Central Market in Kyaukme.

**MMAL-Township WVO**

**MPF launches emergency, complaint-handling phone lines**

**NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—** Myanmar Police Force under the Ministry of Home Affairs has put hot lines into place at Myanmar Police Force HQ and region/state police stations to enable the public to submit tip-offs and complaints over illegal acts, mis-appropriation and corruption.

The public may reach the numbers for their information and complaints but are requested to avoid manners causing disruptions to these phone lines.

**MMAL-Ko Ye**

**Yan yang’s tribes in pictures**

**YANGON, 26 Sept—** International documentary photographer Richard K Diran will display his photos of ethnic people in Myanmar in a show titled “The Vanishing Tribes in Burma” referring the old name of the Southeast Asian country.

The photos taken by Richard K Diran in 25 years in Myanmar will be put on display at the show. Seventy selected photos to be showcased include the ethnic tribes which are about to disappear.

The photos will be donated to the National Museum and are expected by organizers to be a contribution to the country’s peace process.

The show on 28-30 September will be hosted by MNA

**New Light of Myanmar**

**Friday, 27 September, 2013**

**LOCAL NEWS**

**Inyala Hotel.**

The opening session is expected to be attended by Chairperson of National League for Democracy Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

**Cultural Heritage**

The opening of a book corner with new books and publications to the public with the opening of a mini book corner in Central Market in Kyaukme.

**MMAL-Myat Sandi Thin Zaw**

**Paper Talks by Emanuel Church at the corner of Maha Bandoola Park and Maha Bandoola street in Yangon on 21 September.**

**MMAL-Ko Ye**

**MMAL-Myat Sandi Thin Zaw**

**MMAL-Township WVO**
Most fire broke out in towns started at electrical devices. It is found that negligence on using electrical equipment and devices is the major cause of fire than short circuit.

Power consumption has risen dramatically in towns today when compared with the previous times as town dwellers have used more electrical devices at their homes. There was only one TV at a home in the past. Today, it is found that there are a video device, a washing machine, an electric iron and an electric fan at a home and the number of electrical devices at a home has increased depending on the economy of the household. Besides, MP3, MP4, Laptop and iPhone, iPad and mobile phone handsets have to be recharged. Increasing numbers of electrical devices among the people can be seen as a barometer for development, but if we do not take good care of them, they can pose a danger to us.

Recently, a laptop user died in the fire caused by overheating of his laptop while he fell asleep after using it over the night. We, all electronic devices users, should take a lesson from that incident.

Using electrical devices is popular among youths and can be seen as a progress. However, we need to use them systematically. Power is our friend if we use it properly. But, negligent use of power is dangerous to human and may start fire.

The signboards saying “Fire should not start due to your negligence” are erected on roads to raise awareness of fire. Fire should not start by any reason. We should not be careless even with a baby viper. Like that, we should not use the fire negligently. A spark can cause a big fire. A beautiful and smart electrical device can cause a fire if we do not treat it with care. Hence, all users should systematically use electrical devices with care.
Good Local Governance and People Centred Services workshop held in Haka

Haka, 26 Sept—Chin State Government and UNDP/UNCDF jointly organized the Good Local Governance and People Centred Services for State Government and State and Township Administrations at the city hall in Haka on 24 September.

Chief Minister of Chin State U Hong Ngai made an address.

Local Governance and Development Expert Dr Anki Dellnas of UNDP explained reforms to chairmen of township management committees, township supportive committees and township development affairs committees till 25 September. Also present at the workshop were state, district and township level departmental officials, officials of UNDP and members of social organizations.

Assistant Resident Representative U Aye Lwin of UNDP (Myanmar) reported on support for local governance with quick response. The workshop was attended by 35 trainees from chairmen of township management committees, township supportive committees and township development affairs committees.

The workshop was conducted with the assistance of the Township Health Department.

After that, the patron presented supplies to Home for the Women under the Social Welfare Department.

The training course will be conducted with the participation of 25 trainees. It will last six months.

Nattalin, 26 Sept—A ceremony to issue citizenship scrutiny cards to the eligible citizens was held at the monastery in Naungtaw Village of Kawkareik Township in Kayin State on 23 September morning.

Director of Kayin State Immigration and National Registration Department U Htein Win presented cards to 526 people from Kawkathoung, Kawchyan, Kawhmman, Hitwasukhhe and Kawankhun villages of the township.

The necessary works for issuance of the cards were undertaken by Head of Kawkareik Township INRD U Nyi Nyi Than and staff and NRC under the supervision of Head of Kawkareik District INRD U Saw Chit Than.— Kyemon-Khin Lay Nwe (Kawkareik)
Debt-wracked nations could learn from Norway, Prime Minister says

**BoSton,** 26 Sept—Debt-laden European nations, the United States, and resource-rich developing countries could all learn from Norway’s tightfisted spending habits and oil wealth management, the Scandinavian nation’s outgoing Prime Minister said on Wednesday.

Jens Stoltenberg said Norway had become one of the wealthiest countries in the world mainly by refusing to spend its huge state oil revenues, instead placing them in a sovereign wealth fund and using only the annual returns.

“That way the fund lasts forever,” he told an academic audience at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. “The problem in Europe with the deficits and the debt crisis is that many European countries have spent money they don’t have. The problem in Norway is that we don’t spend money we do have. That requires a kind of political courage.”

Stoltenberg, a member of the Labour Party who served two consecutive four-year terms as prime minister, is due to resign his post on 14 October after losing 9 September elections to the opposition Conservatives, who campaigned to lower taxes and raise spending.

Stoltenberg said Norway’s sovereign wealth fund — a now $700 billion fund with investments in bonds, more than 7,000 companies, and some real estate — was the main reason Norway sidestepped the “curse of oil” that has plagued many other resource-rich nations particularly in the developing world.

Also referred to as Dutch disease, the curse of oil occurs when a sudden influx of petrodollars triggers a public spending spree that in turn creates inflation and stifles other domestic industries. The Netherlands suffered a decline in its manufacturing sector in the 1970s after the discovery of a large natural gas field.

“There are many, many other countries in the world that are in similar positions, that are facing the same kinds of challenges that we are facing, which is huge temporary income from natural resources,” Stoltenberg said.

“So, if there is a danger of an oil curse, Norway is really exposed to that danger. But we have managed to avoid it. The oil industry has been a blessing for Norway.” Norway’s sovereign wealth fund is fed, among other things, by a 78 percent tax rate on private oil companies.—Reuters

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**ATHens,** 26 Sept—A small makeshift bomb exploded outside a Greek tax office in a wealthy Athens suburb on Thursday, damaging the entrance of the building and smashing windows but causing no injuries, police officials said.

Police had cordoned off the area in the upscale suburb of Kifissia, where many business executives and politicians live, after an unidentified person called a Greek newspaper and a news website around 0200 GMT warning a bomb would go off in 30 minutes.

No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion, which police officials said was small.

“The bomb contained a small amount of explosive material,” said a police official, who declined to be named.

Homemade bomb attacks by urban guerrilla groups are frequent in Greece, which is struggling to end its worst financial crisis in decades.

Attacks on political figures, police and justice officials have picked up in recent months, some claimed by anarchist guerrilla groups and anti-establishment leftists angry about Greece’s financial woes.

In June, the anarchist guerrilla group Conspiracy of Fire Cells claimed responsibility for a time bomb that exploded outside the home of a prison director. —Reuters

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**ROME,** 26 Sept—An Italian court on Tuesday called for a new expert examination of the Costa Concordia cruise liner to seek further evidence related to its sinking, accepting a request from the lawyers of the ship’s captain and civil parties.

Last week the Concordia was raised off the rocks where it capsized, opening the way for a new quest for clues.

The Concordia’s skipper, Francesco Schettino, has been charged with offenses including manslaughter, causing a shipwreck and abandoning ship after the 290-metre vessel, carrying more than 4,000 passengers and crew, struck a reef off the island of Giglio and keeled over with the loss of 32 lives on January 13, 2012.

The court in Grosseto, Tuscany, wants experts to pay particular attention to the electrical system of the lift on the vessel, a legal source told Reuters.

Lawyers for Schettino say emergency generators failed to kick in during the disaster, preventing the lifts from working.

The court has also agreed to further checks on other aspects such as the ship’s watertight doors, once the safety of the investigators can be guaranteed.

The 114,500-tonne vessel now sits, upright but two-thirds submerged, on specially constructed platforms just off Giglio while salvage crews prepare for it to be towed away next year to be broken up.

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**IslamAbad**, 26 Sept—The death toll of a powerful earthquake that hit Pakistan’s southwest province of Balochistan on Tuesday afternoon has risen to 348 as 20 more bodies were recovered by rescue teams in the quake-hit areas, local media quoted an official as saying on Thursday.

Abdul Rasheed Gadozai, deputy commissioner of Awarn, a district which was worst hit by the quake, told local media that 20 more bodies were recovered from a collapsed building in Masahki, a small town in Awarn, late Wednesday night.

As of 6:30 pm (local time) Wednesday, 328 people were confirmed dead in the earthquake and 445 were injured, said the country’s top disaster management organ National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in a Press release.

A 7.7-magnitude earthquake struck Awaran district and its five neighbouring districts in Balochistan at about 4:30 pm (local time) Tuesday, leaving hundreds of houses leveled to the ground, including a number of schools.

In Masahki, 40 students of a school were killed in the earthquake while attending classes, said local media.

Officials from local meteorological department said Tuesday’s earthquake is the strongest in Pakistan in the past seven years.

The provincial government of Balochistan and the federal government of Pakistan have reacted swiftly to the catastrophe.

Nearly 2,000 troops and 1,600 from the Army and 300 from Navy have been dispatched to the affected area. A Forward Operating Base has been set up in Khuzda in central Balochistan to oversee the rescue and relief operations in the affected region. Hundreds of tons of relief goods including food, tents, water, medicines have been sent to the affected areas.—Xinhua
Southeast Asia ramps up investment in New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 26 Sept — Foreign direct investment (FDI) from Southeast Asia into New Zealand grew to 4.4 billion NZ dollars (3.63 billion US dollars) in the year ending March, up from 2.8 billion NZ dollars from March last year, the government statistics agency announced on Thursday.

The majority of this increase was attributed to FDI from Singapore, according to Statistics New Zealand.

“In the latest year, Singapore continued its direct investment in New Zealand, with stocks valued at 63.3 billion NZ dollars (62 percent of FDI), followed by the United States and Britain.

Meanwhile, New Zealand’s direct investment fell by 1.7 billion NZ dollars.

“Over the last five years, the value of New Zealand’s portfolio investment has increased by almost a third, whereas direct investment into overseas subsidiaries still sits at a very similar level,” Atewell said.

Australia remained the largest destination for New Zealand’s total investment abroad, with stocks valued at 48.2 billion NZ dollars, or 29 percent of total, followed by the United States and Britain.

In the year ending March, Japan replaced Germany as New Zealand’s fourth largest outward investment partner.—Xinhua

Thai provinces hit by floods, authorities say industry safe

BANGKOK, 26 Sept — Nine provinces have died and more than 1 million have been affected by flooding in Thailand, officials said on Wednesday, but authorities offered assurances that floodwaters would not reach central industrial areas and near Bangkok as in 2011.

Widespread floods in 2011 killed more than 800 people and caused massive disruption to industry, cutting economic growth that year to just 0.1 percent.

Authorities discount the possibility of any similar disruption, but have expressed concern over one industrial estate in Ayutthaya province, 80 km (50 miles) north of Bangkok.

“We are monitoring Saha Rattana Nakorn complex, in Ayutthaya, where flood walls are only 30 percent complete, but are confident that we will be able to take care of all industrial estates,” Chatthai Promlert, director general of the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department, told Reuters.

Ruangrit Kusolgambot, director of the estate which specialises in production of parts for global auto makers, told Reuters the water would not enter the compound.

“The water is a safe distance from our complex and water levels in surrounding areas have decreased significantly over the past few days” he said.

The national meteorology department forecast more rain for the coming weekend.

So far, around 1.5 million people living in 27 of Thailand’s 77 provinces have been affected by the floods. Nine districts have been evacuated.

Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra reassured businesses on Tuesday that there would be no repeat of the flooding that affected more than 1.3 million people in 2011.

A court has ordered the suspension of flood control projects worth 290 billion baht ($9.26 billion) undertaken as part of a campaign to reassure investors of improved flood defences. The projects had encountered legal delays and protests.—Reuters
CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (050)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINGAPORE BRIDGE VOY NO (050) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S SAMUDEERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE
MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (348)
Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (348) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 27.9.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

Kenya mall attack survivor cautions media against misinformation

Nairobi, 26 Sept—A message went viral on social media after it was claimed that the rescuer lady was the infamous terrorist suspect Samantha Lewthwaite escaping from the scene after masterminding the massacre while masquerading as a Good Samaritan.

The photo that was taken at the scene of the Westgate attack during the earlier stages of the siege showed an armed plainclothes policeman and a woman assisting an injured wounded female.

The face of the veiled woman is circled in red and an arrow links it to that of Samantha, for comparison, with the caption underneath: “Could this be Samantha Lewthwaite escaping after masterminding the massacre.”

During the Westgate ordeal, witnesses talked of “a woman” leading the massacre, but Kenyan officials have urged caution over apparent involvement of any foreigners.

Lewthwaite, nicknamed “White Widow,” is the widow of Jermaine Lindsay, one of the July 7, 2005 suicide bombers who coordinated a series of suicide attacks in London, which targeted civilians using public transport system during the morning rush hour.

The 29-year-old woman, who has been on the run since 2005, is wanted in Kenya for plotting terrorist attacks and has been the subject of growing speculation that she was involved in the mall massacre after survivors said a white woman wearing a veil was among the hostages taken.

In December 2011, Lewthwaite, known as “White Widow,” was the widow of Jermaine Lindsay, one of the July 7, 2005 suicide bombers who coordinated a series of suicide attacks in London, which targeted civilians using public transport system during the morning rush hour.

Post-2015 development a favoured topic in annual UN debate

UNITED NATIONS, 26 Sept—Most speakers at the 68th UN General Assembly’s annual General Debate on Wednesday referenced its theme featuring “The Post-2015 Development Agenda: Setting the Stage.”

At the debate’s opening on Tuesday, General Assembly (GA) President John Ashe said the new framework, designed to follow the 2015 deadline of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), targeted poverty eradication, economic growth, equity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

“Adoption of the MDGs has represented a major shift in the ability of the United Nations to mobilize the global will to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, thus clearly expressing the scope of success of the will of the international community,” said Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah of Kuwait.

“However, the emergence of new major challenges are related either to security disruptions .. or to challenges related to steady environmental deterioration that threatens our world,” President Ricardo Martinelli Berrocal of Panama endorsed the theme when he said: “Nations have learned a lot about development. We have realized that development that is not sustainable is simply not development.”

One dead, one injured in small plane crash

CHICAGO, 26 Sept—A small plane carrying two crashed into a bank parking lot in Bolingbrook on Wednesday afternoon while trying to land at O’Hare International Airport near by, killing one person and injuring the other.

The female passenger was pronounced dead at the scene, and the male pilot suffered severe burns and was rushed to hospital immediately.

The plane crashed into a tree, a light pole and three vehicles near a Chase Bank branch in Bolingbrook, southwest of Chicago. Deputy Bolingbrook Fire Chief Trinidad Garza said when firefighters arrived, they found several cars in the parking lot and the plane on fire. The fire was under control about 15 minutes later.
Arnold Schwarzenegger enjoys a romantic dinner with his new girlfriend

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Amidst rumours of actor Arnold Schwarzenegger dating Heather Milligan, photographs of the duo kissing each other have emerged.

The 66-year-old was photographed kissing Milligan on 20 September after a romantic dinner at Fig Restaurant in Fairmont Hotel, Santa Monica, reports tmz.com.

They arrived separately, but before leaving the actor slipped into Milligan’s car to give her a goodbye kiss as she got into her car.

The Terminator was married to Maria Shriver, but they filed for divorce in 2011 to end their 25-year-old marriage.—PTI

Britney Spears’ ex-husband bans son from performing with her

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Britney Spears’ ex-husband Kevin Federline has suggested he would not let his young son Sean Preston perform alongside his former wife during her concert residency in Las Vegas.

Spears, 31, had said that her eight-year-old son would “probably be on stage” during her two-year concert residency at the Planet Hollywood Hotel, reported TMZ.

Asked whether he would let his son perform, Federline, who was married to Spears from 2004 to 2007, said, “I mean ... we’ll see about that, won’t we. Yeah I would like him to perform if he was like 25 years old.”

The star, who wed his long-term girlfriend Victoria Prince earlier this month, has moved on from Spears and has no plans to watch her rumoured USD 310,000-a-night performances in the US gambling capital.—PTI

Kate Moss to record track on 40th b’day

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Supermodel Kate Moss is reportedly planning to record a song to celebrate her 40th birthday.

The 39-year-old will turn 40 in January next year. She will collaborate with her musician husband Jamie Hince for the song, reports dailystar.co.uk.

“She’s working on the song at the moment with husband Jamie Hince. It’s shaping up to be a rocky number about her iconic career,” said a source.

“Kate really wanted to mark the milestone birthday by recording the track and playing it at the big party she’ll be having,” the source added.—PTI

Michael Douglas hopes to “work things out” with Catherine Zeta-Jones

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Actor Michael Douglas is hopeful that things between him and his wife Catherine Zeta-Jones will get better.

The couple is on a break from each other due to personal differences, reports contactmusic.com.

“Catherine is great. She is doing wonderful, talked to her (and) just got a lovely note from her. I’m very hopeful that we’re going to work things out,” Douglas said.

“As I said, we’re just taking a break, a couple of issues, sometimes you got to do that,” he added.

The couple has been married for 13 years.

Jake Gyllenhaal: Am instantly attracted to complicated characters

Los Angeles, 25 Sept—Actor Jake Gyllenhaal says he looks for complicated characters because he gets instantly attracted to a part that has a hidden depth.

The 32-year-old, known for taking on complex roles, plays detective Loki in Prisoners, reports contactmusic.com.

“I look for something in the story that offers love in a more complicated way. I don’t look for darkness, whatever that means, but in my mind, darkness acknowledges great light too,” Guardian newspaper quoted Gyllenhaal as saying.

“I think when it comes to a character, I’m moved by folk that I might struggle to love at first; characters that I have to do enough research on and think enough about to be able to really fall in love with them. Recently, in particular, that’s what’s been happening. I love Detective Loki. I found it hard to let him go,” he added. He also said that he spends a great deal of time researching about his characters.—PTI

Supermodel Kate Moss

Richard Gere, Carey Lowell split after 11 years

Los Angeles, 26 Sept—Pretty Woman actor Richard Gere and his wife Carey Lowell have reportedly parted ways after eleven years of marriage.

According to reports, the couple has been spending time apart for quite some time and is planning on filing for divorce, reported Aceshowbiz.

The reason cited for split is the difference in their lifestyle.

Gere, a devout Buddhist, likes privacy, while Lowell, a former model and actress, enjoys socialising with other bigwigs.

“They have a place in Bedford, NY, and he likes it because it’s quiet and he likes the solitude. She likes being in North Haven in the limelight,” a source said.

Gere, 64, and Lowell, 52, married in 2002 after dating for about seven years. Their son Homer, named after the actor’s father, was born two years before they tied the knot.

“They’ll do everything possible to keep things amicable and put their child first,” a friend of the couple said.

It is the second marriage for the Gere who was previously married to Cindy Crawford from 1991 to 1995.—PTI

Jake Gyllenhaal spends a great deal of time researching about his characters.—Reuters

Richard Gere married Carey Lowell in 2002

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“They have a place in Bedford, NY, and he likes it because it’s quiet and he likes the solitude. She likes being in North Haven in the limelight,” a source said.

Gere, 64, and Lowell, 52, married in 2002 after dating for about seven years. Their son Homer, named after the actor’s father, was born two years before they tied the knot.

“They’ll do everything possible to keep things amicable and put their child first,” a friend of the couple said.

It is the second marriage for the Gere who was previously married to Cindy Crawford from 1991 to 1995.—PTI
Arsenal to play Chelsea in League Cup fourth round

Swindon Town's Massimo Luongo (R) challenges Chelsea's Juan Mata during their English League Cup soccer match at the County Ground in Swindon, western England on 24 Sept, 2013. REUTERS

Swindon, 26 Sept—An unconvincing Real Madrid needed a controversial Cristiano Ronaldo penalty deep into stoppage time to snatch a 2-1 win at promoted Elche on Wednesday that kept them hard on the heels of La Liga leaders Barcelona and Atletico Madrid.

The Portugal forward smashed home a free kick to put Real ahead in the 51st minute against a plucky Elche side before substitute Richmond Boakye looked to have secured a point when he headed past Diego Lopez in the 91st minute.

There was more drama to come, however, as Real won a final corner and the referee pointed to the penalty spot after Pepe tangled with midfielder Carlos Sanchez in the area. Television replays showed the pair grappling with each other before tumbling together to the floor and the Elche players’ fury with the decision appeared justified.

However, as the match ticked into its 96th minute, Ronaldo calmly struck the ball into the corner for his sixth goal in six matches this term.

“Anyone who watched the game can decide why Madrid won, it’s very clear,” Elche captain Jose Albacar said in an interview with Spanish television broadcaster Canal Plus.

“We are going away with the feeling that a match has been stolen from us that we could have drawn against a very good team,” he added.

Ronaldo rescues Real with late penalty at Elche

Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo

Tottenham Hotspur’s Jermain Defoe celebrates his goal against Aston Villa during their English League Cup third round soccer match at Villa Park in Birmingham, central England, on 24 Sept, 2013. REUTERS

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Spurs make case for defence as they face Chelsea

London, 26 Sept—With the abundance of flair and attacking talent Tottenham Hotspur acquired knowing Gareth Bale was leaving, it has perhaps been surprising that their impressive start to the season owes a lot to a watertight defence.

Spurs anticipated the arrival of 100 million euros (84.05 million pounds) in Bale boost by bringing in the likes of Spanish striker Roberto Soldado, Argentine forward Erik Lamela, Danish playmaker Christian Eriksen and Brazil midfielder Paulinho.

While the new boys have already given more than a glimpse of their talents, the men in white forming an impregnable wall at the back have gone quietly about their business.

Spurs, who host London rivals Chelsea at White Hart Lane in Saturday’s early kickoff (2:45 pm British time), are level on points at the top of the Premier League with neighbours Arsenal and have conceded one goal in nine games in all competitions this season.

That came in a 1-0 loss away to their local rivals on 1 September but, apart from that blip, goalkeeper Hugo Lloris and defenders Michael Dawson, Jan Vertonghen and Kyle Walker, along with Danny Rose and Kyle Naughton, have been rock steady.

Manager Andre Villas-Boas would dearly love a first victory over his former side since they sacked him in March last year and believes Spurs have hit the ground running.

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“Meet my fiance (sic) and future wife,” Djokovic, 26, said in a tweet that linked to a photo of the Serbian-born tennis star being kissed by his fiancee, also a Serb.

“So happy! Thank you for the wonderful wishes #NoleFam and friends!” Djokovic, who became a top-10 player on the ATP tour in 2007 but was overshadowed for several years by Roger Federer, the so-called Swiss Maestro, considered by many to be the greatest tennis player of all time, and Spanish Rafael Nadal.

Tennis star Novak Djokovic announces engagement to girlfriend

Los Angeles, 26 Sept — Novak Djokovic, the world’s top-ranked tennis player, announced via social media on Wednesday that he was engaged to marry his longtime girlfriend, Jelena Ristic.

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13 killed, 53 wounded in violent attacks in Iraq

BAGHDAD, 26 Sept—At least 13 people were killed and 53 others wounded in violent attacks in Iraq on Wednesday, police said.

Seven people were killed and 40 others wounded when a roadside bomb exploded in a market for stationery and books on Najiif Street in the city centre of Mosul, some 400 km north of Baghdad, a police source told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

Five people were killed and four others were injured when a car bomb went off near a shop in the Qadisiya neighbourhood in the town of Yathrib, 80 km north of Baghdad, the source said.

The blast also caused damage to the shop and nearby buildings and several cars nearby were destroyed, he added.

Unidentified gunmen assassinated an employee of the agriculture department in Mosul when he stood in front of his home in the Al Qudaise neighbourhood in the southeastern part of the city, the source said, adding that the gunmen fled after the attack.

Nine civilians were wounded when a roadside bomb exploded near shops in the Ghazaliya area in western Baghdad, police source said.

Iraq is witnessing its worst eruption of violence in recent years, which raises fears that the country is sliding back to the full-blown civil conflict that peaked in 2006 and 2007, when monthly death toll sometimes exceeded 3,000.

The UN Assistance Mission for Iraq said earlier this month that almost 3,000 civilians were killed and 12,000 others injured in Iraq from January to August this year.

Xinhua

Capping an epic comeback, Oracle wins the America’s Cup

SAN FRANCISCO, 26 Sept—Oracle Team USA prevailed in a dramatic winner-take-all showdown with Emirates Team New Zealand on Wednesday to win the 34th America’s Cup, completing a stirring comeback that helped make the once-troubled event among the most exciting in sailing history.

For Oracle and its hard-charging skipper, Jimmy Spithill, the win was an extraordinary sporting triumph, one that saw the team climb back from a seemingly insurmountable 8-1 deficit in the best-of-17 series to keep the trophy it won three years ago.

The thrilling final races were also a ringing vindication of Oracle owner Larry Ellison’s controversial decision to transform a once-staid yachting event into a TV-friendly, extreme-sports spectacle featuring huge catamarans flying across the natural amphitheatre of San Francisco Bay at 50 miles per hour.

“A lot of people who were never interested in sailing are now interested in sailing,” Spithill said at a post-race news conference. “This regatta has changed sailing forever,” Emirates Team New Zealand, a plucky challenger that lacked a billion-dollar sponsor but nonetheless sailed to the brink of Cup victory, must now endure the ignominy of having let the prize slip from its grasp in the final days after a grueling two-year campaign of boat development and training.

Oracle dominated the last race, showcasing the dramatic improvements in boat speed on the upwind leg of the race that began to emerge a week ago. Oracle seemed to find an extra gear after losing most of the early races, and even overcame a pre-match penalty that required it win 11 races on the water.

The speed improvements appeared to come mainly from changes that enabled the boat to consistently “foil,” or lift almost completely out of the water on small horizontal wings, even when heading upwind. The team also changed tactics after its early losses, installing Britain’s Ben Ainslie – the winningest Olympic sailor in history – in that spot in place of San Francisco native John Kostecki. The winning Oracle team had only one American on board.

As one of the most coveted sporting prizes, the America’s Cup over its 162-year history has fueled patriotism even in non sailors and winning the trophy was seen as a mark of a nation’s seas-faring greatness.

When Australia broke America’s 132-year hold on the Cup in 1983 the jubilation brought normal business to a standstill.

Just a week ago, New Zealand fans had all but begun celebrating what seemed like an inevitable sporting and economic windfall for the long-time international sailing power, which supported the team with about $30 million in government funds in the hopes of bringing the trophy – and attendant tourism and publicity – back home.—Reuters

Skipper James Spithill lifts the America’s Cup with members of the Oracle Team USA after winning the overall title of the 34th America’s Cup yacht sailing race over Emirates Team New Zealand in San Francisco, California on 25 Sept, 2013.

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Senior General Min Aung Hlaing receives former US President Mr. Jimmy Carter, British Ambassador

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing received London-based The Elders members led by former US President and Nobel Laureate Mr. Jimmy Carter at Zeyathiri BEikman, here, this morning.

The meeting was attended by Chief of the General Staff (Army, Navy and Air) General Hla Htay Win and senior military officers from the Office of Commander-in-Chief. The US ex-president was accompanied by former President of Finland and Nobel Laureate Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, former Norwegian Prime Minister Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland and members of London-based The Elders Group.

They exchanged views on adhering to democratic practices in democratization, role of the defence services personnel Hluttaw representatives, forging unity and cooperation of the Tatmadaw with its counterparts of neighbouring countries, regional countries and global countries as well as with UN’s peacekeeping forces and Myanmar’s Tatmadaw affairs.

The Senior General also received British Ambassador to Myanmar Mr. Andrew Patrick at 11 am today. At the meeting, they had a cordial discussion on cooperation between the governments of Myanmar and Britain and the two armed forces.—MNA

Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing shaking hands with former US President and Nobel Laureate Mr. Jimmy Carter.—MNA

Work coordination meeting on economic and planning held

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—A work coordination meeting on fund allocation, economic development and economic and planning of the Union ministries, organizations and region and state governments in progress.—MNA

The meeting was held at the Union Minister’s office. The meeting was attended by the Union Ministers U Soe Thane said that the government has been working hard to fulfill the basic requirements of people. The meeting was attended by the deputy ministers and the region/state ministers reported on the work progress. The deputy ministers and the region/state ministers reported on the work progress.

Union Ministers U Tin Naing Thein and Dr Kan Zaw coordinated on the reports and gave concluding remarks.

It was attended by the deputy ministers, region and state ministers, directors from Budget Department, Planning Department and departmental officials. —MNA

A work coordination meeting on fund allocation, economic development and economic and planning of the Union ministries, organizations and region and state governments in progress.—MNA

Water level of Sittoung River may reach its danger level

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—According to the observation at 12.30 hr M.S.T today, the water level of the Sittoung River at Toungoo has reached by 13 cm (about 0.4 foot) below its danger level. It may reach its danger level during the next 24 hours according to the Meteorology and Hydrology Department.—MNA

A talk on facts about ASEAN in progress.—MNA

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Myanmar, Angola knot diplomatic ties

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—The Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Republic of Angola, desirous of establishing friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation on the basis of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of International Law in accordance with the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and on Consular Relations, established diplomatic relations at Ambassadorial level with effect from 19 September 2013. The Joint Communiqué on the establishment of diplomatic relations was signed by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations in New York on 19 September 2013. Myanmar has been making efforts to expand diplomatic relations with countries all over the world, and the Republic of Angola has become the 114th country with which Myanmar has established diplomatic relations.—MNA

MWAF shares knowledge about ASEAN affairs

NAY PYI TAW, 26 Sept—A talk on facts about ASEAN was held at Dekhkanthiri Township of Nay Pyi Taw Council this morning.

President of Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation Daw Mya Mya said that Myanmar will assume responsibility of chairmanship for ASEAN in 2014. The talk was aimed at sharing knowledge about ASEAN to the attendees. She called for disseminating the salient points of ASEAN not only to the WAO members but to relatives and friends.

Member of Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Daw Aye Aye Mu explained facts about ASEAN. Patron of the federation Daw Ni Ni Win and Head of International Relations Department of the federation Daw Lin Lin Tin presented gifts to the speaker.—MNA

ACC, MCF launch level-1 coaching & umpiring course-2013

YANGON, 26 Sept—Asian Cricket Council and Myanmar Cricket Federation jointly conducted a course on level-1 coaching & umpiring at the Horizon International School in Thakayta Township, here, today. President U Than Win of MCF addressed the opening ceremony.

The course intends the game to be popular in the country by promoting skills of Myanmar cricket players.

Mr. Aminul, Mr. Mahboob and Mr. Bappy gave a lecture to the trainees practically and theoretically from 26 September to 1 October. The course is being taken by 22 trainees—12 physical training instructors and 10 others—from the four corners of the country.—NLM