The New Light of Myanmar
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New Zealand continues extending helping hand to Myanmar's democratization

President U Thein Sein poses for documentary photo with Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand Rt Hon David Carter at the Presidential Palace in Nay Pyi Taw.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—A delegation led by Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand Rt Hon David Carter paid a call on President U Thein Sein at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace here this morning.

President U Thein Sein said that Myanmar is making constant efforts for further cementing 55-year long relations and amity between the two countries. He expressed thanks for New Zealand's constant support for Myanmar's reforms and stance in the international arena.

The New Zealand Speaker said that the delegation aims to observe Myanmar's reforms. The New Zealand has expected that the President's democratic reforms may face unexpected challenges. He reaffirmed that the New Zealand continue providing assistance to Myanmar's democratization processes.

They held talks on New Zealand's efforts for becoming a non-permanent UN Security Council member, agricultural, livestock and humanitarian aids to Myanmar, investments of New Zealand entrepreneurs in telecommunications, agricultural and livestock sectors and offering scholarships to post-graduate Myanmar students for human resource development.

Also present at the call were Union Ministers U Aung Kyi and U Soe Maung, Deputy Minister U Tint Oo Lwin and officials. The delegation was accompanied by the New Zealand Ambassador to Myanmar.—*MNA*

Union FM attends Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, related meetings

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin attends Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting and its related meetings.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin attended the Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the Secretary-General of the UN and the President of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly and the ASEAN-US Informal Ministerial Meeting held in New York, the United States of America on 26 and 27 September 2013, at the sideline of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

At the Informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the Foreign Ministers of ASEAN discussed issues related to implementation of ASEAN Cooperation activities, the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision, endorsement of ASEAN candidatures to the United Nations organization, review of the implementation of Joint Statement on ASEAN-UN Comprehensive Partnership, ASEAN-US dialogue relations and forthcoming 1st ASEAN-US Summit to be held in Brunei Darussalam.

In the afternoon, the Union Minister attended the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting with the Secretary-General of the UN and the President of the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. At the meeting, they reviewed the implementation of ASEAN-UN cooperation and discussed future direction of ASEAN-UN cooperation. At the meeting, the Union Minister stated that ASEAN Community Post-2015 Vision and the UN's Post-2015 Development Agenda should be reinforcing each other and, ASEAN and the UN should further enhance the cooperation in the areas of food and energy security, full implementation of Millennium Development Goals, climate change and disaster management. He also expressed appreciation to the Secretary-General for his consistent support for Myanmar's democratization process and reform efforts.

The Union Minister co-chaired the ASEAN-US Informal Ministerial Meeting with Mr. John Kerry, Secretary of State of the United States held in the 27 September 2013 at Waldorf Astoria Hotel. At the meeting, the Union Minister expressed appreciation on the United States' commitment to a strong, secure and prosperous Southeast Asia, and President Obama's engagement with ASEAN. He added the relations between Myanmar and the United States are also improving not only in the bilateral context but also in the framework of ASEAN-US dialogue relations.—*MNA*

Inside

Obama to skip Bali APEC meetings, Kerry to stand in
PAGE 3

BOJ maintains ultraeasy monetary policy, economic assessment

PAGE 11

LOCAL NEWS

Charity

Cash donated to IDPs in Kachin State

Wellwisher together with internally displaced persons at a relief camp in Kachin State.

MANSI, 4 Oct—Mansi Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Tun Tun and family donated K 8 million to over 900 national brethren IDPs who take shelter at the relief camps for 33 months and K 7 million to the rural development of the township at two relief camps in Mansi Township and Manwein Village.

On 28 September, the Pyithu Hluttaw representative donated K 4 million for over 400 IDPs at the relief camps of Baptist Church of Mansi, K 4 million for over 500 IPDSs from the relief camp in Manweingyi Village, the health and education funds for the rural areas of Mansi Township and K 2.2 million for 18 mothers who had given birth at the relief camps and to Mansi Baptist Church in addition to K 5 million for construction of the Hluttaw Branch in Mansi Township.

Secretary of the Baptist Church of Mansi Township U La Khan Htoo, the father of the church, said that the national brethren are pleased with cash donation of Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Tun Tun to the victims from the relief camps in Mansi for the second time.

Kyemon-Saw Thein Win

Disaster

Over seven inches rainfall causes inundation in Kalay

KALAY, 4 Oct—Heavy rain poured 7.44 inches of rainfalls on 29 September in Kalay of Sagaing Region.

The heavy rains caused overflow of water at Nerinzara Creek, Upok Creek, Nankalein Creek, Hsegyi Creek and Natdaga Creek.

Flood victims were evacuated to relief camps at No. 5 Basic Education Primary School, No 11 BEPS, Zeyathukha Monstery, BEHS No. 3, Aungmingala Theatre and No. 15 BEPS. Over 3000 flood victims are being accommodated there. Wellwishers, departmental personnel and members of social organizations participated in the relief and rescue works.

The flood destroyed Upokchaung Seikkantha Bridge, Natdaga Creek Bridge, Zeechaung Creek Bridge, Natmyaung Creek Bridge, Hmanlon Creek Bridge, Pyidawtha Creek Bridge, Bailey Bridge on Pyaungbok Bridge Road No 1/27, Nankalein Bridge, Myaunghson Bridge and TatU Kyaung Monastery Bridge.

The flood eroded Upokchaung Concrete Bridge near the hospital, the road to Yazagyo Dam and approach road to Zinkalin Bridge.

Sagaing Region Minister U Aung Zaw Oo inspected loss and damages in the rescue works and damages in the floods in Kalay Township. Chairman of District Management Committee U Maung Htoo closely supervised rescue and relief works.

Kyemon-Linlet Kyei Sin

Local people seen in inundated roads in Kalay.

Sports Village to be opened in November for SEA Games

Sports Village where officials, coaches and athletes will be accommodated will be opened in November, said an official of the Ministry of Sports. Those present at the sports village will discharge duties at the Southeast Asian games to be hosted by Myanmar.

"Arrangements have been made for opening the Sports Village which is a venue for the athletes, coaches, officials and media persons from contending teams of foreign countries. The sports village is constituted with 10 clusters. The athletes, coaches and officials will be provided accommodations in respective clusters," said Director U Thet Lwin of Sports and Physical Education Department at the LO/VO course at Yezin University of Agriculture recently.

"The sports village can hold at least 2442 persons. In addition, they can take suites at the hotels. Mainly, the sports village is facilitated with training grounds, money exchangers, entertainment centres, mess hall and worship venues," said U Aung Myo Win of the village.

The sports village comprises offices for SEA Games, international Olympic committee offices, media centres, flag mall and management offices for the athletes. Once it is opened, it provides accommodation to athletes.

The facility is located beside Pyinmana-Taungnyo Road and Wunna Theikdi Stadium where the opening and closing ceremonies for the SEA Games will be held.

MMAL-Maung Shwe Yoe

National Sports

Photo shows MYASOC Office and Olympic Committee office at Sports Village.

Traffic Accident

Bus of Than Myan Thu line overturns

YANGON, 4 Oct—A bus of Than Myan Thu line overturned in front of Chanmyae Clinic on Webagi Road in Nya Ward of Shwepaukkan in North Okkalapa Township on 1 October afternoon.

In the incident, two male passengers, two novices and three women were injured.

They all are receiving medical treatment at North Okkalapa General Hospital. The bus of Shwepaukkan-Shwepyitha bus line driven by Nyan Soe, 36, overturned near the Chanmye clinic due to out of control.

The injured were U Saw Win, 57 of Shwepaukkan Ward 17, Ma Kyu Kyu Hmway, 43 of ward 16, one female teacher of North Okkalapa BEHS 4, one student from Mayangon BEHS No 3, and two novices of Dagon Myothit East Ward 12. Action was taken against reckless driver.

Kyemon-035

Germany's Merkel to start tricky coalition talks with Social Democrats

BERLIN, 4 Sept—Angela Merkel holds preliminary talks with the Social Democrats (SPD) on Friday to sound out the scope for compromises to form a "grand coalition", marking the start of complicated horse-trading that could drag on into next year.

Germany's European partners are watching the coalition manoeuvring in Berlin closely, concerned that delays could push back EU-wide decisions on important financial crisis-fighting measures like the ambitious banking union project.

"Europe is watching us, the world is watching us," Merkel said at an event in Stuttgart ahead of the negotiations. "We have the common responsibility to build a stable government."

The SPD are seen as the conservative chancellor's most likely partner, but they have said they will not be rushed into a deal. Merkel will also hold preliminary talks with the Greens next week, playing potential partners off against each other.

Merkel said the landslide victory of her conservatives in the 22 September election had underscored voters' trust in them. "Now I will obviously try to justify this trust by fair talks."

There is deep resistance among SPD members to entering another "grand coalition" with Merkel, after hooking up with her in her first term only to plunge to their worst post-war result in the 2009 election.

Merkel's outgoing ally, the Free Democrats, suffered the same fate. After four years as her junior partner, they obtained less than 5 percent of the vote and so were booted out of the German parliament for the first time since 1949.

The talks on Friday aimed to examine whether policy compromises are feasible. Once these preliminary discussions are completed, a group of 200 senior SPD officials from across Germany must flash a green light before the party enters more formal coalition negotiations with Merkel's conservatives.

Reuters

From L-R: Baden-Wuerttemberg's Prime Minister Winfried Kretschmann, Bundestag President Norbert Lammert, German President Joachim Gauck, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and President of the German Constitutional Court Andreas Vosskuhle pose for a picture during the 23rd German Unification Day festivities in Stuttgart on 3 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

Chinese President meets Malaysian PM on ties

Chinese President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan wave upon their arrival in Kuala Lumpur, capital of Malaysia, on 3 Oct, 2013. Xi started a state visit to Malaysia on Thursday.—XINHUA

KUALA LUMPUR, 4 Oct—Chinese President Xi Jinping and Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak met here on Friday to discuss bilateral ties and further development of China's relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). They also had an in-depth exchange of views on other major regional and international issues.

After the meeting, the two leaders will witness the signing of several cooperation agreements. They will also jointly meet the Press.

China-Malaysia relations have seen sound development in recent years, with positive progress achieved in their practical cooperation in various sectors.

Two-way trade totaled 94.8 billion US dollars last year. China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner for the last four years, and Malaysia has been China's largest trading partner in ASEAN for five years in a row.

Large-scale joint projects such as the Qinzhou Industrial Park in China and the Kuantan Industrial Park in Malaysia have made progress, setting a precedent for establishing twin industrial parks between China and other countries. China and Malaysia also enjoy frequent people-to-people exchanges, with annual personnel exchanges topping 2.6 million person-times last year. China is now the largest source of foreign visitors to Malaysia.—*Xinhua*

Obama to skip Bali APEC meetings, Kerry to stand in

NUSA DUA, (Indonesia), 4 Oct—US President Barack Obama will not attend the APEC forum summit early next week on the Indonesian resort island Bali, Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa said on Friday.

Natalegawa said he received a call from Obama earlier Friday saying that the US president is not able to attend the forthcoming leaders' meeting of APEC.

"The reason, I think, is notably quite clear for all of us...mainly the ongoing discussions in the United States on matters related to appropriation issues," he told reporters, referring to the partial shutdown of the US government over a funding impasse.

Twenty-one leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum are to hold their summit on Monday and Tuesday.

Natalegawa said Obama instructed Secretary of State John Kerry to represent him in the summit.

The Indonesian foreign minister added President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono "fully understands the situation that President Obama is facing."

The ongoing process of a summit between Yudhoyono and Obama, he said, will not be affected by Obama's absence as the two leaders will continue to exchange and share information.

Obama earlier cancelled visits to Malaysia and the Philippines scheduled for late next week, citing the US government shutdown.

In a statement late Thursday in Washington, the White House said Obama was also cancelling a planned trip to Brunei.

In Brunei he was to meet with other leaders of countries involved in negotiations for the US-led Trans-Pacific Partnership free trade agreement and to join the East Asia Summit and a summit with the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The US government partially shutdown for the first time since 1995 on Tuesday as Congress failed to agree on a new budget.

In its statement late Thursday, the White House blamed Obama's absence from the Asian summits on Republicans in the US House of Representatives.

"The cancellation of this trip is another consequence of the House Republicans forcing a shutdown of the government. This completely avoidable shutdown is setting back our ability to create jobs through promotion of US exports and advance US leadership and interests in the largest emerging region in the world. The President looks forward to continuing his work with our allies and partners in the Asia-Pacific and to returning to the region at a later date," the statement said.

Kyodo News

Israel to run for UN Security Council seat for 2019-20

Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Ron Prosor addresses the United Nations General Assembly during a meeting at UN Headquarters, in New York, on 29 Nov, 2012.—REUTERS

NEW YORK, 4 Oct—Israel said on Thursday it plans to run for a rotating seat on the UN Security Council for the time ever for 2019-2020, although UN diplomats said it will not be easy for the Jewish state to win. "We're going all out to win," Israel's UN Ambassador Ron Prosor told *Reuters*. "It's about time." Winning a Security Council seat requires a two-thirds majority in the 193-nation General Assembly. Candidates are proposed by the five regional groups but election to the council is done by the full assembly.

Prosor said Israel will be vying against Germany and Belgium for two seats allotted to the "Western European and Others Group." Technically Israel should be a member of the Asia-Pacific Group along with the other states in the Middle East. But predominantly Muslim states blocked its admission to that group. In 2000 Israel was admitted to the Western European and Others Group, which includes the United States, on a temporary basis. In 2004 its membership in that group was permanently renewed.

Israel has occasionally held posts as vice president of the UN General Assembly but it has never been a member of the Security Council, the most powerful and prestigious body at the United Nations with the authority to impose sanctions or authorize the use of military force to enforce its decisions. Securing a council seat will not be easy, UN diplomats say. Most members of the 120 non-aligned bloc of developing nations are either cool or openly hostile towards Israel. General Assembly votes on issues related to Israel and the Palestinians are usually unfavourable for the Israelis.

Reuters

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Oceans face 'deadly trio' of threats, study says

A whale dives into sea off the coast of Greenland's capital Nuuk on 17 Oct, 2012.—REUTERS

OSLO, 4 Oct—The world's oceans are under greater threat than previously believed from a "deadly trio" of global warming, declining oxygen levels and acidification, an international study said on Thursday.

The oceans have continued to warm, pushing many commercial fish stocks towards the poles and raising the risk of extinction for some marine species, despite a slower pace of temperature rises in the atmosphere this century, it said.

"Risks to the ocean and the ecosystems it supports have been significantly underestimated," according to the International Programme on the State of the Ocean (IPSO), a non-governmental group of leading scientists.

"The scale and rate of the present day carbon perturbation, and resulting ocean acidification, is unprecedented in Earth's known history," according to the report, made with the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

The oceans are warming because of heat from a build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Fertilizers and sewage that wash into the oceans can cause blooms of algae that reduce oxygen levels in the waters. And carbon dioxide in the air can form a weak acid when it reacts with sea water. "The 'deadly trio' of ... acidification, warming and deoxygenation is seriously affecting how productive and efficient the ocean is," the study said.

Alex Rogers of Oxford University, scientific director of IPSO, told *Reuters* scientists were finding that threats to the oceans, from the impacts of carbon to over-fishing, were compounding one another.

"We are seeing impacts throughout the world," he said. Current conditions in the oceans were similar to those 55 million years ago, known as the Paleocene-Eocene thermal maximum, that led to wide extinctions. And the current pace of change was much faster and meant greater stresses, Rogers said.

Acidification, for instance, threatens marine organisms that use calcium carbonate to build their skeletons — such as reef-forming corals, crabs, oysters and some plankton vital to marine food webs.

Corals might cease to grow if temperatures rose by 2 degrees Celsius (3.6F) and start to dissolve at 3 degrees (5.4F), the study said.

Scientists said the findings added urgency to a plan by almost 200 governments to work out a deal by the end of 2015 to limit a rise in average world temperatures to less than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6F) above pre-industrial times.

Reuters

Delayed take off: China cautious on large aircraft programme

SINGAPORE/BEIJING, 4 Oct—China's largest domestically produced aircraft may not enter service until early next decade, a delay that gives dominant rivals Boeing Co and Airbus time to launch their upgraded single-aisle planes first.

The *Comac C919*, which will compete with the *Airbus A320* and *Boeing 737* family of aircraft, was scheduled for its first flight next year, but that has now been delayed until 2015, which pushes the first delivery to around 2017 or 2018, local media have reported.

Officials from The Commercial Aircraft Corp of China Ltd (Comac) told *Reuters* there was a new timeline, but declined to give details. Sources from the state-owned firm and its Western suppliers of systems said the Chinese company is still getting to grips with the complex project.

China is keen to develop a successful commercial aircraft to prove it can match the United States and Europe, and to help transform its economy into one that has high-tech industries such as aerospace. But it has been held back by inexperience, a shortage of local aerospace design and engineering talent, and a lack of home-grown companies with the technology to help drive the project.

Aerospace industry executives and Comac's competitors expect the company to eventually threaten the Airbus/Boeing duopoly, with the *C919* competing in the 150-200-seat single-aisle aircraft category that accounts for 64 percent of global fleets.

A model of the Comac C919 passenger plane, which is built by the Commercial Aircraft Corporation of China (COMAC), is displayed on the first day of the China International Aviation & Aerospace Exhibition, in the southern Chinese city of Zhuhai in this on 13 Nov, 2012 file photo.—REUTERS

But a delay means the *C919* will arrive several years after the upgraded and re-engined *A320neo* and *Boeing 737 Max* enter the market. While a *C919* may cost less to buy, the fuel efficiencies and lower maintenance costs of the Airbus and Boeing planes should make them cheaper to operate.

"The *C919* will not be as technologically advanced as the *A320* and *737*, but that's not China's aim for now. It wants to learn how to build a viable and safe aircraft, and become more competitive in the long-term. It's learning from what Airbus did to Boeing in the 1970s," said a person at a Western supplier who meets senior Comac officials regularly.

Luo Ronghuai, a vice-president at Comac, said the C919 programme could suffer "setbacks", and noted that experienced companies including Airbus, Boeing and Bombardier all delayed the first flight of their recent jets.

Reuters

The Facebook logo is pictured in the Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, California on 29 Jan, 2013.
REUTERS

Cisco, Facebook to work with businesses to expand free Wi-Fi use

NEW YORK, 4 Oct—Cisco Systems Inc and Facebook Inc said on Wednesday they will work with big businesses such as hotels and retailers to provide free wireless Internet access to consumers who sign in using a Facebook log-in.

The companies have been testing the concept with smaller businesses for about a year but will work together to support bigger companies that want to improve customer loyalty or learn more about their customers through offering free Wi-Fi.

Rather than having to get the provider's Wi-Fi access code, a visitor to a coffee shop or a hotel, for example, could connect to the Wi-Fi system simply by logging onto Facebook and "checking in" to the business' Facebook page.

Cisco Chief Executive Officer John Chambers, in a speech at the Interop technology conference in New York, said the system would allow retailers to deliver tailored promotions or information to consumers who check in through Facebook when they arrive at a store.

Cisco said some customers of its Connected Mobile Experience Wi-Fi technology are currently testing the system.—*Reuters*

Security firm says iPhone bug can thwart device wiper

BOSTON, 4 Oct—A German security company has uncovered a bug in the new iPhone's software that it said enables hackers to overcome a safeguard allowing users to remotely wipe stolen or lost phones.

Berlin's Security Research Labs, known as SRL, said on Thursday that the vulnerability could potentially give criminals time to break into the Apple Inc phones, gain complete control of data, access email accounts and then potentially take over the user's bank accounts.

The research firm also said it has figured out an easier way to crack the iPhone fingerprint scanner than has been demonstrated thus far.

It published a video demonstrating the newly discovered flaws on its website here SRL, which this summer disclosed a major security flaw in SIM card technology that affected mobile systems around the globe, said it has shared its research with Apple's security team.

Apple declined to comment. The company sometimes refrains from discussing potential security bugs while it reviews research.

If SRL's findings are verified, this would mark at least the fifth security bug in the iPhone and its iOS operating system uncovered since July. Apple has

A woman holds her new Apple iPhone 5S after buying it at an Apple Store at Tokyo's Ginza shopping district on 20 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

hacking conference that make the devices vulnerable to snooping. The company has remained silent since concerns have been raised about the security of its "Touch ID" fingerprint scanner on its top-of-the-line iPhone 5S, which went on sale last month.

A German hacker known as Starbug was able to crack Touch ID within two days of its release. Several experts in mobile security and biometrics say they have independently verified his work.

Reuters

"Flora of China" translated into English

BEIJING, 4 Oct—A renowned book about China's flora has been translated into English and was published in September after a 25-year international effort, said the Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). Named "Flora of China," the book is the largest of its kind. The Chinese edition of the book is composed of 80 volumes and 125 books, the last of which was published in 2004. China and the United States signed a cooperation agreement in 1988 to compile an English edition of the book, and compilation began in 1989.

According to Peter Raven, President of the Missouri Botanical Garden and chairman of the English edition's editorial board, and Hong Deyuan, the book's associate editor-in-chief and academician at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), the revision and translation work was of a gigantic scale.

Xinhua

BUSINESS & HEALTH

Failure to raise US debt ceiling will affect global economy

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct— The International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief warned on Thursday that if US Congress failed to raise the government's borrowing authority, it would seriously damage both the US economy and the global economy, urging US lawmakers to solve their fiscal disputes in a timely manner.

"In the midst of this fiscal challenge, the ongoing political uncertainty over the budget and the debt ceiling does not help," IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde spoke on the third day of a partial US federal government shutdown.

The US federal government lurched into the first shutdown in 17 years after the Congress failed to pass a spending bill by Monday's midnight deadline. Republicans in the House of Representatives are demanding changes to President Barack Obama's signature health care law in exchange for funding the government, which the White House opposes.

"The government shutdown is bad enough, but failure to raise the debt ceiling would be far worse, and could very seriously damage not only the US economy, but the entire global economy," Lagarde said in a speech at George Washington University.

US Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew told Congress on Tuesday the federal government will reach its debt ceiling of 16.7 trillion US dollars by 17 Oct, and that failure to raise it would lead to "catastrophic" default. However, Republican lawmakers insist that a debt ceiling increase should be tied with GOP policy priorities.

Xinhua

An employee holds a steel rod as he works on the production line inside Hallmark steel factory in Bhiwadi in the desert Indian state of Rajasthan on 30 Sept, 2013.
REUTERS

Sluggish India economy, tight credit take toll on smaller firms

MUMBAI, 4 Sept— Sunil Malhotra's expansion plans had a sound logic; they would reduce his company's exposure to imports made more costly by the slump in the rupee this year to a record low. It was an investment to improve profitability.

But banks were unwilling to finance his plan, leaving him instead scrambling to find working capital let alone funds to invest in his firm, Hallmark Steel, a small company supplying the auto industry. India's prolonged economic slide has affected many companies in India, but small and medium-sized firms have been hit the most because of their more limited access to finance.

Ratings agencies say the debt situation is the worst in a decade, which explains why banks are cautious about lending. That could lead to rising defaults and bankruptcies among small and medium-sized companies, which support a considerable part of the economy — about 45 percent of manufacturing and 40 percent of exports.

"I have gone to not one but three public sector banks for funds and they don't want to lend to any firm in the steel sector," said Malhotra, founder and chief executive of Hallmark Steel in the north India state of Rajasthan. Malhotra had hoped to raise 500 million rupees ($8 million) to fund the purchase of a melting facility in Nagpur in western Maharashtra state, aimed at reducing Hallmark's reliance on imported raw materials.

"We wanted to get out of imports because it was hitting our margins because of dollar fluctuations," he said, adding that banks are asking for collateral equivalent to more than 130 percent of the loan size, from 80 percent previously.

Ratings agency Fitch expects non-performing loans at Indian banks to be as high as 4.5 percent in the fiscal year to March 2014, a nine-year high.—*Reuters*

Brain problems can linger months after ICU stay

NEW YORK, 4 Oct— Critically-ill people who end up spending days in an intensive care unit (ICU) often develop thinking and memory problems, according to a new study.

Even when people recover from their physical illness, those problems can persist for more than a year after their hospital stay, researchers said.

They found ICU patients who were delirious — severely confused and unable to focus — were especially likely to go on to have thinking and memory problems.

"The longer you are delirious, the more likely you are to have long-term cognitive impairment that looks like Alzheimer's disease or traumatic brain injury," Dr Wes Ely of the Vanderbilt University Medical Centre in Nashville, Tennessee, told *Reuters Health*.

"For a long time, we thought delirium was just something that happened because people were in the ICU and that, as soon as they got out of the ICU, they would be okay," Dr Karin Neufeld, a psychiatrist at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, told *Reuters Health.*

Reuters

NAY PYI TAW, 5 Oct— *The following is the joint message sent by Irina Bokova, Director General, UNESCO; Guy Ryder, Director-General, ILO; Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP; Anthony Lake, Executive Director, UNICEF; and Fred van Leeeuwen, General Secretary, Education International on the occasion of World Teacher's Day which falls on 5 October 2013.*

Joint Message on the occasion of the World Teachers' Day 2013 5 October 2013

Teachers hold the keys to a better future for all. They inspire, challenge and empower innovative and responsible global citizens. They get children into school, keep them there and help them learn. Every day, they help to build the inclusive knowledge societies we need for tomorrow and the century ahead. On this World Teachers' Day, we join forces to thank teachers and to call for more, better trained and supported teachers.

Nothing can replace a good teacher. Evidence shows that teachers, their professional knowledge and skills are the most important factor for quality education. This requires stronger training upfront and continual professional development and support, to enhance performance and learning outcomes. We know this and yet, far too often, teachers remain under-qualified and poorly paid, with low status, and excluded from education policy matters and decisions that concern and affect them.

And there are far too few of them today. At the global level, some 5.24 million teachers need to be recruited in order to reach the goal of universal primary education by 2015 -- 1.58 million new recruits and 3.66 million to replace those leaving the profession. The challenge goes beyond numbers – more teachers must mean better quality learning, through appropriate training and support.

This is essential for ensuring every learner's right to quality education – especially, to reach the 57 million children of primary school age currently out of school. At current pace, we estimate that 49 percent of these children will never enter school, while 28 percent will start school late – 54 percent of them are girls. Equally worrying is the low level of learning. An estimated 250 million children are failing to learn to read and write by the time they reach the age for grade 4. Approximately half of these children are in school. The access and learning crisis must be urgently addressed.

Learning is not possible without professional, well trained, well supported, accountable and valued teachers. Teachers are the central solution to the learning crisis, and yet too many are poorly trained and poorly supported – often disconnected from the policy decisions that affect them. Teachers are central to the provision of safe and supportive learning environments, and yet too any of them are teaching in circumstances of extreme hardship, emergencies and even attacks.

There are however, also bright parts to the picture. We have seen a range of efforts to improve teacher status -- through teacher professionalization and certification schemes, incentives for service in remote or disadvantaged communities, minimum wage laws, career development models, continued professional development, support to female teachers deployed in remote locations, peer-to-peer support and inter-generational mentoring, recognition awards and incentive for teacher progression, raising admission standards for teacher training programmes, public awareness campaigns, free training and recruitment bonuses. All of these practices ensure equality and quality and make a real difference to learning outcomes; they must be scaled up and taken forward. This is where effective international action is essential, in support of national efforts to bolster teachers and education institutions, and improve the education opportunities of all children. All of this work must ensure that teachers' pay and conditions reflect a commitment to delivering high quality education by a qualified and motivated teaching work force. This is why teachers stand at the heart of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative to make sure every child goes to school, receives a quality education, and develops a new sense of global citizenship. This is our call for teachers today. Join us in thanking and supporting the teachers we have and in recruiting new women and men, to shape more effective education systems and prepare young people and adults for active and responsible participation in society. There is no stronger foundation for lasting peace and sustainable development than a quality education provided by well trained, valued, supported and motivated teachers. The education of future generations hangs in the balance unless we can rise to the challenge of putting the best possible teacher in every classroom.—*NLM*

Guidance is key for kids' resistance training

NEW YORK, 4 Oct— Resistance training is good for kids, but needs to be supervised and tailored for them by a qualified professional, according to a consensus statement by 20 doctors and fitness experts.

The statement appears in *the British Journal of Sports Medicine* and is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics, the International Federation of Sports Medicine and the US National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA).

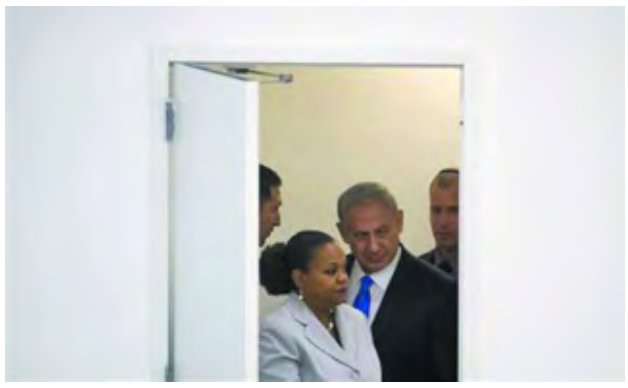
Resistance training —which can include light free weights, resistance bands or medicine balls, as well as push-ups and other body-weight-bearing exercises — can benefit young bodies and prepare them for active lives, the authors point out.

"You can look at the data from the Centres for Disease Control, kids are becoming less and less fit all the time," said Dr Tim Hewett, director of the Sports Medicine Biodynamics Centre at the University of Cincinnati, who was not involved in the statement. "There are lots of problems related to our current lifestyles."

Lack of strength and overall fitness, cardiovascular and musculoskeletal strength all contribute to poor health for kids, and resistance training can be a great option to help, but moderation is key, he told *Reuters Health*.—*Reuters*

WORLD

Netanyahu says Iranian missiles could eventually reach US



Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu enters a door to speak at the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 1 Oct, 2013.
REUTERS

WASHINGTON, 4 Oct—In his latest warning about Iran's nuclear ambitions, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Thursday that Iran was working on intercontinental ballistic missiles that could one day hit the United States.

"They're not developing those ICBMs for us. They can reach us with what they have. It's for you," he told CBS News.

"The American intelligence knows as well as we do that Iran is developing ICBMs not to reach Israel. They want to reach well beyond," he said on the network's "This Morning" programme. The United States and other Western powers have shown an increased interest in engaging with Iran's new president, Hassan Rouhani, although Secretary of State John Kerry said on Thursday that Teheran must first prove it is willing to end the standoff over its nuclear programme.

The ICBM issue first emerged after a 2011 blast at an Iranian military base that Israeli officials said was linked to efforts to build a missile that could travel 6,000 miles—far enough to reach the United States. Israeli officials in early 2012 said that it would be two to three years before Iran would have such long-range missiles that could hit the United States.

One senior Israeli security official, asked about Netanyahu's comments on Thursday, said the threat of Iranian ICBMs was still not imminent. "It will be a few years before Iran has ballistic missiles," said the official, who declined to be identified.

Netanyahu told CBS that he was not worried that his warnings may sound too strident given the ongoing efforts by the United States and others to negotiate with Iran. "The policy should be ... not to let Iran wiggle away with a partial deal in which they make cosmetic concessions," he said.

In another interview, Netanyahu also warned Iran's work on ICBMs was clearly aimed at delivering nuclear weapons.

"Those ... long-range ballistic missiles have only one purpose in the world. Their sole purpose is to arm them with a nuclear payload," he told NBC's Andrea Mitchell in an interview set to air later on Thursday.—*Reuters*

Italian Senate committee likely to start Berlusconi expulsion process

ROME, 4 Oct—An Italian Senate committee is likely to start a process on Friday to expel Silvio Berlusconi from parliament following his conviction for tax fraud, meaning the former prime minister's fate could be sealed within weeks.

Berlusconi, who has dominated Italian politics for two decades, brushed off suggestions that his parliamentary career might soon be over after the conviction and an aborted attempt to topple the government.

"I think this is the result of a well constructed plan to remove the leader of the centre-right," said the 77-year-old billionaire. "This is a political sentence, based on nothing at all."

Berlusconi is not expected to attend Friday's hearing, which opens at 9.30 am (0730 GMT) and is likely to finish the same day. If the committee, which is dominated by Berlusconi's adversaries, votes to strip him of his Senate seat, the judgment will have to be confirmed by a full vote of the upper house, around two weeks later.

The hearing follows a revolt within Berlusconi's People of Freedom (PDL) party that forced him into a humiliating climbdown on Wednesday, when he had to back centre-left Prime Minister Enrico Letta in a confidence vote a few days after he had pulled his ministers out of the ruling coalition.

Undaunted, Berlusconi jokingly shrugged off the prospect of political retirement. "I wish! It would mean I could rest a bit," he told reporters on Thursday.

Italian centre-right leader Silvio Berlusconi sits in his car as he leaves the Senate in Rome, on 2 Oct, 2013.
REUTERS

His opponents regard the move against Letta's coalition of the left and right as a ploy to disrupt the Senate proceedings, saying its failure was a devastating blow to his credibility.

Berlusconi's political future has been under threat since early August when Italy's top court rejected a final appeal and found him guilty of a massive tax fraud scheme at his Mediaset television empire.

It sentenced him to four years in prison, commuted to one year under house arrest or in community service, making him ineligible for parliament under a law passed last year.

Hard core Berlusconi supporters insist this law should not apply in his case because the offences for which he was sentenced occurred before it was passed.
Reuters

Brazil electoral court rejects new opposition party

BRASILIA, 4 Oct—In a decision that could boost President Dilma Rousseff's chances of re-election next year, Brazil's electoral court ruled on Thursday that her main potential rival failed to gather enough signatures to register her new party in time. Environmentalist Marina Silva has until Saturday to decide whether to run on the ticket of an existing party to make her second bid for president next October.

The court ruled 6-1 against the creation of her party, called the Sustainability Network, because it fell short of the required 492,000 signatures. Silva blamed electoral notaries across Brazil for failing to validate 95,000 names on time.

After the ruling, Silva said she would announce on Friday whether she would run on another ticket, but added there had been no talks with other parties and she planned to keep building her own party to renew Brazilian politics.— *Reuters*

Rescued migrants arrive onboard a coast-guard vessel at the harbour of Lampedusa on 3 Oct, 2013.
REUTERS

Hundreds dead, missing as migrant boat sinks off Italy

PALERMO, (Italy), 4 Oct—More than 300 people drowned or were feared dead after a boat packed with African migrants caught fire and sank off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa on Thursday, one of the worst disasters of Europe's chronic immigration crisis.

The 20-metre (66-foot) boat, believed to be carrying around 500 people, mostly Eritreans and Somalis, sank no more than 1 km (half a mile) from shore after a fire broke out, triggering a general panic that capsized the vessel.

The incident occurred when the boat's motor stopped working and the vessel, which had set out from the Libyan port of Misrata, began to take on water, Italian Interior Minister Angelino Alfano said.

People on board burned a sheet to attract the attention of rescuers, but ignited fuel on the vessel.

"Once the fire started, there was concern about the boat sinking and everyone moved to one side, causing the boat to go down," he told a news conference.

Bodies pulled from the water were laid out along the quayside as coast guard vessels brought in more victims.

"It's horrific, like a cemetery," said Giusi Nicolini, the mayor of Lampedusa, the tiny island which has been at the centre of southern Europe's migration headache.

Fishing boats and coast guard vessels rescued 151 people in the morning and by late evening 104 bodies, including at least three children and two pregnant women, had been recovered. But divers had seen scores more trapped in the sunken ship, which rested in some 40 meters (132 feet) of water.
Reuters

Regulators order TEPCO to improve radioactive water management

TOKYO, 4 Oct—Nuclear regulators on Friday ordered Tokyo Electric Power Co to improve the management of a massive amount of radioactive water at its crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear complex by such means as employing more workers.

Summoning TEPCO President Naomi Hirose following some recent leak incidents at the Fukushima plant, Katsuhiko Ikeda, the head of the NRA secretariat, criticized the utility for "rudimentary mistakes" that had resulted in the trouble and said its field management ability was "significantly deteriorating."

"I want you to implement on-site management appropriately even if it requires bringing a workforce from TEPCO's other nuclear power plants," Ikeda told Hirose.

With concerns growing over the situation at the Fukushima plant, Ikeda also urged the utility to report whether it can ensure the safety of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power station in Niigata Prefecture, which the company is seeking to restart.

Hirose said he will "devote all the company's resources" to managing the toxic water problem. The company will also undergo necessary procedures toward resuming two idled reactors at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, he told reporters.—*Kyodo News*

Photo taken from a Kyodo News helicopter on 3 Oct, 2013, shows the tank (R in left row) where another leak of contaminated water has been found at the crippled Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station in Fukushima Prefecture.—KYODO NEWS

Bridges suspended on roads in Gangaw Township

GANGAW, 4 Oct— Myittha River level rised in Gangaw Township while the rain poured for three days. On 30 September, vehicles were suspended to pass through Saidu Bridge on Gangaw-Haka road and Myittha River crossing suspension bridge on Gangaw-West Gangaw Road.

Local people carrying motorcycle on a boat while there is flooding in Gangaw Township.

Maphay Creek Bridge at the entrance to Gangaw was inundated on Haka-Gangaw Road. As vehicles could not pass it, the passengers cross the creek by boat.

On 1 October, the weather was fine, and water levels of river and creek subsided making the roads to open for public transportation.

MMAL-101

Natural Disaster

Police help flood victims in Wundwin Township

WUNDWIN, 4 Oct— Heavy rain hit Wundwin Township as of 7 pm on 28 September.

The villages in Wundwin Township of Mandalay Region were inundated with 3.5 feet deep water.

Thus, the township administrator and party inspected the flooded Sataunggon Village and Tamargon Village.

Now, flood victims have been evacuated to safety.

Under the supervision of the Meiktila District Police Force, Commander of Wundwin Township Police Force Police Major Myat Htin, Wundwin Myoma Police Station Police Captain Maung Maung Aung and policemen distributed packets of food to the flood victims.

Policemen help evacuate local people in the flood to safe places.

MMAL-Htay Hlaing (Wundwin)

Heavy rains cause inundation in villages of Wundwin Township

WUNDWIN, 4 Oct— Meiktila, Wundwin, Pyawbwe and Myittha Townships of Mandalay Region got 2.28 inches rainfall on 28 September.

Due to heavy rains, the spillways, creeks, lakes and ponds were swollen at surrounding areas.

Although the flood hit some villages, there was no damage except some croplands.

Samon and Thinpon creeks in Wundwin Township overflowed Hsinchitaing and Kaing village-tracts.

The water from spillway of Meiktila Lake caused 1.5 feet deep inundation in 100 houses of Pekhinkyaw Village, Ywadan and Zaygon Kwetthit awards.

The spillway of Htihlaing Dam broke and the water flowed over the spillway. Thus the local people embanked the spillway.

District and township authorities, members of Region Fire Services Department and Neikban Thukha Association (Mandalay) distributed packets of rice and purified drinking water to the flood victims at the relief camps.

MMAL-Tin Maung (Mandalay)

Meiktila marks International Day of Older Persons

MEIKTILA, 4 Oct—A ceremony to mark the International Day of Older Persons was held at the Meiktila Home for the Aged in Meiktila District on 1 October morning.

At the ceremony, Deputy Commissioner of the district U Tin Maung Soe, the township administrator and district and township level departmental officials, the chairperson of District and Township Women's Affairs Organization and Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee, members of social organizations, townselders and wellwishers donated towels and cash to the aged.

Next, they donated K 2,389,700 to the fund of the home through officials of the Board of Trustees of the Home.—*MMAL-Chan Tha (Meiktila)*

Staff quarters for personnel under construction in Myitkyina

MYITKYINA, 4 Oct—A ceremony to drive stake for construction of the staff quarters, 80 feet long, 34 feet wide and 24 feet high, of Kachin State General Administration Department was held at the plot in Thida ward of Myitkyina on 28 September.

Chief Minister of Kachin State U La John Ngan Hsai, State ministers, Commissioner of Kachin State GAD U Zaw Thein and official of the construction company drove stakes at the auspicious time.

Next, the Chief Minister and officials heard reports on plans of construction for the staff quarters in their respective sectors presented by tender winning companies Myanmar Maker Home Construction Co, Thein Than Htay Construction Co and Fashion View Construction Co.

The Chief Minister gave instructions on use of quality materials and timely completion of the construction tasks meeting the set standard.

The Kachin State government will spend the fund on construction of the staff quarters in 2013-2014 fiscal years.

There will be six two-storey RC buildings.

MMAL-Kachin State IPRD

More traffic police squads, traffic clearance squads formed

Nowadays, Yangonites face traffic congestions on all the roads and streets in Yangon daily except Sunday, Saturday and market holidays. They have to spend their spare time in the cars.

Although traffic rules enforcement squads ease the traffic congestions as much as possible, they could not make remarkable progress.

In a weekly press meet, Chairman of Yangon Region All Bus Line Control Central Committee U Hla Aung said that although we expected that the squads will be enough to clear the traffic congestions but they have not yet to overcome the traffic congestions. At present, traffic jams become worse day by day. Therefore, we constituted ten more traffic clearance squads.

The most traffic jam areas are Myenigon, Bayintnaung Overpass, Hledan Junction, 8th-Mile, Shwegondine, Nanartaw Road, Anawrahta Street between Bo Aung Kyaw Street and Shwedagon Pagoda Road, Banyadala Road and around Mingala Market.

Ko Tar Gyi of Mingala Market remarked, "Actually, if buses drive systematically, the traffic congestion will be eased. Now, they stop over at any places for long time. In addition, the double stop of buses at the bus stop is one of the root causes of traffic jams."

All the people welcomed formation of more traffic clearance squads for enforcement of the traffic jams. They all wish to take action against traffic rules offenders. But they do not desire malpractice of the traffic clearance squads and bus workers.

MMAL-Tin Win Lay (Kyimyindine)

Accident

Three dead in plunge of car on expressway

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—A Hilux surf driven by Hein Htet Aung, 35 of Tamwaygyi (A/C) Ward of Tamway Township in Yangon Region plunged off Yangon-Mandalay Expressway between mile posts 50/0 and 50/1 at 2.30 pm on 29 September.

According to the infor-mation, police members of Bawnatgyi Expressway Police Station inspected the traffic ac-cident.

In the incident, U Than Aye, 63, father of the driver and another one out of six persons on board the car died on the spot.

Daw May Si Hla, 58 who suffered injuries was rushed to Bago Township General Hospital but she died while receiving medical treatment.

Driver Hein Htet Aung was also injured in the incident.

Bawnatgyi Express-way Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against reckless driver Hein Htet Aung.

MMAL-Ko Ye

A car plunges into roadside from Yangon-Mandalay Expressway.

Cash assistance presented to offspring of Hsipaw

HSIPAW, 4 Oct—Hsipaw Township War Veterans Organizing Committee presented cash assistance to students of members of Township WVO C of Shan State (North) for 2013-2014 academic year at its office. Chairman of Township WAO Captain Than Win Aung (Retd) made a speech and presented K 765,000 to the offspring of the members of Township WVO.

MMAL-Sai (Hsipaw)

PERSPECTIVES

Saturday, 5 October, 2013

Teachers, the guiding light

Despite the education being more and more commercialized across the world, the good tradition of placing teachers in the same place as Buddha, Dhamma (the teachings of Buddha), and Sanghas (monks), and parents and the tradition of paying homage to them is still preserved today in Myanmar society.

To acknowledge the endeavours of teachers who nurture human resources for the development of human society, 5 October was designated as World Teachers' Day in the world as recommended by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and International Labour Organization (ILO).

"A Call for Teachers!" is the slogan of World Teachers' Day 2013 (5 October). Since teachers are the most powerful force for equity, access and quality education, a call for teachers means calling for quality education for all.

It is globally accepted that the most profitable investment is the one made in education. In spite of the popular slogan "To build a modern, developed nation through the excellence of education," real progress has never been seen in terms of improvement in human resources.

There is no better foundation for lasting peace and sustainable development than quality education provided by well-trained, valued, supported and motivated teachers. Teachers have an incredibly important part to play in building peace not only in a country but also of the world by fostering a sense of community and concept of global citizenship.

For teachers to deliver quality education, they themselves must be qualified teachers. Teachers' professional knowledge and skills are the most important factors for quality education. Apart from government measures to improve student/teacher ratio, greater efforts are to be put into turning out quality teachers not only by providing them with specialized training but also by supporting them to be able to devote themselves to their students.

On this World Teachers' Day, all are urged to make investment in education for better future of the world by acknowledging the crucial role of teachers as Malala said: "One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world."

NATIONAL

MYANMAR GAZETTE

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct—The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has confirmed the appointment of following heads of service organizations on expiry of the one-year probationary period.

	Name	Appointment
(a)	U Kyaw Ngwe	Director-General Small-scale Industries Department Ministry of Cooperatives
(b)	U Aung Phyu	Director-General Cooperative Department Ministry of Cooperatives
(c)	Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw	Director-General Forest Department Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry
(d)	Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint	Rector Mandalay University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(e)	Dr Htay Aung	Rector Mawlamyine University Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(f)	Dr Nyunt Pe	Rector Pathein University Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(g)	Dr Hla Htay	Rector Dagon University Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(h)	Dr Aye Kyaw	Rector Magway University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(i)	Dr Daw Mu Mu Myint	Rector Taunggyi University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(j)	Dr Zaw Lin	Rector Mandalay University of Foreign Languages Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(k)	Dr Daw Lwin Lwin Soe	Rector Yangon University of Foreign Languages Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(l)	Dr Htay Lin Maung	Rector Maubin University Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(m)	Dr Tin Tun Myint	Rector Shwebo University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(n)	Dr Daw Mya Mya Aye	Rector Hpa-an University Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(o)	Dr Myint Lwin	Rector Kyaukse University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education
(p)	Dr Khin Maung Oo	Rector Yadanabon University Higher Education Department (Upper Myanmar) Ministry of Education

The President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has appointed Deputy Director-General U Kyi Min of the President Office as Director-General of the Amyotha Hluttaw Office on probation from the date he assumes charge of his duties.

MWEA executive leaves for Nepal

Yangon, 4 Oct—Executive of Myanmar Women Entrepreneurs' Association Daw Sanda Tun together with Ma Honey Min Thu and Ma Yin Le Thet Wai left here by air on 2 October to attend the Seventh Asia Girl Child Peace Camp 2013 to be held in Kathmandu of Nepal from 4 to 8 October.—*MNA*

Health Ministry holds coordination meeting

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct—"Allotted funds should be effectively spent for the interests of people and the country in conformity with financial rules and regulations," said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin at a work coordination meeting of the Ministry here this morning.

He called for all collaboration of related ministries, local and foreign social organizations, religious organizations, townselders and local authorities for achieving Health Ministry's objectives. He also urged them to avoid biased and corrupt practices.

The results which come out from the workshops and courses should be measured in qualitative terms rather than quantitative ones. It needs to promote the standard of traditional medicine. The medical research should bring the result that can solve people's health problems, he added.

***Work coordination meeting of Ministry of Health in progress.*—MNA**

Deputy Ministers Dr Daw Thein Thein Htay and Dr Than Aung also delivered speeches on the occasion. Directors-General and rectors from the departments under the ministry, medical superintendents and heads of Region/State Health Department submitted the reports on staff and financial matters and completion of works. After that, the deputy ministers reviewed the reports.

MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun visits Flanders

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—At the invitation of the Belgium Government, a Myanmar delegation led by Vice-President U Nyan Tun went to IVAREM Co of Mechelen in Flanders State from Hilton Hotel of Antwerp on 30 September morning.

At the company, the Vice-President heard environmental conservation policy of Flanders State presented by Mr Jean-Pierre Heirman, Secretary-General of Flanders State Environmental, Natural and Energy Department, waste management policy by Ms Anne Vandeputte of Public Waste Agency (OVAM) of Flanders and tasks of IVAREM Co by Ms Marijke Herinckx.

The Vice-President and party viewed management of various wastes including that of horticultural farms, operating of turbines each of which generates 1.1 megawatts from solar panels, Container Park, Aftercare Landfill and Composting Plant of IVAREM Co.

At AQUAFIN Co in Mechelen of Flanders State, the Vice-President and party heard explanation on function of AQUAFIN Co and AQUAPLUS Co by International Projects' Account Manager Mr Herman Dc Schamphelaere and officials. They viewed treatment of sewage into purified water through chemical and natural methods.

On arrival at Hooge Maey Co in Flanders State, the Vice-President heard the clarification on constant waste management and generating energy that contributes to environmental conservation made by Director Mr Daniel Dirickx and officials of Hooge Maey Co. The Vice-President and party observed waste management and environmental friendly energy production.—*MNA*

Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann shakes hands with Rt. Hon. David Carter, Speaker of House of Representatives of New Zealand. **(News on page 16)****—MNA**

Union Finance Minister…

(from page 16)

After making assessment of the four ways in detail, the government chose the way of getting a bridge loan to clear arrears to the World Bank as it is found that the way can benefit the country.

The World Bank released the following statement on the recent Myanmar media reports concerning the settling of arrears earlier this year by the Government of Myanmar with the World Bank:

"Mr. Jelson Garcia works for Bank Information Center (BIC), a non-government organization. He does not represent the World Bank or speak on behalf of the World Bank.

The Government of Myanmar made a strategic decision to clear its arrears to the World Bank and gain access to long term interest free financing to support reforms for the benefit of the people of Myanmar. This was a prudent decision at a moment of potential macroeconomic stress and sent a positive signal to the global community. It is common practice for Governments to hold reserves in foreign bank accounts in order to facilitate importation of goods and services and management of the exchange rate."

The Union Minister said Myanmar has taken measures to clear its debts in accordance with the rules and regulations of the World Bank, declining that the World Bank does not clear the arrears of Myanmar to the World Bank because the country has held up 11 billion USD in five foreign bank accounts.

To clear debts to Japan, Ministry of Finance sought approval from Pyidaungsu Hluttaw on 24 July, 2012. The government has chosen the way of getting a bridge loan to cover debts to the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, and the President Office approved the way on 27 July 2012, the Union Minister said.

Myanmar has already cleared debts to the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and Japan, and regarding the debts to the member countries of the Paris Club, Myanmar has already reached agreement with Norway, Italy, Netherlands, Finland, Germany, France, Austria and England, he added.

Myanmar needs huge investments and assistance from foreign countries for development of the power supply, drinking water, agriculture, job opportunities, tourism, financial, trading and investment sectors and infrastructures and implementing the reforms, Union Minister U Win Shein said.

Thanks to the debt deal, Myanmar has regained recognition from international communities and gained much-needed loans with low interest rate and technical assistance from international communities to carry out development tasks and to fulfill the needs of the people, he said.

After his clarification, U Kyaw Kyaw Maung, Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar, also refuted the allegations, saying that the current reserve of Myanmar in Nostro Accounts and in local bank accounts has reached at USD 7.6 billion on 10 September 2013.

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw put the clarifications on the record.—*MNA*

Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint cordially greets Rt. Hon. David Carter, Speaker of House of Representatives of New Zealand. **(News on page 16)****—MNA**

Stake driven for construction of HRDC held

YANGON, 4 Oct—The stake driven ceremony for construction of six-storey Human Resources Development Center, donated by Shwetaung Development Group, took place at Yangon Technological University in Insein Township this morning.

Present were Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr Ko Ko Oo and officials.

The university campus and its buildings used to be Burma Institute of Technology in June 1960 and changed as Rangoon Institute of Technology in early 1963. RIT was changed as Yangon Institute of Technology in 1990. YIT was transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Ministry of Science and Technology on 2 July 1997. According to the agreement of universities central council special meeting and universities education groups council special meeting held on 22 May 1998, YIT was renamed as Yangon Technological University.—*MNA*

Union FM arrives back after attending 68th Session of UNGA

Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin shaking hands with UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin arrived back here today after delivering a statement on 30th September at the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

The Union Minister has also attended the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) 2013 Annual Meeting, Public Forum on Responsible investment in Myanmar's Future at Asia Society, Asia Cooperation Dialogue Ministerial Breakfast Meeting, High-Level Meeting on Nuclear Disarmament, Informal ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (IAMM), ASEAN-UN Ministerial Meeting (AUMM), Opening Session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement, Bilateral Meeting between the Secretary of State of the United States and the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and Forum on Myanmar at Business Council for International Understanding during his stay in New York.

The Union Minister held bilateral meetings with Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Fumio Kishida, Australian Minister of Foreign Affairs MP Ms. Julie Bishop, Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Ahmet Davutoglu, Latvian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Edgars Rinkevics, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Espen Barth Eide, Slovak Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Miroslav Lajcak, Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Linas Linkevicius, Organization of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Secretary-General Prof. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu, United Kingdom Minister of State MP Rt. Hon. Mr. Hugo Swire, United States Deputy Secretary of State Mr. William Burns and Israeli Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Zeev Elkin and discussed matters on promoting of bilateral relations and cooperation.

The Union Minister also met with United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCHA Ms. Valerie Amos and Special Representative of UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict Ms. Leila Zerrougu. They exchanged views on issues of mutual interest and discussed promotion of cooperation during the meetings.—*MNA*

LOCAL NEWS

Chief Minister's Cup Inter-Township Sepak Takraw Tournament kicks off

Players vigorously taking part in Sepak Takraw event of Region Chief Minister's Cup.

DAWEI, 4 Oct—The opening ceremony of Taninthayi Region Chief Minister's Cup Inter-Township Sepak Takraw Tournament was held at the Region Gymnasium in Shanmaleswe Ward in Dawei of Taninthayi Region yesterday morning.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the tournament was aimed at turning out outstanding athletes. The region's team secured champion trophy in the 12th Inter-State/Region Sepak Takraw Tournament 2006 and emerged champions in men's double regu event two times. Therefore, the athletes are to try their best for winning the champion trophy in the Inter-State/Region tournaments.

The contending teams saluted the Chief Minister of Taninthayi Region.

In the debut, Dawei Township beat Myeik Township.

Among the spectators were Chief Minister U Myat Ko, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Region Hluttaw, the Chief Justice of the Region High Court, region ministers, departmental officiasl, athletes from Dawei, Myeik and Kawthoung Districts.

The contending teams are competing in the tournament in six groups.

Kyemon-Kyaw Kyaw Latt

Natural Sports

Basic football training course commences

MANDALAY, 4 Oct—Organized by Mandalay Region Football Federation, the Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) and selected footballers give training to under-16 youths at Myanmar Football Academy (Mandalay) and Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay from 7 am to 9 am and from 4 pm to 6 pm on Sunday and Saturday.

With the aim of turning out outstanding footballers, a total of 30 youths under 14 and 30 youths under 16 from Mandalay District are under the training. The invitational football tournaments are held for development of Myanmar football standard.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Youths under training at sports ground in football course.

Mandalay Region Football Federation Chairman's Cup U-20 football tournament 16 Oct

MANDALAY, 4 Oct—The Mandalay Region Football Federation Chairman's Cup U-20 men's football tournament will take place at Bahtoo Stadium in Mandalay as of 16 October.

A total of 10 footballs teams including Yadanabon Academy, Super Star football training school, SPEI (Mandalay), Patheingyi Township, Myitnge and Ohnkyun have enlisted in the tournament.

The first prize winner will secure K 1 million, the second prize K 600,000 and third prize K 400,000.

Kyemon-Thiha Ko Ko (Mandalay)

Electrification

Uyingon Village in Meiktila Tsp illuminated

A transformer installed at Uyingon Village of Meiktila Township to supply electricity power to local people.

MEIKTILA, 4 Oct—Uyingon Village of Htamongan Village-tract of Meiktila Township of Mandalay Region has been illuminated on a self-reliant basic.

"The village was supplied electricity as of 26 September. The village electrification committee collected fund for two years and spent K 31.5 million on installation of 160 KV transformer and 11000 volt power line. Now, 120 electric meters have been installed at 162 houses, and thre remain over 40 electric metres applied to the Township Electrical Engineer Office," said Chairman of Village Electrification Committee U Aung Naing Aye.

Kyemon-626

Fund allotted for rural development and poverty alleviation in Kawkareik

KAWKAREIK, 4 Oct—A ceremony to issue the fund for rural development and poverty alleviation for 2013-2014 fiscal year was held at Bayintnaung Hall in Kawkareik of Kayin State on 1 October.

At first, Deputy Commissionerof the district General Administration Department U Than Swe delivered an opening address.

Next, Township Administrator U Hsan Oo and Chairman of Township Development Committee U Hla Tin explained the tasks for each village, rules and regulations for the tasks in detail.

Officials allotted funds to the villages for launching the tasks and buying the materials.

Village-tract ad-ministrators and the development committee chairman accepted the fund for the first time.

Township authorities present fund to village official for implementation of rural development and poverty alleviation.

At the ceremony, K 12,171,500 as fund was allotted to the villages.

Kyemon-District IPRD

Helmets distributed to motorcyclists free of charge

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Oct—Police Major Khin Zaw Myint of Deputy Commander of No. 14 Traffic Police Corps Branch and party decorated motorcyclists with 160 helmets from 3 pm to 4 pm on 17 September.

Wellwishers donated helmets to the motorcyclists in front of the office of Myawady Ward Administrator Office in Monywa of Sagaing Region.

Kyemon

Wellwishers present helmets to motorcyclists in Monywa of Sagaing Region.

REGIONAL

Vietnamese PM to attend 23rd ASEAN Summit in Brunei

HANOI, 4 Oct—Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung will lead a delegation to attend the 23rd ASEAN Summit and related meetings in Brunei's capital Bandar Seri Begawan city from 8-10 Oct.

The visit is made at the invitation of Sultan of Brunei Hassanal Bolkiah, Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Thursday.

Brunei was also the host country of the 22nd ASEAN Summit held in April this year.

In the 22nd ASEAN Summit Chair's Statement, ASEAN members emphasized the importance of promoting peace, maritime stability and security in the East Sea and affirmed that the process of building an ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) is well underway with more than 70 percent fulfillment of the set plan, said the report.

State-run Radio Voice of Vietnam (VOV) on Thursday said that with a pro-active and responsible spirit, the Vietnamese delegation positively contributed to the 22nd Summit's major topics and the regional grouping's top priorities for 2013.

The delegation underlined the need to reinforce ASEAN solidarity based on its charter, common goals and role in ensuring peace, security and development in the region, VOV reported.

Xinhua

*Photo taken on 3 Oct, 2013 shows water overflows in Tonle Sap River in Ponhea Leu District of Kandal Province, some 35 kilometres north of Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Floods from Mekong River and heavy rainfall have claimed at least 39 lives and affected 100,334 families in Cambodia in less than three weeks, the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) said on Thursday.—*XINHUA

BOJ maintains ultraeasy monetary policy, economic assessment

TOKYO, 4 Oct—The Bank of Japan decided Friday to maintain its ultraeasy monetary policy and left unchanged its assessment of the domestic economy, saying it is "recovering moderately" amid continuing improvement in business sentiment and solid consumer spending.

The nine-member Policy Board decided unanimously to keep intact the central bank's large-scale monetary easing policy introduced in April, centering on doubling the monetary base and boosting purchases of government bonds to achieve a 2 percent inflation target in around April 2015.

The BOJ maintained its view on the Japanese economy after upgrading the assessment in the previous policy meeting in September.

The bank said business sentiment continued to improve, after its quarterly Tankan survey showed earlier this week that the business confidence index among large Japanese manufacturers rose in September from three months earlier for the third straight quarter to its highest level since December 2007.

In its statement released after a two-day meeting, the BOJ raised views on corporate and housing investment, saying capital spending "has been picking up," due to improvement in profits, while housing investment has "increased."

But it apparently decided to keep intact its economic assessment amid uncertainties surrounding overseas economies, as some emerging countries suffer slowing growth and the US government partially shuts down its operations due to political deadlock over a budget dispute.

On overseas economies, the BOJ kept its view that they are "gradually heading toward a pickup" as a whole, though a lackluster performance is partly seen.

On the outlook on the Japanese economy, the BOJ also maintained the view that it is "expected to continue a moderate recovery," while the year-on-year rate of increase in consumer prices is "likely to rise gradually."

Japan's consumer prices excluding fresh foods rose 0.8 percent in August from a year earlier for the third straight monthly increase on higher gasoline and other energy prices, posting the highest margin of increase since November 2008.—*Kyodo News*

The Bank of Japan holds a policy meeting at its head office in Tokyo on 4 Oct, 2013. The central bank maintained Japan's current economic assessment.
KYODO NEWS

Nearly 60,000 displaced Zamboanga citizens remain in evacuation centres

MANILA, 4 Oct—The Philippine government said on Thursday that there were still nearly 60,000 displaced individuals in 35 evacuation centres in Southern Philippine city of Zamboanga, which was devastated by a three-week standoff between the military and the rogue members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Corazon Soliman, secretary of Philippines' Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), said that 13,488 families or 59, 376 people from 14 villages have remained in the evacuation centres in Zamboanga.

"The JFE Sports Complex remains the biggest evacuation centre sheltering 5,350 families or 25, 304 persons. At the height of the crisis, a total of 54 evacuation centers housed 17,437 families or 76,419 persons," she said.

Soliman also said that the DSWD is continuously providing relief assistance to evacuees outside evacuation centers, which amount to 12,396 families or 57,940 persons. The families are staying with their relatives and friends in the city.

As of Thursday, the DSWD has already provided 113.189-million pesos (about 2.608 million US dollars) worth of assistance to the affected families, Soliman said.

She added that social workers and volunteers continue to provide psychosocial and critical stress debriefing interventions to affected individuals including the released hostages.

About 200 armed MNLF members went to Zamboanga City allegedly to campaign for independence on Sept. But the government troops chanced upon them, resulting to skirmishes which lasted for three weeks. The armed rebels also took civilians hostage and made them as their human shields to evade arrest.

Near 120,000 civilians were forced to leave their homes at the height of the fighting.

Xinhua

Around 6,000 contest for 240 seats in Nepal's upcoming election

KATHMANDU, 4 Oct—Around 6,000 party and independent candidates have filed their candidacy in all 240 constituencies for the country's 19 Nov elections, Election Commission (EC) said on Friday, noting that it will take time to prepare an exact figure of the candidates.

The 19 Nov vote will elect the country's second constituent assembly that will shoulder the responsibility of finalizing a permanent constitution, which was left incomplete by a previous assembly elected in 2008 and dissolved last year after months of deadlock.

The nomination process of the vote has been peacefully completed despite the boycott and threat of the CPN-Maoist-led 33-party alliance.

Political parties are scheduled to submit the names of possible candidates under the proportional election category on Friday.

The nomination of candidates marks the one of the remarkable success in the overall election process.

Nepal is adopting three types of electoral types, namely first- past-the post (FPTP), proportional representation and nomination by the cabinet, to elect the 601- member Constituent Assembly (CA).

Top leaders of major parties UCPN (Maoist), Nepali Congress, CPN-UML and some Madhes-based parties are contesting from two constituencies in the election.

Top leaders of major parties who filed their candidacy expressed commitment that they will fulfill their obligation and deliver a new constitution with the new CA. "I feel bad about the earlier CA's failure but this time I have a responsibility to deliver a new constitution," UCPN (Maoist) Chairman Pushpa Kamal Dahal told media after filing his candidacy.

Xinhua

32 killed in road mishap in northeastern India

NEW DELHI, 4 Oct—At least 32 people, including two children, were killed and 10 others injured in a major road mishap in the northeastern Indian state of Assam Thursday, a senior police official said on Friday.

"The mishap happened when a speeding truck collided head-on with two mini buses coming from the opposite direction in the state's Barpeta district. Most of the victims were labourers and their families who were traveling on the buses," he said, on condition of anonymity.

While 32 people died on the spot, the injured have been admitted to a local hospital where the condition of some are said to be serious, the official said.

A probe has been ordered into the incident, he added. State Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi has announced a compensation of 2,000 US dollars each to the families of those killed in the mishap and 1,000 US dollars to the injured.

Xinhua

*Thai Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra (L) inspects the guard of honour during a welcoming ceremony for her visit to the Royal Thai Police Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on 3 Oct, 2013.—*XINHUA

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lnvitation of Expression of Interest (EOI) for Cooperation Public Private Partnership (PPP) in No(2) Pharmaceutical Factory, Pharmaceutical and Foodstuff Industries Ministry of Industry

No(2) Pharmaceutical factory under the Pharmaceutical and Foodstuff Industres, the Ministry of Industry intend to cooperate with Foreign Pharmaceutical Companies which produce the branded products in the international market and the local companies that can operate with under license and technical supervision from these Companies to produce Pharmaceuticals as PPP (JV , Lease etc:)

As a first step, Companies who interest in those cooperation are required to submit their Expression of Interest **(EOI) not later than 3 PM (Myanmar Standard Time), on October 28th 2013 to Planning Department, Pharmaceutical and Foodstuff Industries , Ministry of Industries, Office No(37), Nay Pyi Taw, The Republic of the Union of Myanmar.**

Interested entitles can take over the (EOI) Form and other indications at above office commencing from (7-10-2013) by presenting document of company profile.

Document of Company Profile

- Valid Certificate of Incorporation
- Records and Regulation of Company
- Name of Foreign's Technical Cooperator

(For more information : Phone no : +95 +67 408140, 408275
Fax no : +95 +67 408195

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV TAN BINH 36 VOY NO ( )

Consignees of cargo carried on MV TAN BINH 36 VOY NO ( ) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 6.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.T.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT
MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY
AGENT FOR: M/S TAN BINH CO LTD.
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (117)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV BANGSRIMUANG VOY NO (117) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 5.10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of H.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 WONGSAMUT OCEAN SHIPPING CO LTD.
Phone No: 256916/256919/256921

A tourist rides a camel at the Euphrates Poplar Nature Reserve in Ejin qi, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, on 2 Oct, 2013. The Euphrates Poplar Nature Reserve attracted lots of tourists during the seven-day National Day holidays starting from on 1 October.— **XINHUA**

UN stresses role of Lebanon's state institutions

BEIRUT, 4 Oct—United nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon Derek Plumbly said on Wednesday that "safeguarding Lebanon's security and stability can best be undertaken by strengthening state institutions."

In a statement issued following talks with Lebanon's parliamentary Speaker Nabih Berri, Plumbly noted that the international support for Lebanon that was decided at the New York meeting is a "continuous process that will be expanded in due course."

He added that the issue will be discussed in Washington during a World Bank meeting next week.

He said "I told Speaker Berri this will be a continuous process and that group members looked forward to its expansion in due course. It is aimed at helping Lebanon face the challenges to its economy and state institutions resulting mainly from the Syrian crisis."

Xinhua

A truck is loaded with corns by a farmer in Suning County, north China's Hebei Province, on 2 Oct, 2013. The autumn grain crops in the province has entered harvesting season recently. **XINHUA**

Australia experiences hottest September on record

CANBERRA, 4 Oct—Australia has experienced the hottest September, with the national average temperature 2.75 degree Celsius above usual, according to a new report released by the recently established Climate Council on Thursday.

"This September was the hottest September on record following a year that has already broken records for the hottest day, the hottest January and the hottest summer in recorded history," said climate scientist and report author Professor Will Steffen.

Steffen said Australia is breaking all the wrong records this year.

"This record-breaking September is just one of over a hundred heat-related records already being broken this year. Temperature records are broken from time to time in Australia, but it is the sheer number of records being broken that is really unusual."

He said Australia was on track to smash yet another worrying climate benchmark — the warmest calendar year to date.

Australia is experiencing persistent heat across the continent, with temperatures from October 2012 to September 1.25 degrees above the long-term average.

Since 1910, average temperatures have risen by 0.9 degree Celsius, with a significant increase in the frequency of hot days and nights noted by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and Bureau of Meteorology.

Steffen said these records come right after the recent release of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, which affirmed that the global temperature is increasing the frequency and intensity of extremely hot days and heatwaves.

Xinhua

When Scarlett Johansson nearly quit acting

Scarlett Johansson was rejected for a commercial as a child

LONDON, 4 Oct—Scarlett Johansson may be one of the busiest Hollywood stars around but there was a time when she thought she would not make it in the world of showbiz.

The 28-year-old actress, who has featured in many hit films like Match Point, Iron Man 2 and The Avengers among others, was rejected for a commercial as a child and thought that was the end of her acting dream, reported *Daily Telegraph*.

"I was always terrible at commercials because my voice was so deep. At the age of nine, I sounded like a whiskey-drinking, chain-smoking fool. Wasn't going to sell Jell-O with that voice," Johansson said.

"There was someone in my older brother's class who was doing some commercials so my mom took me to that kid's agent. They didn't want me though, I was devastated. I thought it was the end of my career. And that's when I realised that by crying I could get whatever I wanted," she added.

Even as a child, Johansson was more into singing and art.

"I was a big song-and-dance type of kid — you know, one of those kids with jazz hands. I liked to improvise and do weird vocal exercises. I was a major ham — if you can believe!" she said.—*Reuters*

Why George Clooney won't date Sandra Bullock

George Clooney

NEW YORK, 4 Oct—George Clooney and Sandra Bullock have known each other for 20 years.

Actor George Clooney has known actress Sandra Bullock for more than 20 years but he never thought about dating her.

"She was dating one of my best friends," eonline.com quoted Clooney, who has been friends with Bullock for about 20 years, as saying.

"There's a certain bro-code, you know what I mean? I've known her a long, long time," he added.

The 52-year-old actor also admitted that his Gravity co-star looked great on the red carpet of their movie's premiere here on Tuesday.

Sandra Bullock

"She looks beautiful, doesn't she," Clooney asked.

Bullock was spotted in an asymmetrical white mini dress by Italian fashion designer Giambattista Valli and black and white heels by Italian shoe designer Giuseppe Zanotti.

PTI

Jessie J: Some popstars are mean and miserable

LONDON, 4 Oct—Singer Jessie J has claimed that some popstars are mean and miserable behind the scenes because they party too hard.

The 25-year-old singer said that she quit drinking alcohol a year ago and avoids parties in order to remain professional and focused on her career, reported *Showbiz spy*.

"I like my life to be pure and clean and organised, and I like to have had eight hours' sleep a night. I honestly don't think I'd be as successful if I was a party animal. Because I don't think my personality would be as focused and open as it is. I won't mention no names, but I've met artists who are so 'on it' when they're on camera, or on stage, so the audience and the media thinks that they're like that, and then you see them come off stage, and they're mean, they're miserable and they're late," she said.—*PTI*

Jessie J says that had she been partying hard, she wouldn't have been successful.

Jennifer Lopez used to be insecure about her singing

Jennifer Lopez's ex-husband helped her get rid of her insecurities

LONDON, 4 Oct—Singer-actress Jennifer Lopez admits she had always doubted her singing ability until she met ex-husband Marc Anthony, who assured her she was good at it.

The On The Floor hitmaker admits she used to be insecure about her vocal range and it wasn't until she met Anthony, that she began to realize she was a successful international popstar due to her talent, and not her flawless looks, reported *Contactmusic*.

"The biggest insecurity I had was my singing... Even though I had sold 70 million records, there was this feeling like, 'I'm not good at this'. And while I was married to Marc, he helped me get over it. He kept telling me, 'You're the only one holding yourself back from reaching your full potential as a singer. You have to let go'.

"I was always so insecure. Then I grew, little by little, and realised, wait a minute, this is not a fluke. I'm not a mistake. And I know what I'm doing," she said.—*PTI*

Angelina Jolie's double rings ignite rumours of secret wedding

LOS ANGELES, 4 Oct—Actress Angelina Jolie has sparked fresh wedding rumours with Brad Pitt after she was spotted wearing two rings on her left hand in Bondi Beach, Australia.

The gossip mills are abuzz about a secret Pitt-Jolie wedding after the photographs hit the net, reported Radar online.

Jolie's new ring appears to be thicker and made of a lighter precious metal than the gold one that appeared on her finger in the spring.

Back in March, the 38-year-old, mother of six, was seen wearing a simple gold band in place of her massive USD 500,000 engagement ring when she visited the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda on a goodwill mission.

But Jolie shot down rumours of a wedding.—*PTI*

Angelina Jolie

SPORTS

Hughes admits mistake in leaving Fulham

Stoke City manager Mark Hughes

LONDON, 4 Oct—Stoke City manager Mark Hughes has admitted that he made a mistake when he resigned as Fulham boss in 2011.

The 49-year-old Welshman decided to leave Craven Cottage after being heavily linked with the vacant job at Aston Villa but his next managerial position was an unsuccessful 10-month spell at Queen's Park Rangers.

"I left (Fulham) under something of a cloud," Hughes told a news conference on Thursday ahead of Stoke's Premier League game at Fulham on Saturday.

"At the time I made the decision to leave because, given what I knew and what I thought was going to happen in the future, I couldn't commit to a new contract.

"With hindsight, it was probably the wrong decision.

Hughes said he had had doubts about the investment Fulham were prepared to make to improve their squad.

"I interpreted that as maybe the club didn't want to keep on progressing," he said.

"Obviously, almost immediately after I left they started investing in good players and spending some money, so I probably got that wrong."

Hughes, sacked by QPR just 12 games into last season, was appointed by Stoke in May to replace Tony Pulis and his team are 15th in the Premier League table after six matches.

The former Manchester United, Barcelona and Chelsea striker started his managerial career with the Welsh national team before spells in charge of Manchester City and Blackburn Rovers.—*Reuters*

Bale in Wales squad but will not play, says Coleman

Real Madrid's Gareth Bale is seen during the Spanish first division soccer match against Atletico Madrid at Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid on 28 Sept, 2013.—REUTERS

for him to have had no preseason and be thrown in at the deep end," Coleman told a news conference.

Bale is yet to play a full 90 minutes for Real Madrid since joining the Spanish club from Tottenham Hotspur last month in a world record 100 million euros deal.

He missed Real's Champions League win over FC Copenhagen on Wednesday with a left thigh injury which is expected to keep him out for two weeks.

Wales, who have no chance of qualifying for the World Cup, host Macedonia on October 11 before travelling to Belgium four days later.—*Reuters*

US in early control at Presidents Cup

DUBLIN, (Ohio), 4 Oct—With Hunter Mahan and Brandt Snedeker spectacularly setting the tone in the first match, the United States dominated the early going in the opening fourballs at the Presidents Cup on Thursday.

Mahan and Snedeker made five birdies between them in the first five holes and were one up on Australian Jason Day and Canada's Graham DeLaet heading into the back nine on a muggy day at Muirfield Village Golf Club.

Seeking to win the trophy for an eighth time, the US also led in the five remaining matches to put the Internationals under intense pressure in the matchplay format they prefer, as they have traditionally struggled in the foursomes.

Internationals captain Nick Price felt he had gained a valuable concession with fourballs featuring in the opening Cup session for the first time since the 1996 edition of the biennial team competition, and had been hoping for a fast start.

But it was the Americans who came storming out of the gate after former US President George W Bush had greeted both teams before they teed off at the par-four first in front of packed grandstands.

Reuters

US teammates Hunter Mahan (L) and Brandt Snedeker celebrate winning the second hold against International team members Jason Day and Graham DeLaet during the opening Four-ball matches for the 2013 Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 3 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

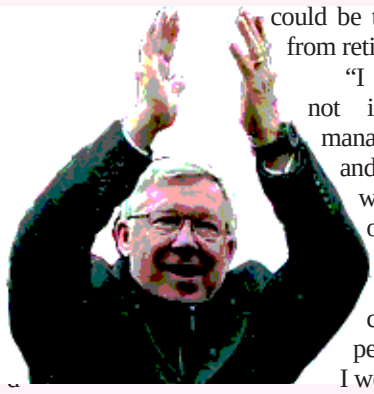
Ferguson gives under-pressure Moyes his backing

LONDON, 4 Oct—David Moyes will steer Manchester United out of their current slump, former manager Alex Ferguson believes, although should he fail there will be no return for Britain's most successful manager.

Ferguson's successor has endured a rocky opening to his reign at Old Trafford with the club suffering its worst start in the league since 1989 when Ferguson himself was under pressure to start stocking the trophy cabinet.

A 1-1 draw at Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League on Wednesday was an encouraging sign for Moyes after back-to-back defeats in the Premier League, and Ferguson said his faith in the former Everton manager will be vindicated.

"Moyes will do a good



Former Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson

me and I'm still absolutely behind him 100 percent. "The club will also give their full support and he will be just fine. United are in good hands." Ferguson won 13 Premier League titles and two Champions Leagues in his 27 years at the club but, at 71, the Scot said there was no chance he could be tempted back from retirement.

"I am certainly not interested in managing again and getting all worked up over results," he said. "I made my decision, it was perfect timing. I went out a winner and I'm looking forward to new challenges in my life. "Once I made my mind up, I was never going to think again. There is no way back. "I noticed a job came up recently and the odds were quoted at 80-1 Ferguson. Good odds but you would be throwing your money down the drain."

Reuters

Serena passes Kirilenko test to reach China quarters

BEIJING, 4 Oct—World number one Serena Williams saved three set points on her way to edging Russian Maria Kirilenko 7-5, 7-5 on Thursday to advance to the quarterfinals of the China Open with her 70th win of the season.

The top-seeded American had won all seven of her previous encounters against the 18th-ranked Kirilenko but was forced to dig deep on many occasions to ensure her eighth victory over the Russian would be completed in straight sets.

Kirilenko secured the first break of the match in the ninth game and had three set points on her serve in the next but Williams rallied to break back before sealing the set after her opponent double faulted.

"I just thought, 'what else can I do except fight for this point and the next point,'" Williams told the WTA website of the prospect of losing the first set.

"Maybe I got lucky a little bit — I just started to relax and kind of swing and not think about it too much out there. I'm obviously just really happy to get through this match today."

Williams fell behind again in the second set after being broken in the fifth game but the 17-time grand slam singles winner, who has won more than $9 million in prize money in 2013, rallied again to close out the set and the match.

Earlier, eighth seeded Serb Jelena Jankovic dished up a double bagel 6-0, 6-0 beating of Spaniard Carla Suarez Navarro to also advance to the last eight.

Reuters

Serena Williams of the US returns the ball during her women's singles match against Maria Kirilenko of Russia at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing on 3 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

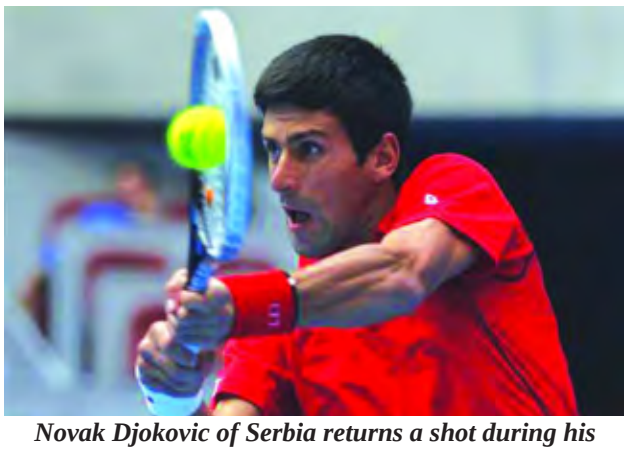
GENERAL

Djokovic digs deep to beat Verdasco in China

BEIJING, 4 Oct—Top seed Novak Djokovic overcame a second set blip to beat Spaniard Fernando Verdasco 7-5, 2-6, 6-2 and reach the quarter-finals of the China Open on Thursday, keeping alive his hopes of clinging on to his world number one ranking.

The defending champion, aiming for his fourth China Open title in five years after missing the 2011 tournament through injury, will lose the top spot next week if Spaniard Rafa Nadal reaches the final in Beijing. In the quarter-finals, the Serb will face American Sam Querrey, who caused an upset by defeating sixth-seed Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka 6-3, 7-6(2) in 76 minutes.

While much is being made of the No1 battle the 26-year-old six-times grand slam champion insists winning, rather than ranking points, is his sole focus when he takes to the court.



Novak Djokovic of Serbia returns a shot during his match against Fernando Verdasco of Spain at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing on 3 Oct, 2013.—REUTERS

"I try to do what I need to do, and that is to win the matches," Djokovic told a news conference.

"Rankings will change. They change all the time. Over the years it has been the case. But you can't think too much about it. Your job is to win as many matches as possible and the rankings will follow the results that you make."

The Serb wasted an early break of serve in the first set and had to wait for the final game to break Verdasco again and seal the opener. Using his forehand to great effect Verdasco fought back, breaking Djokovic's serve twice in the second set to take the Serb into a centre court decider.—*Reuters*

Engine problems force China Airlines plane to land in Australia's Cairns

BRISBANE, (Australia), 4 Oct—A China Airlines flight was forced to make an emergency landing at Cairns Airport in Australia's Queensland due to engine failure, local media reported on Friday.

The flight from Sydney to Taipei was diverted to Cairns after engine problems were detected over Cape York in Far North Queensland.

The *Airbus A330* landed safely shortly after 3:00 am (local time) on Friday.

It is believed only one engine was working when the plane landed.

The largest airline in China's Taiwan said the 218 passengers of the flight are still in the airport and it was trying to make travel arrangements for the passengers with other carriers including Qantas, Jetstar and Cathay Pacific.

China Airlines said investigation into the incident is underway.

Xinhua

MYANMAR TV

(5-10-2013, Saturday)

6:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw

6:35 am
2. Dance & Song of National Races

6:50 am
3. Pyi Thu Ni Ti

7:00 am
4. News

7:20 am
5. Business News

8:00 am
6. News

8:25 am
7. India Drama Series

9:00 am
8. News/International News

9:25 am
9. Documentary (Travller)

9:55 am
10. Documentary

10:00 am
11. News

10:15 am
12. TV Drama Series

11:30 am
13. Game for Children

12:00 pm
14. News/International News/Weather Report

12:25 pm
15. Round Up of The Week's TV Local News

1:25 pm
16. Round Up of The Week's Hlut Taw News

2:25 pm
17. Musical Programme

3:00 pm
18. News

3:15 pm
19. TV Drama Series

4:00 pm
20.News

4:15 pm
21.Dance of Natonal Races

4:45 pm
22. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Third Year (Chemistry)

5:00 pm
23. News

5:15 pm
24. Documentary (SEA Game)

5:30 pm
25. Game for Children

6:00 pm
26. News

6:20 pm
27. Teleplay

7:00 pm
28. News

7:15 pm
29. Teleplay

8:00 pm
30. News

8:35 pm
31. Business News

8:50 pm
32. Hit Songs of Stars

9:00 pm
33. News
34. Myanmar Series
35. Gitadagale Phwintbaohn

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(5-10-13 09:30 am ~ 6-10-13 09:30 am) MST

* Local News
* A Day Out With Sarah (Episode-4)
* World News
* Myanmar Harpist
* Local News
* A Journey To The Lashio (Kyi Hla Han's Journey)
* World News
* The Great Minds of Myanmar (Anthropologist U Kyaw Win)
* Local News
* Tapestry; A Genuine Myanmar Handicraft
* World News
* Brilliant Woman: Dr Mya Thidar Sway Tin
* Local News
* Diverse National Costumes & Their Fashion Trend (Episode-1)
* World News
* Shwe Gu Gyi Stupa, A Unique of Its Kind With Cement Inscription
* Local News
* Myanmar Sculpture -work of Art
* Myanmar Traditional Identity (Episode-1) The Culyure of Pennant Pillar
* Local News
* Short Trip With Steve (Mon State)
* World News
* Trishaw Man
* Myanmar Delicate Artistic Creations-Gem Stone Painting
* Kyauk Phyu Twonship
* Local News
* Lucrative Myanma Rattan Industry
* Myanmar Railways City Circular Train

Hodgson says Hart is still England's number one

LONDON, 4 Oct—Joe Hart remains England manager Roy Hodgson's number one goalkeeper despite mounting criticism of his form following a poor display in Manchester City's Champions League defeat by Bayern Munich.

Hodgson stood squarely behind Hart on Thursday when naming his squad for England's World Cup qualifiers at home to Montenegro and Poland, saying he had faith in the 26-year-old.

Hart performed poorly for City against Bayern Munich in their group game on Wednesday, allowing well-hit but hardly unstoppable shots by Franck Ribery and Arjen Robben into his net in a 3-1 loss.

Television commentator Gary Neville, one of Hodgson's coaching team, said Hart would be "disappointed" after conceding two poor goals but the England coach was quick to defend his keeper.

"I am not blind to the situation, I do realise it is not a good moment for Joe," Hodgson told a news conference.

"He is a proud man and a very good goalkeeper and I am sure when he is criticised he is unhappy.

"I have great faith in Joe and have no doubt he will come through these two games and we'll get the results we need and he'll put one bad game behind him.

Uncapped Fraser Forster's performance for Celtic against Barcelona in midweek was in marked contrast to Hart's but Hodgson said he would have to bide his time.

"Apparently (Hart) went through a bad period last night. But we have let in three goals in eight games so it will take a lot more than one bad game from any player to start suggesting he needs to be replaced, especially with our situation," he said.

"We need experience and need players who are tried and tested and playing regularly at the top level. Clearly looking at that criteria he's our number one.

"It would be a mistake to suggest Fraser Forster at this moment in time should be given the responsibility in these two vitally important games," he added.

Hart's form will cause jitters, however, as England can ill afford any slip-ups in their remaining qualifiers.

He was also to blame for one of Scotland's goals in England's 3-2 victory in a friendly in August and was culpable for Poland's equaliser in a qualifier in October.

There have been several off-days for his club too, particularly in a defeat by Southampton last season when he allowed a weak shot to creep in at his near post and against Cardiff City this season when he failed to reach a cross.

"Maybe it's a bit easier to criticise a goalkeeper for what you think is a mistake rather than a midfielder whose poor play provoked a goal chance a few seconds earlier," said Hodgson, whose other goalkeeping option along with Forster is Norwich City's John Ruddy.

Strikers Wayne Rooney and Daniel Sturridge return to the squad after injuries ruled them out of England's last qualifiers against Moldova and Ukraine. England are one point ahead of Ukraine and Montenegro in Group H with three games left to play.

Squad:

Goalkeepers: Fraser Forster (Celtic), Joe Hart (Manchester City), John Ruddy (Norwich City)

Defenders: Leighton Baines (Everton), Gary Cahill (Chelsea), Ashley Cole (Chelsea), Phil Jagielka (Everton), Phil Jones (Manchester United), Chris Smalling (Manchester United), Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur)

Midfielders: Ross Barkley (Everton), Michael Carrick (Manchester United), Tom Cleverley (Manchester United), Steven Gerrard (Liverpool), Frank Lampard (Chelsea), James Milner (Manchester City), Andros Townsend (Tottenham Hotspur), Jack Wilshere (Arsenal)

Forwards: Jermain Defoe (Tottenham Hotspur), Rickie Lambert (Southampton), Wayne Rooney (Manchester United), Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool), Danny Welbeck (Manchester United).

Reuters

Manchester City's Joe

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Vice-President U Nyan Tun meets responsible persons of economic, industrial sectors

Vice-President U Nyan Tun shaking hands with Flanders State Prime Minister Mr Kris Peeters.—MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Vice-President U Nyan Tun and party on 1 October met officials of economic and industrial sectors led by Flanders State Prime Minister Mr Kris Peeters in Flanders Belgium.

They focused on comprehensive development and maintenance of the Ayeyawady River course, the Yangon River maintenance and silt dredging, improvement of ports, promotion of cooperation in health and education sectors, participation of emergency health care specialists in the coming SEA Games, cooperation in dairy production sector related to rural development and conservation of water resources.

At Myanmar Embassy in Brussels, the Vice-President met Ambassador U Paw Lwin Sein and staff families and gave instructions.

At Waterways & Sea Canal of Flanders, the Vice-President and party heard clarifications on maintenance of inland navigation, commodity transport and preventive measures against floods.

They observed Kluizen water purification building of Dc Water-groep Co in Flanders. Foreign Relations Director Mr Frederik Looten, Senior Project Manager Mr Ortwin Deroo and officials explained tasks in four regions of five in Flanders State, maintenance of water tank, three challenges of quality, qualification and services in water purification and environmental conservation for new generations. The Vice-President and party visited the Kluizen water purification building. On arrival at DEME Co, the Vice-President and party heard explanation on tasks of the company across the world, work process of the company in Myanmar, maintenance and dredging of Yangon River, use of sand dredged from the river in Thilawa SEZ and plan of respective work developers to spend cost on the works.

In the evening, the Vice-President and party attended a dinner hosted by CEF Co.—*MNA*

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker receives Speaker of House of Representatives of New Zealand

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received a goodwill delegation led by Rt. Hon. David Carter, Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand, at Zabuthiri hall of the Hluttaw building, here, this morning.

The meeting was attended by Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairpersons U Maung Maung Thein, U Hla Myint Oo, U Soe Naing and U Htay Myint, Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

At the meeting, both sides had a cordial discussion on promotion of bilateral relations between the two parliaments of Myanmar and New Zealand, further strengthening of friendly relations, enactment of laws in the Hluttaw and review of the existing laws for the interests of the State and the citizens.

After the meeting, Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and wife Daw Khin Lay Thet hosted a luncheon in honour of the Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand and wife and party.

Present at the luncheon together with the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker were Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint, Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Hluttaw committee chairpersons Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, U Maung Maung Thein, U Hla Myint Oo, U Soe Naing and U Htay Myint, Hluttaw representatives and officials of the Hluttaw office.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker receives New Zealander guests

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker U Khin Aung Myint received a delegation led by Rt. Hon. David Carter, Speaker of the House of Representatives of New Zealand, at Amyotha Hluttaw hall of the Hluttaw building, here, this morning.

Also present at the call were Deputy Speaker U Mya Nyein, Amyotha Hluttaw committee chairpersons U Zaw Myint Pe, U Aung Tun, Dr Myint Kyi, U Khin Maung Yi, Dr Khin Shwe, Dr Banyar Aung Moe, U Nyunt Tin and U San Tun and officials of the Hluttaw Office.—*MNA*

Union Finance Minister refutes allegations of USD 11 billion in foreign bank accounts

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct —Union Minister for Finance U Win Shein declined reports that 11 billions of US dollars from Myanmar were stashed away in foreign banks in his clarification on the reports today at Pyidaungsu Hluttaw.

The report covered in local media mentioned Mr Jelson Garcia as Asian Region Director of the World Bank and quoted him as saying that the World Bank has not cleared the foreign debts of Myanmar because the country has stashed 11 billion US dollars in five banking accounts in foreign banks.

The Union Minister said that the World Bank has never informed Myanmar that it cannot clear foreign debts of Myanmar because Myanmar has held up 11 billion USD savings in foreign bank accounts.

According to their rules and regulations, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank do not clear the debts, but they suggest ways to clear the debts owed to them, the Union Minister said.

The World Bank and ADB sent a letter to Myanmar on 2 July last year, suggesting four ways for clearing its arrears to the World Bank in accordance with rules and regulations in attempts to resume the cooperation between Myanmar and the World Bank and the ADB, he added.

(See page 9)

Union LFRD Minister in Pinlaung Tsp

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Union Minister for Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development U Ohn Myint visited villages in Pinlaung Township yesterday to assist in livestock breeding sector.

As part of his tour, the Union minister visited Nan Pan, Sinsen, Taunghtibwa, Kathe and Nanpharmu villages in Pinlaung Township and Taungkyat Village in Pyinmana Township.

At the meeting with villagers, he pledged to take measures for supplying electricity and water to villages and for development of livestock breeding sector in the villages.

He also provided cows and cash assistance to the villages and construction of schools.

MNA

Union Minister U Ohn Myint meets local people in the vilages in Pinlaung Township in Shan State (South).

MNA

China to provide assistance for 7th Para Sports Competition

Union Minister U Aye Myint Kyu poses for documentary photo with Mr. Jiang Yingang, Commercial Attaché of the Chinese Embassy.

MNA

Nay Pyi Taw, 4 Oct— Chairman of the subcommittee for opening and concluding the 27th SEA Games Union Minister for Culture U Aye Myint Kyu received Mr. Jiang Yingang, Commercial Attaché of the Chinese Embassy, and party at the Ministry of Culture, here, this afternoon. They frankly discussed provision of technical assistance of China for the 7th Para Sports Competition.

It was attended by President of Myanmar Para Sport Federation Maj-Gen Nay Lin, the directors-general of the Fine Arts Department and the Historical Research Department under the Ministry of Culture and officials concerned.

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