NAY PYI TAW, 8 Oct — A goodwill delegation led by President U Thein Sein and wife Daw Khin Khin Win left here by air at 10 am today to attend the 23rd ASEAN Summit to be held in Bandar Seri Begawan of Brunei Darussalam.

The President and wife and party were seen off at the airport by Vice-President Dr Sai Mauk Kham, Vice-President U Nyan Tun and wife Daw Khin Aye Myint, Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Min Aung Hlaing and wife Daw Kyu Kyu Hla, Union ministers, the commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command, Charge d’Affaires ai of Brunei Embassy Ms Syamim Nabilah Daud and officials.

The President and wife were accompanied by Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin and wife, Union Minister U Soe Thane, Union Minister Dr Kan Zaw, Deputy Ministers U Tin Oo Lwin, U Ye Htut, Dr Daw Thein Thein Hay, Daw Sanda Khin and officials.—MNA

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Peace talks between Union Peace-making Work Committee and a KIO delegation in progress.—MNA
Cash donated to fund for water supply

SAGAUN, 8 Oct—Ywahtaung Ward water supply committee of Sagaun held the cash donation ceremony for self-reliant water supply works at the Dhammayon of Ywahtaung Monastery on 28 September.

At the ceremony, Win Naing (Laminthar) of Asia, Africa and others. As of 1998, over 130 volunteers have been sent to Myanmar. At present, 19 volunteers and seven advisers are at 11 ministries.

The ministries wishing to seek Korean volunteers to send letter of demand on wanting Korean volunteers to Foreign Economic Relations Department under the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development. The letter copy must be sent to KOICA Myanmar Office.

Under the WEF program, 44 volunteers were sent to Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines in 1990. At present, over 1,500 volunteers are discharging duties in over 40 countries of Asia, Africa and others.

Available technology, friends from KOICA

YANGON, 8 Oct—The Korean government sends volunteers to partnership countries through world friends Korea volunteer program. WEF program comprises World Friends KOICA Volunteer Program and World Friends Advisor Program. Korean technicians are sent abroad for sharing their knowledge, expertise and experience to partnership countries in addition to education, health, rural development and IT communications works.

Under the WEF program, 44 volunteers were sent to Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines in 1990. At present, over 1,500 volunteers are discharging duties in over 40 countries of Asia, Africa and others. As of 1998, over 130 Korean volunteers have been sent to Myanmar. At present, 19 volunteers and seven advisers are at 11 ministries.

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After scrutinizing the necessity of the department and experience of volunteer, KOICA will assign the qualified volunteers at the respective departments.

ICT course for implementing e-government

THATON, 8 Oct—The ICT applied course No. 1 kicked off at University of Computer Studies (Thaton) on 2 October.

The course is aimed at enabling the departmental personnel in Thaton District to have efficient knowledge for realizing the e-government and to have ICT friendly knowledge.

Deputy Commissioner of Thaton District U Nay Lin made a speech on the occasion.

Trainees at ICT course in Thaton.

Principal Dr Win Htay explained that the staff are to have access to ICT so as to implement their tasks.

The experiences from the training course are to be applied in the practical fields for serving the interest of the State, he added.

The principal and faculty members trained 40 staff personnel from Thaton District to be able to apply Internet, e-mail, social media, office work programmes from 2 to 6 October.

Maungtaw District performing arts competitions launched

MAUNGTAW, 8 Oct—The opening ceremony of Maungtaw District Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions of Rakhine State was held at Thiri Mingala Hall of Maungtaw on 4 October.

Maungtaw District Deputy Commissioner U Aung Myint Soe of General Administration Department, Maungtaw Township Administrator U Kyi San and Buthidaung Township Administrator U Than Shwe formally opened the competition.

Also present on the occasion were district level departmental officials, personnel of Buthidaung and Maungtaw townships, responsible persons of social organizations, contestants and audience.

At the competition, the contestants participated in the singing, dancing, song composing and music contests and were welcomed by German Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Christian-Ludwig Weber-Lortsch and wife at the reception to mark the Day of German Unity at Strand Hotel in Yangon on 7 October.

Cash assistance provided to the aged

PUNGPAYKHYEM, 8 Oct—Chairman of Monghwat District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Thi Thi Soe and party fed soya milk to KG students at Sub-Township Basic Education High School and visited blind grandma Daw Thein Tin of 88 years old in Tonephae Village in Ward 1 of Pungpahkyem Sub-Township.

They presented cereal foods and K 10,000 to the grandma on 28 September morning.

They also visited disabled children Sai Nwam Khe of 13 years old and grandpa U Ba Chit of 75 years old in Ward 4.

Officials of Pungpahkyem Sub-Township MCWA donates cash assistance to older person.

After providing health care services to them, MCWA officials presented cereal foods and K 10000 each to them.

Workers of Myanmar Railways carrying out maintenance of rail tracks on Yangon-Mandalay Railroad at the entrance to Swa of Yedashe Township on 6 October.

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US still in fiscal deadlock, but glimmers of hope emerge

WASHINGTON, 8 Oct — A few faint glimmers of hope surfaced on Monday in the US fiscal standoff, both in Congress and at the White House, with President Barack Obama saying he would accept a short-term increase in the nation’s borrowing authority to avoid a default. Separately, a Senate aide said Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell had indicated an open meeting with House Speaker John Boehner on Saturday to discuss a possible deal, although he warned that a showdown was in the offing.

Syria gov’t says no safety assurances for inspectors in combat zones

DAMASCUS, 8 Oct — The Syrian government will not ensure the safety of UN and international chemical weapons inspectors in areas where President Bashar al-Assad’s military and rebels are fighting, Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad said on Monday.

In an interview with Kyodo News, Mekdad said inspectors from the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons should protect themselves in conflict zones. A team of the inspectors began work Sunday to destroy Syrian military assets related to chemical warfare such as rockets used in chemical weapons attacks. They are aiming to eliminate all Syrian chemical weapons by mid-2014. Their operations in combat zones are believed to be crucial in making progress in the civil war-torn country. Without assurances for their safety, the inspectors could hit a snag in achieving the target.

Mekdad said Syria has been cooperating with the inspection work but in battle lines, “we shall have no responsibility, we tell them in that place there are armed groups, and you have to take measures to ensure safety of (the) UN team by themselves.” On the possibility of the dismantling goal set forth by the Syrian government, “it is not our responsibility.”

The deputy foreign minister said “all parties should cooperate” for the UN Security Council resolution requiring the elimination of Syria’s chemical weapons. Mekdad suggested that the inspection team negotiate with rebel forces through the United Nations and those countries supporting opposition groups to achieve a truce.

On the rebels, the top Syrian official said that “these terrorist group(s) are (the) agents of (the) United States, Saudi Arabia or Turkey” and that those countries should be able to get in touch with them.

Israelis, Palestinians intensify talks despite skepticism

JERUSALEM, 8 Oct — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators held a new round of talks on Monday, picking up the tempo of their meetings at the request of the United States in the face of widespread skepticism that they will ever reach a deal. The two sides resumed direct peace negotiations in late July after three years of stalemate and have conducted a series of discussions far from the gaze of the media over recent weeks, without any outward hint of the slightest breakthrough. Just as for much of the last 20 years, the same problems continue to snarl progress towards a deal, with Israelis and Palestinians at loggerheads over how to divide the land and over their future security arrangements — among other things.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas held a rare meeting with a group of parliamentarians on Monday, warning that this could be the last chance to reach a deal to end decades of conflict and create two independent states living side-by-side.

An uncompromising speech by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday under-scored pessimism prevailing in both camps, with members of the Israeli leader’s own coalition openly campaigning for an end to the so-called peace process.

However, a senior Palestinian official told Reuters that the talks were intensifying, with the negotiating teams agreeing to meet for up to eight hours a day and to see one another more regularly than at the start of their latest diplomatic drive. — Reuters

Grenades fired in Cairo, troops killed near Suez Canal after protesters die

CAIRO, 8 Oct — Suspected militants killed six Egyptian soldiers near the Suez Canal and fired rocket-propelled grenades at a state satellite station in Cairo on Monday, suggesting an Islamist insurgency was gathering pace three months after an army takeover. Dozens of supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood were killed in clashes with security forces and political opponents on Sunday, one of the bloodiest days since the military deposed Islamist President Mohammed Mursi in July. The death toll from that day’s violence across the country rose to 53, state media said, with 271 people wounded.

The Brotherhood denies the military’s charges that it incites violence and says it has nothing to do with militant activity, but further con- frontations may shake Egypt this week, with Mursi’s supporters calling for further protests this week. They are likely to be angered by the publication of an interview with Egypt’s army chief on Monday in which he said he told Mursi as long ago as February he had failed as president. Sunday’s clashes took place on the anniversary of the 1973 war with Israel — meant to have been a day of national celebration. The countries signed a peace agreement in 1979.

Authorities had warned that anyone protesting against the army during the anniversary would be regarded as an agent of for-eign powers, not an activist — ahardening of language that suggested authori-ties would take a tougher line.— Reuters

A tour bus with an empty top deck drives past the US Capitol in Washington on 7 Oct, 2013. — Reuters

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (L) and South Korean President Park Geun Hye briefly exchange words on Indonesia’s Bali Island on 8 Oct, 2013, while attending the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit. — KYODO NEWS

Pakistani Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani gives a press conference after EU Pakistan Foreign Ministers talks in Islamabad on 7 October, 2013. — Reuters

Syrian Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad is interviewed by Kyodo News in Damascus, Syria on 7 Oct, 2013. — KYODO NEWS

Residents and tourists watch as smoke rises near a state security building after a blast in South Sinai on 7 Oct, 2013. — REUTERS
3D printing helps reveal bacterial infections

**Washington, 8 Oct**—US researchers said on Monday they have devised a three dimensional (3D) microscopic printing technique to study how communities of bacteria, such as those in the human gut and lungs, interact and influence human health.

Bacteria in the human body often thrive within structured 3D communities that contain multiple bacterial species. Recent studies have found that relationships between structure and function in these microbial ecosystems can affect human health, such as the virulence of infections in chronic wounds.

To help study these relationships, researchers from the University of Texas developed a laser-based printing technology to build protein “cages” in gelatin for bacteria in almost any 3D shape or size.

Gelatin, a highly porous material, allows the enclosed cells to both grow rapidly and communicate with other species growing in separate, nearby enclosures.

“Nutrients can come in. Waste can go out. Signals can be exchanged. They’re trapped in these tiny houses, but they function like they do in biological environments,” lead author Jason Shear, professor of chemistry at the university said in a statement.

“The walls that we make out of these protein molecules are linked to gether tightly enough to prevent the bacteria from escaping, but they are porous enough to be chemically permissive,” Shear said.

Researchers said the new technique should enable an entirely new class of experiments that better approximate the conditions that bacteria encounter in actual biological environments, such as those in the human body.

They demonstrated that a community of Staphylococcus aureus, which can cause some skin infections, became more resistant to antibiotics when it was contained within a larger community of Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a bacteria involved in various diseases, including cystic fibrosis.

NASA’s new moon probe settles into lunar orbit

**Cape Canaveral, 8 Oct**—Politics may be keeping most of NASA’s workers home, but that didn’t stop the US space agency’s new moon probe from achieving lunar orbit, officials said on Monday.

The Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer, or LADEE, blasted off on 6 September aboard a small rocket that placed the spacecraft into a highly elliptical orbit around Earth.

After three trips around the planet, LADEE on Sunday was in precise position to fire its braking rocket, let itself be captured by the moon’s gravity and then settle into lunar orbit.

The timing was not ideal. The ongoing partial shutdown of the US government has sidelined about 97 percent of the NASA’s 18,000 employees.

But among those still on the job were LADEE’s flight controllers, who monitored the do-or-die maneuver, said deputy project scientist Greg Delory, with NASA’s Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, California.

After over the next two weeks, LADEE will tweak its orbit so that it ends up about 155 miles above the lunar surface, an ideal vantage point for studying the gases surrounding the moon and searching for electrically charged dust rising from the ground.

The government furlough also was not expected to impact a LADEE laser communications demonstration slated for later this month, Delory said.

Last week, NASA brought back workers preparing a new Mars orbiter for launch on 18 November. Skeleton crews, meanwhile, are overseeing NASA’s communications satellites and science probes.

World Post Day Message from the Director General

**9 October, 2013**

The Post, delivering for people and businesses daily

In every country, postal services play a vital role in the exchange of information and goods.

In 2012, Posts globally delivered 350 billion letters and more than 6 billion parcels. They also processed millions of financial transactions.

While the core letter-post service remains an important part of the business — letters still accounted, on average, for 45% of a Post’s overall revenues in 2012 — the gradual decline in business mail is forcing national postal services to redefine themselves.

Posts around the world are diversifying their products and services to better meet customers’ needs for reliability, speed and security. As e-commerce grows, they are positioning themselves as the delivery service of choice for goods ordered online. There is no question that Posts remain important facilitators of national and international trade in this constantly evolving world.

Postal financial services, as well as parcels and logistics services, are also on the rise. Soon, revenues from each of these services are expected to account, on average, for more than 20% of a Post’s business. Posts that have never been involved in financial services, or that have been only minimally involved, are considering entering that market.

This is a logical step. Why? Because of the postal network’s vast reach. The postal network remains the largest physical network in the world and a fundamental infrastructure that enables large segments of the economy to function.

With more than 600,000 post offices globally, postal services are inclusive and accessible; no one gets turned away. The Post is truly a public service for every citizen, irrespective of one’s position in society.

This 9 October, on World Post Day, I urge governments to remember their national Post’s potential for delivering essential social and economic services to their citizens and businesses. And I salute the dedication of the more than 5 million postal staff worldwide who work to connect people and businesses everywhere daily.

—UPU
BlackBerry shares up on interest from strategic buyers

Shares of BlackBerry Ltd rose 4 percent on Monday, following news of potential interest from strategic buyers in the embattled smartphone company and Samsung, by early this week.

It was unclear which parties would bid, if any. But the sources said potential technology buyers have been especially interested in BlackBerry’s secure server network and patent portfolio, although doubts about the assets’ value remain an issue.

In a statement, a BlackBerry spokesperson said, “has finally attracted enough interest from the global tech titans who may take a ‘punt’ on enterprise mobility.”

BlackBerry is seeking preliminary expressions of interest from other potential strategic buyers, which include Italian and Chinese technology companies LG and Samsung, respectively.

Sources also told Reuters that BlackBerry is seeking to break into enterprise mobility market.

Business & Health

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Information Ministry and media outlets...

(from page 16)

Directorate of Foreign Investment and Myanmar Foreign Television network had brought before the government along with their remarks.

- The cabinet meeting No. 5/2004 agreed the business deals with the Myanmar Radio and Television under Information Ministry and Forever Group Co Ltd inked the deal on 10 February 2004.

- At first in broadcasting MRTV-4 education programme, the system employed was receiving the streaming video through satellite channels and the use of MM Box and Sky Sport Card. That system was not successful in broadcasting to the public and thus switching to digital system and then current DVB-T system. The Information Ministry submitted the additional agreement on changing the broadcasting system to the government and the cabinet meeting No 7/2006 on 3 March, 2006 approved the agreement.

- Following this, the MRTV and Forever Group Co Ltd signed the additional agreement on 3 March 2006.

- Following is the procedure of signing deals between MRTV and six FM radio media companies.

- First of all, the procedure of signing agreement between MRTV and Forever Co Ltd operating Mandalay FM radio is as follows:

  - MRTV, Mandalay Development Committee and Forever Co Ltd submitted the proposal for running FM radio in Mandalay to Myanmar Investment Commission and the commission remarked that the Information Ministry was to proceed in line with State-owned Economic Enterprises Law. Then it was put forward to the Union government.

  - The cabinet meeting No 43/2008 approved the proposal and the MRTV, Mandalay Development Committee and Forever Co Ltd signed the deal in April 2009.

  - The Union government with notification No. 7/2009 dated 30-5-2009 granted authority to the Information Ministry to supervise the radio broadcasting.

  - The other five radio broadcasters are Shwe FM of Golden Wave Co Ltd, Cherry FM of Myanmar Album Media Group, Padaung FM of Thein Kyaw Kyaw Co Ltd, Pyinawaddy FM of Myanmar Online Co Ltd and FM Bagan of Htoo Trading Co Ltd.

  - Those companies submitted the draft agreements to the Information Ministry in March, 2010 and the ministry put forward those draft agreements to Myanmar Investment Commission, Office of the Attorney-General of the Union, Ministry of Finance and Directorate of Investment. The ministry amended the drafts in line with their remarks and submitted to the Union government and the cabinet meeting No. 25/2010 approved them.

  - MRTV under the Information Ministry and those radio broadcasters separately signed the deals in July 2010.

  - The Union government with notification No. 74/2010 dated 11-8-2010 gave authority to the Information Ministry to supervise their radio broadcasting.

  - The clarification will then be continued with Terms and Conditions of contracts with media companies. Each contract features purposes, responsibilities, rules and regulations and enforcing laws under Trade 20 titles. Some background information of respective companies and wordings are the only thing that makes the contracts different.

  - The license holders and responsibilities and entitlements of the license holders will be revealed at the press conference.

  - The Forever Group Company paid K 10869 million as revenue to the government from 2005-2006 fiscal year to 2013-2014 fiscal year as per conditions in the agreement. It paid K 174 million as the cleaning and electricity charges.

  - The first three year of operation of DTH transmission by Shwe Than Lwin Company has been set as the Grace Period as it was less profitable and needs a huge amount of investments. There are various styles of designating Grace Period. The 100 per cent exemption has been granted from two to 15 years depending on type of business, profitability to the state and investment volume.

  - The Grace Period expires July, 2013, and calculation has started to collect revenue from it.

  - According to profit-sharing in provision 6 in the contract with Mandalay FM, the FM radio station has to pay some part of advertisement income with tax included to the government.

  - Mandalay FM has paid K 192.79 million to the government from 2005-2010 fiscal year to 2013-2014 fiscal year.

  - The profit-sharing provision 6 in contracts with five other FM companies is as follows:

    - After the grace period, the income which the tax has been paid for in accord with the law is to be given to the government.

    - The amount of revenue paid by these FM companies up to August, 2013, after the grace period from 2010 to 2012 is as follows:

      (a) Shwe FM K 21,347 million
      (b) Cherry FM K 9,340 million
      (c) Padamaya FM K 30,217 million

- After that, they viewed round paddy and crops plantations in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area.

- Union Minister U Myint Hlaing proceeded to Allium tuberosum 10-acre plantation of Alliance Stars Co Ltd near Chang Village in Dekkanthai Township, here, this morning.

- The report found that there is no case of less revenue paid by the media companies but only late pay. It suggests systematic supervision to prevent such weakness in the future.

- Acting on the report, the ministry formed a Broadcasting Governing Body led by one deputy minister in March 2013. The board met once in March, twice in May and twice in August and coordinated revenue and other administration with the respective media.

- All the late payments were made on 23 July, 2013. There is no more revenue to be paid to the government by the media companies in accord with the contract between MRTV and the media companies.

- The Ministry of Information is being audit once sixth months by the auditors of the Union Auditor-General Office. It has already been audited in detail by the team on 4-29 February. Since April, 2013, one deputy minister oversaw the budget and accounting of the ministry. The monthly financial statements are sent to the Union Government Office after being audited by the ministry’s audit team.

- The terms and conditions in the contracts are properly followed and audited once six months by the Union Auditor-General Office. There is no corruption by the ministry’s audit team as they are required to submit report in transparent manner once a month.

- The Ministry of Information is giving priority to ensure Good Governance and Clean Government, the policy adopted by the government.

- Next, Deputy Minister U Piike Htwe, Director-General U Tin Swe and Director-General U Ye Tin replied to questions by Chief Reporter U Mann Thu Shwe of Daily Eleven newspaper, CEP Ma May Thaygun Hein of Myitmakha media, reporter U Kyaw Myint of the Street View journal, reporter U Okkar Oo of News Watch journal, reporter U Pyaee Phyo Aung of Hot News journal, reporter U Hlaing Tin of News Watch journal, Meiktila reporter U Tin Hlaing, reporter U Zaw Ko Ko of the Voice journal and reporter U Khang Min of the Forward journal.

NAY PYI TAW, 8 OCT—Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing and Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint participated in ‘Soon’ offering to 40 monks at the Dhamayon Village in Dekkanthai Township, here, this morning.

Deputy Minister U Piike Htwe delivering address at press conference of the Ministry of Information.—MNA
Hub of Yangon with magnificent creativities

Yangon, 8 Oct.—The Early Child Care Course No. 2 organized by Yangon Region Social Welfare Department with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement was concluded at its office on Shwegondine Road in Bahan Township on 6 October.

After delivering an address, Deputy Director U Tin Zaw Moe of Region SWD presented completion certificates to 62 trainees. On behalf of the trainees, Ma Yu Ya Nyein Aye spoke words of thanks.

The training course ran 21 days. Trainers from Myanmar Red Cross Society, Save the Children and Social Welfare Department gave training to the trainees how to care the children under eight.

Children to discharge duties assigned in respective regions when they grow up

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Children to discharge duties assigned in respective regions when they grow up

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Miss Myanmar beauties

Miss Myanmar winners who are to compete in international beauty contests have emerged through Miss Myanmar pageants. A winner of Miss Myanmar who is to enter the Miss Universe Pageant 2013 has already been chosen from a series of locally held beauty contests.

Moe Set Win will make news next month when she is the first contestant to represent Myanmar in over 50 years at the Miss Universe Pageant 2013. The 25-year-old who studied business and marketing in California was chosen from 20 hopefuls on 3 October 2013. Contestants representing the country have participated in Miss International, Miss Earth and Miss Supranational pageants this year.

Globally, Miss winners are chosen by agencies of their respective countries and sent to international pageants such as Miss Universe, Miss World, Miss International, etc. to represent their countries as contestants. Winner of Miss Myanmar is simply not a woman of great beauty. She must be elegant, talented, active, astute and shrewd. The one who is fully equipped with the aforesaid qualities is chosen as a miss winner.

Moreover, miss winners are those who pay attention to their healthy life, seek knowledge to widen their horizons and try to be active and lively. They must be role models of others and are to uplift the dignity of Myanmar women. Through Miss Myanmar pageants, Myanmar women who keep abreast of their global counterparts in terms of talents and knowledge have now emerged all the more. Beauty only could not produce winners of Miss beauty contests. Other important factors are talent, knowledge, astuteness and shrewdness. All Myanmar women who are endowed with the hard-won qualities mean Miss Myanmars all the more. They must be role models of others and are to uplift the dignity of Myanmar women. Through Miss Myanmar winners who are to compete in international pageants, Myanmar women who have the aforesaid qualities are chosen as a miss winner.

Great strides in ensuring peace needed for passing ....

(from page 1)

fruitful results. Both sides could build mutual understanding and trust thanks to the previous talks. Tatmadaw also has a desire to restore the peace aspired by all people. To achieve fruitful results and reach peace destination it is required all inclusiveness of the two sides, those involved and all people, he added.

Afterwards, KIO leader U Hswan Lut Gam called for participation of all to hit the target of peace. After that, delegates towards better assistance to combating transnational crimes and addressing unconventional security issues through sharing the intelligence information and fostering mutual trust. He also held talks with them on further cooperation, exchange of information and ensuring effective measures in coping with threats and challenges in the region.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and U Thant Kyaw and departmental officials. —MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw, Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker attends 129th IPU assembly

GENEVA, 8 Oct — Thura U Shwe Mann, Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Pyithu Hluttaw, attended 129th assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union-IPU in Geneva, Switzerland, yesterday.

Speakers and MPs from 126 IPU-member countries are participating in the assembly. Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann also held talks with a Moroccan delegation led by the President of House of Councillors of Morocco, IPU president Mr Abdelwahad Radi, Mr William Hay, Speaker of Irish Parliament and Mr Arders B Johnson, Secretary General of IPU separately yesterday.—MNA

Vice-President U Nyan Tun receives delegates to 40th ASEAN Intelligence Community Conference

NAI PSI TAW, 8 Oct — Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun received delegates to 40th ASEAN Intelligence Community Conference at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace, here, this evening.

The Vice-President said Myanmar is proud and happy to host the conference for the very first time. He expressed his belief that the conference would enable intelligence agencies of the countries in the region to communicate personally, thereby by contributing towards better assistance to combating transnational crimes and addressing unconventional security issues through sharing the intelligence information and fostering mutual trust. He also held talks with them on further cooperation, exchange of information and ensuring effective measures in coping with threats and challenges in the region.

Also present on the occasion were Deputy Ministers Brig-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun and U Thant Kyaw and departmental officials. —MNA

Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann attends 129th assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union-IPU in Geneva, Switzerland. —MNA

Shwepanngu Village gets power

KYAUNGKON, 8 Oct — Shwepanngu Village in Kyaungkon Township, Pathein District, has got electricity on a self-reliant basis as from 28 September.

To supply power to the village, 53 lamp posts have been erected and so far meter boxes have been installed at 45 houses.

U Myo Win, In-charge of Mawgunthit Bus Line, contributed K 6 million to the funds as a main sponsor to supply power to the village. A ceremony to launch the power supply to the village was formally opened by Pyithu Hluttaw Representative Dr Hien Win. Senior Engineer of Kyaungkon Township Power Supply Board U Win Kyang and U Myo Win.

Vice-President U Nyan Tun poses for documentary photo with delegates to 40th ASEAN Intelligence Community Conference at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace.—MNA
President U Thein Sein, wife arrive in Brunei to attend 23rd ASEAN Summit

Bandar Seri Bega

On their arrival at the airport, they were welcomed by Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister’s Office Haji Abdul Mumin, the Brunei Ambassador to Myanmar, Myanmar Ambassador to Brunei Daw Yin Yin Myint and embassy staff and families.

Coordination to be made whether a certain ...

(from page 16) of Chin State Constituency No (9), Deputy Minister for Construction U Soe Tint replied that a 600-foot Myint-Thar river crossing bridge will be built on Pakokku-Pauk-Htilin-Gangaw road with the funds of the Magway Region government.

Vice-Senior General Soe Win addresses work coordination meeting on holding 14th ACAMMM

Then, the Vice-Senior General addressed the work coordination meeting for holding the 23rd ASEAN Armies Rifle Meet at the meeting hall of the Defence Services Technological Academy.

Next, he viewed space for science lab, demonstrations on flag hoisting ceremony and the 14th ACAMMM, and training of liaison officers, barricad and handicraft booths at the buildings in which ASEAN shooting teams would stay.

In the afternoon, the Vice-Senior General viewed VIP lounge, Novelty Shoot demonstration, preparations for awarding ceremony, and shooting demonstrations at Tarmadaw Shooting Range (PyinOoLwin).—MNA

Consumers to get more effective ...

(from page 16) a total of 6472 citizenship scrutiny cards have been issued. The ministry has already instructed officials to process the documents smoothly. In addition, the public have been informed that they can lodge complaints about their convenience to Headquarters (Nay Pyi Taw) in person or by phone. Forty-five of 63 complaints have been dealt with and the remaining cases are under process.

Questioner U Myint Oo said that our region, Thanatpin remains lot of difficulties for it even though the ministry on its part has actively been implementing that project. One stop services is made available only to people in urban areas. The majority of people there have no citizenship scrutiny cards as they cannot afford to process documents. This would be difficult to achieve success in the 2014 nation-wide census taking process as expected. He expressed his hope for swift implementation of Moep-wint project without corruption and bribery.

MP U Khang Maung Yi of Ailhon Constituency submitted a proposal on formation of an organization for exchange of foreign glossary and terminology with Myanmar language and uniform use of standard Myanmar and Myanmar glossary. Deputy Minister for Education Dr Zaw Min Aung discussed that it should be put on record. Then, the Hluttaw put it on record. The meeting came to an end at noon. —MNA

Bay of Bengal Condition

A Low Pressure Area may form over the South Bay of Bengal and it likely to intensify into a depression. Weather will be partly cloudy to cloudy in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.Rainy conditions are likely to be above normal in Upper Sagarang.

MoU on coal-fired power plant (500-MW) in Kyauktan Township inked

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications

Internet Service to be cut for a while in Nay Pyi Taw

Myanma Posts and Telecommunications of the Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs has implemented the project for improvement of communication network to increase the Internet speed.

Regarding the project, MPT in cooperation with the Information Technology Department and NTT Communications has upgraded and installed ISPs and National Gateways in Yangon, Nay Pyi Taw and Mandalay. Nay Pyi Taw POP which is currently linked with Yangon Hantawaddy ISP Network would be connected with newly installed Nay Pyi Taw ISP Network at the duration mentioned below and the MPT’s internet service in the Nay Pyi Taw POP area would be stopped for a while when the work is carried out.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>11-10-2013</td>
<td>from 02.00 am</td>
<td>Nay Pyi Taw POP</td>
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Myanmar and Myanmar implementation of project and spoke of words of thanks.

Afterwards, acting director-general U Thaung Han of Hydropower Planning Department and Co-Founder and Director Mr Murali Subramanian of Orange Powergen Pvt Ltd signed the MoU and exchanged the documents.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Electric Power U Aung Than Oo, directors-general, managing directors and officials under the departments and enterprises under the ministry and responsible persons from Orange Powergen Pvt Ltd, Global Advisors Pte Ltd and Diamond Palace Services Co., Ltd. It is reported that the coal-fired power plant (500 MW) located in Kyauktan Township of Yangon Region will be implemented through JV/B.O.T system. Upon completion, the project can distribute more power to the people. —MNA
Practices for taking part in International White Cane Day

Students of School for the Blind taking practice for International White Cane Day in PyinOoLwin.

PyinOoLwin, 8 Oct—About 110 students led by Sayadaw U Neya of Para-hita School for the Blind in PyinOoLwin Township take exercises to be able to take part in the International White Cane Day to be held in Yangon and Mandalay on 15 October. On 6 October, they took a practice session from the school to the downtown. Along the route, the local people and wellwishers donated soft drinks, purified drinking water, foods and cash donation to the them. The youth will take exercise on PyinOoLwin-Mogok Road on 9 October. A total of 20 students from the school will participate in the International White Cane Day in Yangon and 100 in Mandalay. In the previous years, the students from the School for the Blind (PyinOoLwin) bagged the largest amount of prizes in the white cane day celebrations.

Construction

Detour to Bago under construction

BAGO, 8 Oct—Max Myanmar Co and Shwe Than Lwin Co are building the detour to Bago through BOT system. The detour starts from the mile post 45/1 in front of Bago University at Sar-galaygin Village on Yangon-Mandalay Highway and connects with the highway at mile post 56/6 in Kali Village. It will be 11 miles and five furlongs long.

The detour will pass Phayathone Village, Kyauktainngan Village, western part of Okha Myothit and eastern part of Sargalew Village. The road will have 24 feet wide. A 340 feet long RC bridge will be built across Bago River on the detour. Upon completion, the highway cargo and buses will not be allowed to pass the downtown Bago and to use the detour so as to reduce traffic congestion at the downtown Bago.

Illegal teak parquets seized in Ottwin

Ottwin, 8 Oct—According to the information that illegal timber are carried, a team led by Forester U Tin Swe Myint of Forest Department, acting on tip-off, discharged duty near mile post 120.7 on Ottwin-Paukthantaung Road in Yethoe Village of Ottwin Township on 5 October morning. They seized 297 pieces of teak parquets weighing 0.0928 ton worth K 23200 from the motorcycle and 260 pieces of teak parquet weighing 0.0832 ton worth K 20300 from Kenbo motorcycle driven by Zaw Win Tun, 26, son of U Than of Kyetthunkhin Ward 1 in Ottwin Township. Ottwin Police Station opened files of lawsuit against U Khin and Zaw Win Tun under the law.

Artisan well automatically pours out water in Meiktila Tsp

Meiktila, 8 Oct—While sinking a tube-well near the farmland of the farmers in Myin Village of Khinte Village-tract of Meiktila District on 2 October, it became a natural artesian well that pours out 40 gallons of water per hour.

It was sunk with the use of loan disbursed to the farmers from rural areas under the arrangement of the Mandalay Region Government to sink tube-wells. We set a plan to sink four-inch diameter tube-well. After the two-inch diameter tube-well had been sunk, the water pours out automatically. The region is shortage of water. So, the water from the well can be used for agricultural purpose and consumption, said the tube-well sinking operator.

Township level officials inspected the well.—Kyemon-Chun Tha (Meiktila)
Victims to be informed of how US military personnel handled

TOYKO, 8 Oct — Tokyo and Washington have agreed to inform victims of crimes committed by US military personnel in Japan of court proceedings, including punishment handed to perpetrators, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida said on Tuesday.

“The first-ever revision in the operational arrangements regarding the notification system under the Japan-US Status-of-Fforces Agreement comes into effect on 1 Jan, 2014,” Kishida said at a press conference that the measure “should lead to reducing the burden on people in Okinawa Prefecture.” Okinawa hosts the bulk of US bases in Japan. “I hope (the measure) will spur understanding for our country’s security policy and the US military realignment process,” he said.

The Japanese government has currently been informed by the US side only of finalized court rulings. Under the new rules, Japan can also be informed about court decisions even if they are finalized, whether or not the personnel were given disciplinary actions or not, and if punished, what kind of disciplinary actions were given, Kishida said.

This piece of information can, in principle, be revealed to the victims and their families, if they wish, even without US approval.

The revision comes in response to growing frustration in Okinawa Prefecture, which shows dissatisfaction about the current notification system.

The latest measure is also aimed at easing local opposition to a long-stalled plan to relocate the US Marine Corps’ Futenma Air Station from a densely populated area to a less-populated area within the island prefecture, officials said.

Locals are calling for the Futenma base to be moved outside Okinawa.

Kishida will fly to Okinawa on Tuesday afternoon to explain the new rules to Okinawa Gov Hirokazu Nakaima.

The Okinawan prefectural government submitted a written request to the Foreign Ministry in February, asking for the disclosure of details such as the kind of punishment given to military personnel.

Four dead, thousands evacuated after Typhoon Fitow hits eastern China

MANILA, 8 Oct — Two people were killed and more than 92,600 people were affected because of flooding brought by continuous rains and thunderstorms due to intertropical convergence zone during the past days, a senior government official said on Monday.

At least four people have been killed and four others were still missing, Xinhua said on Tuesday.

Flight and train services in Zhejiang Province, south of Shanghai, were suspended on Monday.

In Wenzhou city in Zhejiang province, the storm destroyed over 1,700 houses and 46,800 hectares of crop land, the report said.

It was the 23rd typhoon to hit China this year.

Australia jobless rate seen steady at 4-year high in September

SYDNEY, 8 Oct — Australia’s unemployment rate in September is expected to hold steady at a four-year high in September, but analysts suspect a rise to 6 percent and above, levels not seen in a decade, is only a matter of time with the economy still struggling to gain momentum.

Official data on Thursday is expected to show the unemployment rate unchanged at 5.8 percent in September despite the creation of 15,000 jobs in September, the Reuters poll shows.

Employment fell in both July and August.

National elections on 8 September are expected to have provided a temporary boost to employment, but longer-term pressures on the jobs market remain.

Miners are expected to keep shedding jobs as they shift to a less labour-intensive phase after an investment boom and cut costs, while firms in other sectors are cautious about hiring as they face a still-strong currency and uncertain global outlook.

As such, analysts said the jobless rate should trend higher in the long-term pre by strong water currents in separate occasions both in central regions that affected by bad weather in Philippines

Australia is predicting modest employment growth into 2014, reflecting an economy that is growing at a below-potential pace. That would drive the jobless rate gradually higher for a year or so, before leveling out and then declining as the economy eventually picks up steam, the RBA has said.

Forward-looking indicators on Tuesday pointed to a soft labor market. The ANZ job advertisements report showed only a modest increase in September after six months of declines, while the NAB business confidence survey showed...


**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1344)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV MALTE RAMBOW VOY NO (1344) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: M/S R.K SHIPPING & TRADING PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**CLAIMS DAY NOTICE**

**MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (349)**

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (349) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 9-10.2013 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee’s risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

**SHIPPING AGENCY DEPARTMENT**

**MYANMA PORT AUTHORITY**

**AGENT FOR: M/S REGIONAL CONTAINER LINES**

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

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**Improving tourism market attracts more foreign visitors**

HAIKOU, 8 Oct — For Philip Masleid, who married a Chinese woman three years ago, taking a tour in China once a year has become a regular schedule.

Charmed by the country’s diverse landscapes, the American young man was also deeply impressed by some inconveniences during his China tours.

“The most frustrating moment is when you can’t find toilet paper in public restrooms at some scenic spots,” said Masleid.

He is not the only foreigner who has such unpleasant experiences.

According to a recent survey conducted by China Tourism Academy among foreign tourists, respondents had relatively low satisfaction with tourism environments, public services and the sense of security during their tours.

China’s first tourism law took effect on 1 Octo.
ber. The law aims to regulate the country’s tourism market and upgrade the sector’s services, to boost the industry.

It bans profits from hidden traveller costs, such as mandatory shopping outings and says scenic spots are not allowed to receive tourists exceeding their capacities, and these should be made public.

China has rich cultural resources and natural sceneries, yet the country’s tourist industry still lags behind the world’s mature tourist markets, said Dai Xuelfeng, a tourism analyst with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

A World Economic Forum report released in March showed that China ranked the 45th in terms of travel and tourism competitiveness among 140 economies that were assessed.

The new law has made specific requirements on how to improve the country’s tourism public services system, the security environment and the industry self-regulation, said Dai Bin, head of the China Tourism Academy.

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**Int’l aid for Syrian refugees in Jordan insufficient**

AMMAN, 8 Oct — Jordanian Interior Minister Hussein Majali said on Monday that international aid for Syrian refugees in Jordan is insufficient and covers only 30 percent of the real cost, the state-run Petra news agency reported.

The impact of the influx of Syrian refugees is evident on the Jordanian economy, as there are about 13 million Syrian refugees in Jordan, accounting for about 15 percent of the country’s population, Majali said.

About 146,000 Syrian refugees live in camps in Jordan, while the rest live in cities, towns and villages in the Arab kingdom, he said.

The minister said the influx of the Syrian refugees also increased burdens on the security apparatuses, which have failed attempts of armed groups to infiltrate into the country.—Xinhua

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**Two miners alive 10 days after being trapped**

TAIYUAN, 8 Oct — Two miners were found alive early on Tuesday morning in north China’s Shanxi Province 10 days after being trapped under a coal mine shaft, a company source said.

The two workers were saved by rescuers at about 3 am at the Zhengsheng Coal Mine of Shaxi Cokeing Coal Group Co, Ltd in Fenyang City, north China’s Shanxi Province, on 8 Oct, 2013.—Xinhua

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**More Palestinian prisoners to be released in October**

RAMALLAH, 8 Oct — Israeli and the United States have assured the Palestinian leadership that the second group of prisoners would be released by the end of October, a Palestinian official said on Monday.

They are part of 104 prisoners who have been held since before the 1993 Oslo peace deal between Israel and the Palestinians.

The first group of 26 inmates were freed in August following US efforts that brought the two sides to the negotiation table.

“The release of the prisoners on that time (end of October) was confirmed by the Israeli and American sides,” said Zam Al-Ahmad, Palestinian deputy minister of prisoners’ affairs.

He noted that the prisoners would be released though the negotiations, which were resumed after nearly three years of halt.

There are about 4,600 prisoners in Israeli jails, including dozens who spent more than two decades behind bars.—Xinhua

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Kristen Stewart still hasn’t moved over ex-beau Robert Pattinson

LOS ANGELES, 8 Oct—Actress Kristen Stewart is still not over her ex-boyfriend, actor Robert Pattinson.

The 23-year-old is convinced that no matter who Pattinson is dating, their love was so special that it could never, ever be replaced.

“Even though Rob is dating (someone else), Kristen is convinced that what she and Rob had was one of a kind, that their love for each other was one of a kind and can never, ever be replaced,” hollywood-life.com quoted a source as saying.

“Kristen still misses Rob, but finds comfort in knowing that what they shared was the best thing that ever happened to her,” the source added.

Pattinson is currently rumoured to be dating Dylan Penn and Stewart doesn’t want to compare herself with anyone linked to the actor. —PTI

Lady Gaga’s song Aura in Machete Kills trailers

LONDON, 8 Oct—Pop star Lady Gaga’s song Aura features in the latest trailer of Robert Rodriguez-directed movie Machete Kills.

In the film, Gaga will be seen as ‘the Chameleon’.

The trailer shows Gaga in a yellow gold wig and fur coat and the scenes feature Danny Trejo, Michelle Rodriguez, Sofia Vergara, Amber Heard, Charlie Sheen, Antonio Banderas, Jessica Alba, Cuba Gooding Jr and Mel Gibson, reports aceshowbiz.com.

A special Machete Kills themed lyrics video featuring the complete song is set to come out on 8 October.—PTI

Britney Spears: I always sing live

LOS ANGELES, 8 Oct—Singer Britney Spears says she always sings live during her concerts.

The 31-year-old’s reaction came after certain reports claimed that the singer lip-sync on pre-recorded audio. But she tries to give her best while performing in front of the audience, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

“I’m definitely going to be singing live. I always sing live. It doesn’t sound so great all the time, but I do my best,” Spears said in a radio interview.

Spears will soon perform in Las Vegas at the upcoming Las Vegas Residency.—PTI

Academy Award winning actress Halle Berry

New York, 8 Oct—Actress Halle Berry gave birth to a baby boy on Saturday, her representative confirmed to Reuters.

The baby is Berry’s second child and her first with French actor Olivier Martinez. Berry and Martinez, both 47, got married in July.

Berry has a five-year-old daughter, Nahla, with Canadian model Gabriel Aubry. A former model, Berry has appeared in over 30 films, and won a Best Actress Oscar in 2001 for her role in the drama “Monster’s Ball,” becoming the first and only African-American woman to win an Oscar for a leading role.

She will reprise her role as Storm in “X-Men: Days of Future Past” when the film hits theaters in May of 2014. Berry was previously married to baseball player David Justice and R&B singer Eric Benet, and had a five-year relationship with Aubry that ended in 2010.—Reuters

James Cameron: Gravity is the best space film ever made

LOS ANGELES, 8 Oct—Filmmaker James Cameron has called Alfonso Cuaron’s Gravity the best space film ever made. The Avatar director praised Cuaron’s vision for the new thriller, starring Sandra Bullock and George Clooney as a pair of astronauts who become separated from their craft during a routine mission, reported Variety. “I was stunned, absolutely floored. I think it’s the best space photography ever done, I think it’s the best space film ever done, and it’s the movie I’ve been hungry to see for an awful long time,” Cameron said.

“What is interesting is the human dimension. Alfonso and Sandra working together to create an absolutely seamless portrayal of a woman fighting for her life in zero gravity,” he added.—PTI
US dominance puts Presidents Cup relevance on the line

DUBLIN, 8 Oct — A marathon week of rain delays and birdie hunting at Muirfield Village Golf Club ended with yet another United States victory at the Presidents Cup, once again raising questions about the relevance of the biennial team competition.

The Internationals have triumphed only once and been beaten eight times in 10 editions since the Cup was launched in 1994, and many feel that a change to the event’s points structure is sorely needed to make it more competitive.

“Who do they ever run? Who do they know? What clubs have they ever run? If their lives depended on it, would the FA show me a good manager last year while he was a favourite to replace Hodgson, who had no grudge towards the England manager.”

Harry Redknapp, who won the last of his record 17 grand slam titles at Wimbledon 15 months ago before scooping a silver at the London Games, went through the Australian world number two Adam Scott has never been on a triumphant Internationals squad despite playing in the Presidents Cup on six occasions, and expressed concern about the imbalance between the two sides on the eve of last week’s edition. “We need to make this thing really relevant, make it a real competition, because it’s got a bit lopsided the last few outings,” the Masters champion said. “I think we’ve got a team that can win, but the only way we can do it is by playing good and wanting it more than the Americans.”

Despite mounting a gutsy fightback in Sunday’s concluding singles session, which they dominated, the Internationals faced an uphill task in their bid to beat a potent US team commission ultimately lost by 18-1/2 points to 15-1/2. While 12-man American lineup at Muirfield Village bristled with six players ranked in the world’s top 10, the Internationals had eight players from outside the top 25. “Absolutely,” Internationals captain Nick Price said when asked if the depth in strength on the US team had been the most significant factor. “That’s pretty apparent.”

Price firmly believes that the Presidents Cup should adopt the more compact Ryder Cup format to ensure the event’s survival and to create closer competition, though his suggestion has been turned down by PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem.

In Price’s opinion, fewer points give the stronger team less of an advantage as the weakest players do not compete as often, and he believes this would help the Internationals improve their dismal record against the United States. “In order for the Presidents Cup to really go to the next level, it’s got to become more consistently competitive,” Zimbabwean Price told Reuters. “That is what’s lacking. Until such time as that happens, I don’t want to say it’s going to flounder but it’s not going to get to the next level. And everything needs to get to the next level to survive.”

US team captain Fred Couples holds the Presidents Cup during a team picture after the US defeated the International team in the 2013 Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 6 Oct, 2013.—Reuters

Redknapp hits out at Football Association

LONDON, 8 Oct — Harry Redknapp accused the Football Association of being clueless and said he “would not trust them to do the job and he had already approached Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers, then in charge of Swansea, about being his assistant at the 2012 European Championship.”

This isn’t about them giving the England job to me or Roy Hodgson, but English football being run by people who really haven’t got a clue. And they get to pick the England manager.”

The 66-year-old said he held no grudge towards Hodgson, who leads England into their final two 2014 World Cup qualifiers against Montenegro and Poland with a place at the tournament in Brazil still uncertain, but said senior players wanted him to get the job and he had already approached Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers, then in charge of Swansea, about being his assistant at the 2012 European Championship.

Everyone said I was the people’s choice, the only choice. All the senior players seemed to be up for me to get the job.

I got quite a few text messages at the time from players saying they would love me to manage England: Steven Gerrard, Wayne Rooney, Rio Ferdinand, John Terry. But the FA went for Roy Hodgson to be the England manager — a man who is more their cup of tea.

He said that Hodgson was more of an “FA man”, having come through their system, and that the governing body may have been put off by a potentially large compensation demand by Spurs’ chairman Daniel Levy.

“I’m sure the FA would deny they were interested in me anyway, they always like to say they got their No. 1 choice, but maybe what helped make their minds up was the thought of writing a cheque in the region of £16 million to Levy.”—Reuters

Roger Federer of Switzerland

BEIJING, 8 Oct — Looking back is a waste of time, as far as Roger Federer is concerned.

While tennis fans and pundits are obsessed with his below-par performance at the four majors this year which has left him in danger of missing the cut for the season-ending ATP finale for the first time since 2001, Federer has already put a positive spin on his 2013 trials and tribulations.

“I always knew that this year, after a very tough year in 2012, the Olympics (and winning Wimbledon), was going to be a bit more quiet,” the Swiss told reporters in Shanghai on Monday after winning his first-round doubles match with little-known Chinese Zhang Ze.

“I expected myself probably not to be as successful and as busy playing matches and tournaments. ‘My mindset now is, okay, next year is going to be a great year again where I’m not going to have that many points to defend, especially at some very key moments where I consider myself a favourite. ‘For that reason I’m really looking forward to 2014 already.’

Federer, who won back the last of his record 17 grand slam titles at Wimbledon 15 months ago before scooping a silver at the London Games, went through the

Injured Sharapova out of WTA Championship

Istanbul, 8 Oct — Number world number three Maria Sharapova withdrew on Monday from the end-of-season WTA Championship in Istanbul due to the shoulder injury that also kept her out of the US Open.

The 26-year-old Russian has not played since losing to Sloane Stephens in the second round of the Western and Southern Open in Cincinnati in August.

“I am very disappointed I will not be able to play in the TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championship this year,” Sharapova told the tournament website (www.wtatennis.com) on Monday.

“The fans in Istanbul have welcomed us each year with such intense passion and warmth. I will sincerely miss the energy and excitement they bring to the year-end tournament.”

The four-times grand slam winner, who fired coach Jimmy Connors after just one match together following the defeat by Stephens, pulled out of the US Open held in August and September due to inflammation in her right shoulder.

Petra Kvitova, Sara Errani and Jelena Jankovic have joined world number one Serena Williams, Victoria Azarenka, Agnieszka Radwanska and Li Na in qualifying for the eight-player WTA Championship that begins on 22 October. Sharapova’s place is still up for grabs through the rankings.—Reuters

Maria Sharapova of Russia

Roger Federer of Switzerland

FedExCup #PresCup presidentscup cup.com

US team captain Fred Couples holds the Presidents Cup during a team picture after the US defeated the International team in the 2013 Presidents Cup golf tournament at Muirfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio on 6 Oct, 2013.—Reuters

Maria Sharapova of Russia

Petra Kvitova, Sara Errani and Jelena Jankovic have joined world number one Serena Williams, Victoria Azarenka, Agnieszka Radwanska and Li Na in qualifying for the eight-player WTA Championship that begins on 22 October. Sharapova’s place is still up for grabs through the rankings.—Reuters
Turkey, India sign agreements to boost bilateral cooperation

ANKARA, 8 Oct—Turkey and India signed cooperation agreements on Monday in the Turkish capital of Ankara to boost bilateral ties.

At the presence of Turkish President Abdullah Gul and his visiting Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee, the two countries signed 11 bilateral agreements, aiming to boost cooperation in the fields of small- and medium-sized enterprises, archive research, media, science and technology.

Gul and Mukherjee discussed Turkish-Indian ties and exchanged views about current regional and global developments.

Mukherjee, the first Indian president to visit Turkey in 15 years, began his three-day visit in the Turkish-largest city of Istanbul on Friday, when he attend a ceremony at Istanbul University which granted him an honorary doctorate degree.

Balotelli avoided being dropped for bad behaviour, including misdeeds, such as arguing with the referee and being kicked out of the team.

Rossi returned to Italy squad, Balotelli included despite ban

Rome, 8 Oct—Giuseppe Rossi returned to the Italy squad on Sunday for the first time since he suffered an anterior cruciate ligament injury to his right knee while playing for Villarreal in a Spanish league match against Real Madrid in October 2011.

He is set to make his first appearance since playing against Serbia two years ago.

Rossi’s troubles began when he suffered an anterior cruciate ligament injury to his right knee while playing for Villarreal in a Spanish league match against Real Madrid in October 2011.

He fought desperately to be fit again in time for Euro 2012 only to re-injure the knee in training two months before the tournament.

Villarreal sold him to Fiorentina at the start of this year and he finally made his comeback against Pescara in May, playing 27 minutes in the final match of last season. This season, he has surpassed expectations by scoring five league goals for Fiorentina.

Balotelli’s place in the squad was in the balance after he was sent off at the end of a 2-1 home defeat by Napoli two weeks ago after arguing with the referee and given a three-match ban.

Coach Cesare Prandelli has in the past punished players for similar misdemeanours, including Balotelli himself, but on this occasion decided not to enforce his code of ethics.

As Roma defender Federico Balzaretti was called up for the first time since last November. Italy have already guaranteed top spot in European Group B and qualified for the World Cup finals in Brazil next year.

Conservation groups call for New Zealand unity on proposed Pacific Ocean sanctuary

WELLINGTON, 8 Oct—Environment and conservation group on Tuesday called for a united political front to protect the waters of New Zealand’s remote Kermadec Islands, one of the world’s last remaining pristine ocean areas.

The call came after opposition Green Party Member of Parliament Gareth Hughes launched a Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary Bill that would set up a no-take marine sanctuary up to 200 nautical miles from the islands. The islands, which lie in the Pacific Ocean about 1,000 km northeast of New Zealand, are a nature reserve, while the waters around them already boast New Zealand’s largest marine reserve, covering 745,000 hectares.

The WorldWide Fund for Nature (WWF) called for all political parties to come together to support the bill. “This bill will protect one of the last near pristine ocean sites in the world,” WWF New Zealand head of campaigns Peter Hardstaff said in a statement. The Kermadecs were home to species found nowhere else in the world, and new species were still being discovered, he said.

The region teemed with marine life on the sea surface and down to the second deepest trench in the world, which was more than 10,000 metres deep.
Consumers to get more effective protection after enactment of Consumer Protection Law

NAK PTHA W, 8 Oct—
“Sterner action will be taken against those who import and distribute low-quality oil after the Consumer Protection Law has been enacted,” said Deputy Minister Dr Pwint Hsan, regarding the question on the measures for edible palm oil distribution and selling at today’s session of Pyithu Hluttaw.

The ministry of commerce has made coordination with Myanmar Edible Oil Dealers Association, importer companies and edible palm oil tank owners on systematic distribution of quality edible oil to people. The companies and officials including the directors who fail to follow the rules will be blacklisted. A plan is underway to set up a working group comprising importers, oil tank owners, wholesalers, experts and departmental officials and to hold a workshop at UM-FCCI as soon as possible, he added.

Regarding the question of U Myint Oo of Thanatpin Constituency on swift measures for issuance of citizenship scrutiny card and census like “Moep-wint” project, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win replied that so far, (See page 9)

Information Ministry and media outlets not working outside legal framework; all contracts made in given legal framework with permissions

NAK PTHA W, 8 Oct—
The press conference of the Ministry of Information was held at the assembly hall of the ministry, here, this noon.

It was attended by Deputy Minister for Information U Pkhe Htwe and departmental heads, local and foreign media, totaling over 50.

In his clarification, Deputy Minister U Pkhe Htwe said:

The press conference of the Information Ministry today is about an article “connection between broadcasters’ tax affairs and Information Ministry should be investigated and made public” appeared on 4 October 2013 issue of the Daily Eleven Newspaper.

We would like to explain that private broadcasters and Ministry of Information are operating in line with rules and regulations and law and there is no corruption.

First of all, I would like to explain the operation of the Information Ministry and those private media companies are in compliance with law. The State Law and Order Restoration Council enacted State-owned Economic Enterprises Law on 31 March 1989 with law No. 9/89. Broadcasting is one of the 12 businesses that only the government has the right to carry out, according to sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Chapter 2 of the law. The Section (4) of the law states that “the government may by notification, permit in the interest of the Union of Myanmar any economic enterprises which is prescribed under Section 3 to be operated solely by the Government to be carried out by joint-venture the Government and any other person or any other economic organization or under conditions by any person or any economic organization subject to conditions. In addition, the State Law and Order Restoration Council enacted TV and Video Law with law No. 8/96 on 29 July 1996. The Section 31 of Chapter (9) Offences and Penalties of the law states “Whoever with the exception of a Government department and government organization operates the television transmission business without the permission of the Government shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to 5 years or with fine. In addition, the property which relate directly to the offence shall also be confiscated. According to those laws, issuing permits to Forever Group Co Ltd and Shwe Than Lwin Co Ltd to run broadcasting is in compliance with law. From 2004 to 2010, the Myanmar Radio and Television under the Information Ministry signed business deals with two broadcasting media companies and six FM radio companies. Here is the procedure of signing business deal with Forever Co—
- Forever Group Co Ltd applied to the Information Ministry for broadcasting through common channel streaming video system in 2003.
- The Information Ministry put forward the draft agreement to Ministry of Finance, Office of Attorney-General of the Union, (See page 6)

Amnesty granted

NAK PTHA W, 8 Oct—
Aiming at encouraging them to be able to serve the national, regional and their own interest joining hands with the people after realizing the magnanimity of the State, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has granted an amnesty for 56 prisoners who were in the list of the committee for scrutinizing remaining political prisoners and have served their terms to a certain extent in various prisons/work camps in accordance with Section 204 (a) of the Constitution and Section 401, Sub-section (1) of Code of Criminal Procedure as of today.—MNA

Prisoners who enjoyed amnesty granted by the President were released from Bhamo Jail. HSMERKHON NAY NI