Established 1914

The New Light of Myanmar

Volume XX, Number 137 | 3rd Waning of Wagaung 1374 ME | Tuesday, 4 September, 2012

Our Three Main National Causes * Non-disintegration of the Union * Non-disintegration of National Solidarity * Perpetuation of Sovereignty

Under new political system foreign policy of Myanmar establishes amicable relations with every nation whether from East or West

President U Thein Sein

Canada worth recognition as a trustworthy partner from Myanmar people

Canadian Minister Mr Edward Fast

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein received Canadian International Trade Minister Mr Edward Fast and party at the Credentials Hall of the Presidential Palace this evening.

Also present at the meeting together with the President were Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin, Union Ministers at the President Office U Thein Nyunt and U Hla Tun, Union Minister for Industry U Aye Myint, Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint and departmental heads.

The President warmly welcomed the Canadian minister on his first-ever trip to Myanmar, overcoming the geographical distance. He said the Canadian foreign minister also paid a call on him on his visit. With diplomatic ties having been established since 1958, the two countries have opened a new chapter through these two high-level visits. As the political system has changed the foreign policy of Myanmar is to establish amicable relations with every nation whether they are from the East or the West. The President expressed his hope for continuation of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The Canadian minister said he was swollen with pride by the President's warm welcome and he witnessed dramatic changes in Myanmar. He continued to say that not only Myanmar citizens but the international community hold the same view that the President spearheaded the reforms.

President U Thein Sein thanked the Canadian government for easing the economic sanctions. Plans are under way to open Myanmar embassy in Ottawa of Canada. The President said Myanmar is geographically surrounded by vibrant economies, inviting investments in labour-intensive industries, workshops and value-added factories and workshops. Being an agro-based country, Myanmar has held the opportunities to export high-quality agricultural produce, the President said. He displayed the possibility of establishing downstream industries in Myanmar as the country has a number of rubber and oilpalm plantations. He also said the country now has the legal framework for safeguarding investors. The President pinned his hope for increase in bilateral trade volume on the Canadian minister.

The Canadian minister said he was accompanied by 26 corporate delegations to seek economic prospects in Myanmar. He assured that the Canadian government has set high standards of Corporate Social Responsibility for Canadian companies.

The President said Myanmar needs help from established democracies like Canada for endurance of democracy in Myanmar. He expressed his hope for investment in factories and workshops of lower technologies, which he said, is the fundamental requirement of the country. He tipped the Canadian minister's trip for improved friendship and increased trade cooperation. He handed the message wishing good health of the Canadian Heads of State/Government to the Canadian minister.

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein shakes hands with Canadian International Trade Minister Mr Edward Fast.

MNA

The Canadian minister requested the recognition of Canada as a trustworthy partner from Myanmar people. The economic sanctions were lifted in recognition of human rights and economic reforms in Myanmar. He made a request for visa on arrival for Canadian citizens who will invest in Myanmar.

Negotiations will be made as regards on-arrival visa after Myanmar embassy in Canada is opened soon.

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Russia eyes further cooperation with APEC partners

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Secrets of the Chinese travellers

New couples celebrating their weddings in Sanya, in South China's Hainan Province. Sanya is one of the most popular tourist packages bought by online shoppers in China.

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Mexican traditional music performers, known as "mariachis", participate in a parade during the 19th International Meeting of Mariachi and Charreria, in Guadalajara, Jalisco State, Mexico, on 2 Sept, 2012.

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Oosthuizen takes control of Deutsche Bank with birdie blitz

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Bay Bulletin

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—According to the observations at 18.00 hrs MST today, the low pressure area has formed over West Central and adjoing Northwest Bay of Bengal, announced Meteorology and Hydrology Department.

MNA

PERSPECTIVES

Tuesday, 4 September, 2012

Preserve and promote national prestige and integrity

At present, there is a growing trend among the people towards adoring alien culture. Making breakthrough in a series of core and key technologies plus the superiority in wealth, some big nations are making an attempt to overwhelm developing countries like Myanmar politically, socially and economically, while trying to export their culture and traditions to the latter.

Youths are found to be under the influence of alien culture, idea, expression and lifestyle since they are copying the imported music, fine arts, song and dance and modes of dress. Trying to keep pace with changes and developments of the global nations is a good sign. But they are required to make their idea, knowledge and way of thinking sensible and appropriate to keep their culture, traditions and customs alive and dynamic.

As the new generation youths are a source of great strength for the country going forward, they should remain vigilant against the complication of alien culture, traditions and customs that are contrary to Myanmar culture. Failure to preserve the national culture may lead to undermining national prestige and integrity, and that may also result in the disappearance of the nation and people.

The infiltration of alien culture into the nation has grown from a lesser-known problem to a major cultural challenge. With a growing popularity in alien culture and tradition, preservation of culture and tradition appears to be a more pressing issue for a nation or a race, and it is like a new wave of thought for the future of the nation.

The elimination of alien culture entrenched in the country is both an urgent priority and a long-term project that requires the commitment of all. And it is incumbent upon all the citizens to equip themselves with a great sense of responsibility, solidarity and rationality. Only then, will they be able to preserve and promote their national prestige and integrity.

Thee Thee

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs attends 16th Summit of Non-Aligned Movement

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— Myanmar delegation led by Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin attended the 16th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran from 26 to 31 August 2012.

The Summit was also attended by heads of state or government, ministers and representatives from (87) member countries, (15) observer countries and organizations and (14) guest countries and organizations.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin delivered a statement at the Plenary Session during the general debate of the Summit on 31 August 2012. In his statement, the Union Minister updated the Summit on the progress achieved in the progress of democratic transformation in Myanmar.

He also touched on the true and objective situation concerning recent communal violence in Rakhine State. He said that Myanmar is multi-ethnic and multi-religious country where Buddhists, Christians, Muslims and Hindus have been living together in peace and harmony throughout history. Although Buddhism is the principal religion professed by about 89% of the total population of 60 millions, the country is home to many people of other faiths.

The recent incident in the Rakhine State was only on inter-communal violence that broke out following the rape, robbery and killing of a young Rakhine woman by three Muslim youths in Yanbye Township on 28 May and the subsequent killing of ten Muslims on a passenger bus in Taungup Township on 3 June as an act of retaliation. The two incidents had been manipulated and instigated by some quarters to turn it into religious and racial issue, hence resulting in escalation of sectarian violence and lawless criminal acts. As a result of the violence, there were loss of lives and properties on both communities.

Union Minister for Foreign Affairs U Wunna Maung Lwin meets Iranian Foreign Minister Mr. Ali Akbar Salehi.—MNA

Myanmar has never practiced policy of violence against Muslims or any other faiths. Therefore, the Government categorically rejects accusations made by some organizations that the Myanmar Government is practicing such a policy of abuses. Myanmar will not accept any attempt to politicize or internationalize this conflict as a religious issue which is purely an internal affair of a sovereign state.

He continued to inform that the Government has been working closely with international community for relief and rehabilitation for the victims of both communities in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner, and international relief assistance are also welcomed if they are intended for both communities.

The Union Minister said that the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar will continue to guarantee freedom of religion and the rights of all its citizens without discrimination against their race or creed in accordance with the Constitution.

The Union Minister mentioned that Myanmar has consistently adhered to and faithfully followed the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement as a founding member. He said that Myanmar will work hand-in-hand with other members towards achieving peace, prosperity, justice, equality and development of the developing countries as envisaged by the founding fathers of the Movement.

On the sideline of the Summit, Union Minister U Wunna Maung Lwin held separate meetings with H.E. Mr. Ali Akbar Salehi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Mr. Pak Ui Chun, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic Korea, H.E. Dr. Marty Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E. Ms. Jounna Hewitt, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of Australia, H.E. Mr. Kandu Wangchuk, Foreign Minister-in-charge of the Kingdom of Bhutan, H.E. Dato' Sri Anifah Aman, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malaysia, H.E. Mr. Yerzhan Kazykhanov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazhastan, H.E. Mr. Bold Luvsanvandan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia and H.E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Cambodia. They had exchanged views on promotion of bilateral relations and cooperation bilaterally as well as in the multilateral contexts.

The Summit adopted the Final Document, Tehran Declaration, Tehran Plan of Action of the Non-Aligned Movement, Solidarity Declaration on Palestine and Declaration on Palestine Political Prisoners.

The Summit was preceded by Senior Officials Meeting and Preparatory Ministerial Meeting.

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Pyithu Hluttaw Commission Vice-Chairman receives Thai delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— Vice-Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Legal Affairs and Special Cases Assessment Commission Chairman of Transport, Communications and Construction Committee U Thein Swe, on behalf of Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann, received delegation led by Chairman of Military Affairs Committee of House of Representatives Mr Aumnuay Khlangpha at Pyithu Hluttaw Committee Hall (I-1) in Hluttaw Complex here this morning.

The meeting focused on cooperation between the two parliaments, road transport between the two countries, investments and cooperation in all sectors, undertakings of the military affairs committee of House of Representatives of Thailand and the role of the parliament.

Also present at the meeting were Chairman of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery Development Committee U Soe Naing, Secretary of Communications and Construction Committeee U Myo Swe, Commission members U Taik San and U Khin Maung Soe, and Defence Services Personnel Pyithu Hluttaw Representatives Col Myint Ko Ko and Col Tin Hsan.

MNA

Greek PM sings in tune, now must hit the hard notes

Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras (L) arrives for a cabinet meeting at the parliament in Athens on 31 Aug, 2012.— REUTERS

ATHENS, 3 Sept — When Jean-Claude Juncker, head of the euro zone's finance ministers, arrived in Athens last week, Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras ran down red-carpeted steps to envelope him in a warm embrace. In front of the man representing Greece's biggest creditor, the governments of the euro zone, Samaras was understandably eager to make an impression, and duly pledged to do his utmost to win back Europe's trust.The conservative leader was not always so keen.

Barely nine months ago he infuriated European officials by refusing to give his written backing to austerity policies demanded in return for the rescue funds that spared Greece from financial collapse.Given his history of dubious political choices that included voting against Greece's first bailout, Samaras has surprised many — including some officials among skeptical EU and IMF lenders — by trumpeting his resolve to push through cuts and reforms that have tripped up previous leaders.

Deftly sidestepping pre-election rhetoric of an overhaul to the bailout and pledges to avoid across-the-board wage cuts, Samaras meekly promised to restore Greek credibility and promptly set to work on new austerity cuts that include plans for controversial labor reductions.

Much of that appears tied to his determination to secure Greece's next tranche of aid of about 31 billion euros that is on hold, in the hope it will end constant speculation of a Greek exit from the euro zone and shore up its banks, ultimately setting the wheels of the depressed economy in motion again."He is determined to adapt because he doesn't want the grenade to explode in his hands. And at the moment there is a risk that the grenade, in other words bankruptcy, will explode in his hands," said political analyst John Loulis.

Reuters

Colombia to fight rebels despite possible peace talks

BOGOTA, 3 Sept — The Colombian government and military will continue to combat the leftist insurgents despite possible talks for a truce, Defence Minister Juan Carlos Pinzon said on Sunday. In an interview with the *El Tiempo* newspaper, Pinzon said "the Colombian people can rest assured that neither the president (Juan Manuel Santos) nor I, nor the armed forces will lower our resolve to fight all outlaw organizations."

The president ordered to keep pressure on the rebels and "not giving an inch," Pinzon noted, pledging that the defence ministry and the armed forces would support the pursuit of a settlement with the rebels. In fact, "what's coming could be even harder, because we are going to continue strengthening the public (security) forces ... improving their intelligence capabilities, increasing their hardware and resources," said the minister.

Last week, government envoys and leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) made contact in Cuba to discuss the possibility of holding peace talks to end the half-century-long armed struggle. Santos said last Monday that leaders of Colombia's second-largest leftist group, the National Liberation Army (ELN), also attended the "exploratory talks." The FARC and the ELN have a total of 10,000 members, according to government figures.— *Xinhua*

Russia eyes further cooperation with APEC partners

MOSCOW, 3 Sept — Russia is seeking to further develop the mutually beneficial cooperation with partners of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), a senior Russian official said. "We have big hopes for further cooperation with our APEC partners in the implementation of a number of projects," Viktor Ishayev, Minister for the Development of the Russian Far East, said in an interview with *Xinhua* on the eve of the APEC summit, which is to be held in Russia's Far East city Vladivostok from 8 to 9 September.

Ishayev highlighted APEC's role in the global economy, saying the bloc, comprising some of the most dynamic and robust economies in the world, accounts for over half of the global economic output and 48 percent of its total trade. "Unlike the crisis-shaken Europe, the Asian-Pacific region has developed rapidly, and the APEC economies, including China, are our important economic and political partners," the minister said. Ishayev said Vladivostok was named as the APEC host city on strategic consideration, since the Far East is the core region for Russia's economic integration with other APEC members.

However, Ishayev was not satisfied with the foreign investment the region has so far attracted from APEC members, which only accounted for 16 percent of total money inflow into Russia last year. Ishayev reiterated Russia's commitment to the development of the Far East, which was expected to become a Russian hub in Asia Pacific. "Key transport and energy infrastructures, enterprises of various sectors and social projects are being developed in that region," Ishayev said, adding his newly-established post serves to step up that work.The minister said there are still rooms for Russia and APEC partners to promote cooperation in the Far East, especially in manufacturing and high value-added products.

Cooperation also lies in tourism, services, financial industry and joint-ventured projects, including the reconstruction of the Trans-Korean railway, the building of gas pipeline to South Korea, the ongoing construction of the Baikal-Amur railway and the development of sea port infrastructure, he added.

Xinhua

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov (1st R) presides over the APEC senior officials meeting in Vladivostok, Russia, on 2 Sept, 2012.— XINHUA

Recalling 1812 battle, Putin calls for unity in Russia

BORODINO, 3 Sept — President Vladimir Putin made a rousing call for unity among Russia's diverse ethnic and religious groups on Sunday as he led commemorations of a battle 200 years ago that led to the defeat of Napoleon Bonaparte. Standing by a monument at the scene of the 1812 Battle of Borodino, 120 km (75 miles) west of Moscow, Putin delivered a speech extolling the virtues of patriotism that enabled Russia to repel the French army in 1812.

Back as president since May, Putin faces more open opposition in big cities than at any time since he first rose to power in 2000, and a persistent insurgency in the North Caucasus. For the second time in five days he called for unity, underlining his concern that the insurgency could spread and threaten the integrity of Russia, home to many nationalities and religions. "Only when Russia's nations were united, were together, they achieved the best results in the development of their fatherland," Putin told Russian and foreign dignitaries, including former French president Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

"By and large patriotism, which was the basis of all our major victories, comes down to the unity of the Russian nation." Putin also evoked the Battle of Borodino to rally Russians behind him in his successful presidential election bid last winter. The insurgency in the North Caucasus, more than a decade after Putin toppled a separatist government in Chechnya, could also undermine unity in other parts of Russia. The killing of a Muslim cleric in July in the central province of Tatarstan, in Russia's heartland, showed violence may be spreading to other regions.

The Battle of Borodino on 7 September, 1812, remembered by Russians as an epic victory, is commemorated in Lev Tolstoy's novel "War and Peace". Neither side won a decisive victory in the battle and tens of thousands of soldiers were killed on both sides before the Russians withdrew and abandoned Moscow to the French.

Reuters

Russian President Valdimir Putin (R) makes a speech during an event to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Borodino at the Borodino museum-reserve outside Moscow on 2 Sept, 2012.— REUTERS

Netanyahu urges international "red lines" to stop Iran

JERUSALEM, 3 Sept — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged world powers on Sunday to set a "clear red line" for Teheran's atomic programme that would convince Iran they were determined to prevent it from obtaining nuclear arms. Netanyahu's remarks suggested a growing impatience with Israel's main ally, the United States, and other countries that have been pressing him to give diplomacy and sanctions more time to work and hold off on any go-it-alone strike on Iran.

Recent heightened Israeli rhetoric has stoked speculation that Israel might attack Iran before the US elections in November, believing that President Barack Obama would give it military help and not risk alienating pro-Israeli voters. "I believe the truth must be stated: The international community is not placing a clear red line for Iran and Iran does not see international resolve to stop its nuclear programme," Netanyahu told his cabinet. "Unless Iran sees this clear red line and this clear resolve it will not stop moving forward with its nuclear programme, and Iran must not have nuclear weapons," he said, repeating his view that sanctions so far have not curbed Teheran's atomic ambitions.

Although Netanyahu did not single out Obama in his criticism, Israeli officials have said they hope for stronger language from the president about possible US military action.Obama, who has had a frosty relationship with Netanyahu, has insisted he will not allow Iran to build atomic weapons and that all options are on the table. Israel's popular YNet news website described the prime minister's latest comments as a stinging rebuke of Obama. In a US election year, Republican candidate Mitt Romney has also sharply criticized Obama's handling of Iran as not being tough enough.

And in another sign of a rift with Washington, Israeli officials voiced disappointment over recent remarks by the United States's top general signalling reluctance to intervene on Israel's behalf if it attacked Iran. Teheran says it is refining uranium to fuel a planned network of nuclear power plants so that it can export more of its oil and gas. The United States and its allies accuse Iran of a covert bid to develop the capability to make nuclear bombs. Israel, believed to have the only atomic arsenal in the Middle East, views a nuclear-armed Iran as a threat to its existence.— *Reuters*

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends the weekly cabinet meeting in Jerusalem on 2 Sept, 2012.— REUTERS

Science & Technology Science & Technology Science & Technology

Samsung's crisis culture: a driver and a drawback

SEOUL, 3 Sept—In his 1997 book, Samsung Chairman Lee Kun-hee wrote that a successful company needs a "heightened sense of crisis", so that it always looks ahead even when it's doing well, and needs to be able to respond to change.

It's a credo that has driven Samsung Electronics to become the world's biggest technology firm by revenue—it sells more televisions, smartphones and memory chips than anyone else - and makes the group a must-visit case study for a stream of Chinese firms seeking to tap the secrets of Korean success.

But, in the wake of last month's damaging US patent ruling, which Samsung has said it will appeal—the Korean group was fined more than $1 billion after a jury found it had copied key features of Apple Inc's iPhone—the group's top-down command structure and decision-making process are blamed for stifling creativity.

What's been good for getting things done quickly, such as making bold decisions on big investments in chips and display screens, may not now best suit a company that needs to shift from being a 'fast follower'—quick to match others' products—to an innovator.

Within Samsung, where some designers feel overlooked and undermined, there are calls for a change of tack. The 'constant crisis' has worked well, helping Samsung overtake Japanese technology brands Sony, Sharp and Panasonic in chips, TVs and displays, end Nokia's decade-long supremacy in handsets and overtake Apple in smartphones. But that has come with a big reputational hit—that Samsung makes knock-off products.—*Reuters*

A worker fixes an entrance sign at the Samsung booth before the IFA consumer electronics fair in Berlin in this August 28, 2012 file photo. REUTERS

Scientists test new marine robot hurricane-hunters

MEXICO CITY, 3 Sept—As Tropical Storm Isaac was on its path through the Caribbean before becoming a hurricane in the Gulf of Mexico this week, US scientists were testing an experimental new weather spy tool—an unmanned, marine robot about the size of a surfboard that can gather storm data at sea level.

A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)research laboratory in Miami sent the "Wave Glider," a floating platform of sensors with an underwater stabilizer christened Alex, into ocean waters about 100 miles north of Puerto Rico last week to try to intercept Isaac.

"Isaac did not barrel right over it," said Alan Leonardi, deputy director of NOAA's Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory in Miami, after the storm passed to the south of the island before turning north and making landfall near New Orleans as a Category 1 hurricane.

"But Isaac being the size storm it is, the Wave Glider was able to collect data from the outer rain bands. We can't steer a hurricane, but we did get good data out of it."

A few days later, scientists got a second look at Isaac, from another Wave Glider—named G2—on a separate oil and gas mission in the Gulf of Mexico.

The eye of Isaac passed barely 60 miles east of G2, enabling it to collect valuable ocean data, including evidence of a dramatic drop in water temperature, "suggesting that Isaac was vacuuming the heat from the Gulf," according to its manufacturers, Liquid Robotics, based in Sunnyvale, California.

Bill Vass, CEO of Liquid Robotics, grew up in Louisiana and is a veteran of hurricanes. His grandparents died in Hurricane Camille in 1969, and his family lost a home to Katrina.—*Reuters*

A Wave Glider, a floating platform of sensors with an underwater stabilizers, is seen in this undated handout photo courtesy of Liquid Robotics. **REUTERS**

Android phone makers back platform but consider other options

BERLIN, 3 Sept—Some phonemakers are quietly exploring alternatives to the Android operating system implicated in the Samsung-Apple ruling, industry watchers say, despite their public pronouncements they are sticking with the technology.

Last week, a US court ruled Samsung's Android devices were violating Apple patents—a major blow to the leading mobile software platform because it could lead to sales bans and high licensing fees.

The impact could also hit smaller vendors that use Android like HTC, ZTE, and Sony. Android is used in more than two thirds of smart phones. Huawei, Sony, Lenovo and ZTE—which all use Android extensively—told *Reuters* they were continuing to bet on the Google's platform despite the ruling.

"(The ruling) is not relevant to what we are doing," said Chris Edwards, chief of ZTE's business development in Europe.

But as the mobile market matures and more patent cases look likely, some makers are looking at the alternatives.

Samsung, which has used a number of platforms but now mostly uses Android, announced a new phone running on Microsoft's new Windows Phone 8 software at a consumer technology conference on Wednesday, sneaking ahead of a hotly-anticipated launch of a Nokia-Windows phone due next week.

Shares in Nokia, which has partnered with Windows and is its main user, jumped after the Samsung ruling on expectations it might be a safer legal bet than Android makers.

The California jury said Samsung infringed six of seven Apple patents in the case, including technology that recognizes whether one or two fingers are on the screen, the front surface of the phone and the design of screen icons, which is a clear reference to Google's technology.

After the verdict, Google said that most of the patents involved "don't relate to the core Android operating system." Android was used in 68 percent of all smartphones sold last quarter, with Samsung making almost half of them, while Microsoft had 3 percent market share.

The balance of power is unlikely to shift quickly as this season's new phones were all made before the ruling.

Sony launched three Android phones this week at IFA, Europe's largest consumer electronics fair. Chinese phone maker Huawei launched four.

"We have made our choice," said Lars-Christian Weissewange, vice president at Huawei's phone unit, adding that consumers were making the platform choice for them by picking Android phones. Sony said the ruling was not impacting its business.

"This is probably not impacting consumer thinking," Gianfranco Lanci, chief of Lenovo's European operations, said on sidelines of the conference.

But behind closed doors, companies are looking at alternative routes should the ruling impact ripple wider out, said several industry insiders.

"Today, all Android vendors are considering their software options," said Pete Cunningham, an analyst at research firm Canalys.

Samsung's brief, surprise launch on Wednesday of the world's first smartphone running on Windows Phone 8, should be interpreted as muscle flexing, analysts said.

However, it should not be seen as a firm move away from Android as the model will likely struggle to stand out even among the other Windows phones, said Malik Saadi, analyst at research firm Informa.

Illustrating the high interest at stake are the behind-the-scene meetings of Google's and Apple's chiefs Larry Page and Tim Cook on the patents.

Despite its small market share, Windows Phone is still the largest alternative to Android as Apple and Blackberry maker RIM have not made their platforms available for other handset makers.

At the same time, vendors are pretty much stuck with Android as Windows is way behind in terms of applications on offer, offering just 100,000 apps against half a million each on Android and Apple. "Microsoft needs to create a developer environment for the Window Phone, which is growing, but still trails behind the others," said Roberta Cozza, analyst at Gartner.

Attracting developers is difficult with tiny market shares. Navigation firm TomTom launched an app running on Android this week but said it was not planning a Windows app.

Reuters

Hundreds pay tribute to Neil Armstrong at Kennedy Space Centre

CAPE CANAVERAL, 3 Sept—As family and friends of Neil Armstrong gathered in Ohio on 31 August for a private memorial service, NASA paid tribute to the Apollo astronaut, calling him a great American and a space hero.

"He never dwelled on his remarkable accomplishments or sought the limelight," Kennedy Space Centre director and former astronaut Robert Cabana said during a short tribute to Armstrong at the Visitor Complex's Apollo-Saturn 5 Center.

"He just wanted to be part of this remarkable team and to continue to move us forward," Cabana said.

More than 400 people, including NASA employees, community leaders and tourists gathered to remember Armstrong, who died on 25 August following complications from heart surgery. He was 82.

A national memorial service in Washington is expected to be held in September. Armstrong rocketed into the history books as commander of NASA's Apollo 11 mission in July 1969, the first to land astronauts on the lunar surface.

Cabana, a retired Marine colonel who flew four space shuttle missions, hailed Armstrong as a pilot and astronaut, but said his greatest contribution was as a teacher.

"He wanted to share his knowledge and his experience and see us continue to be a world leader," in space and aeronautics, Cabana said.

"He always took the time to share his thoughts on technical issues and his experiences from the past, and he was greatly interested in Kennedy Space Centre's path forward to the future," Cabana said. The Florida space port is being transformed following the end of the 30-year-old space shuttle programme last year.—*Reuters*

Shareholders look to sue RBS over rights issue: newspaper

LONDON, 3 Sept—Shareholders in Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS.L) are in talks with litigation funds with a view to launching a formal 3.3 billion pound ($5.24 billion) fund lawsuit against the bank, the *Times* reported on Monday.

The shareholders, known as the RBoS Shareholders Action Group, plans to sue RBS and its former chief executive Fred Goodwin, as well as former chairman, Tom McKillop, and the former investment bank chief Johnny Cameron for misleading investors at the time of a landmark 12 billion pound ($19.06 billion) rights issue in 2008.

The shareholders lost nine-tenths of their money after buying shares in the ill-fated rights issue at an adjusted 20 pounds each, but the shares now trade at around 225 pounds each. The shareholders claim they were misled by omissions in the prospectus which concealed the frailty of the bank, which was bailed out by the British government during the 2008 financial crisis.

If the group secures about 12-15 million pounds to pay

for the cost of potential defeat, legal proceedings will begin in the coming weeks, the newspaper said citing sources familiar with negotiations.

HSBC (HSBA.L), Deutsche Bank (DBKGn.DE), Credit Agricole (CAGR.PA) are among 91 institutional investors giving backing to the shareholder group, with 20 more ready to sign up once the group has the necessary cost cover in place, the *Times* said.—*Reuters*

Hushen 300 Index closes higher — 3 Sept

BEIJING, 3 Sept—The Hushen 300 Index reflecting the performance of China's Shanghai and Shenzhen stock exchanges closed at 2,228.37 points on Monday, up 23.5 points, or 1.07 percent.

About one fifth of the total stocks listed on the two markets are chosen as samples of the Hushen 300 Index, accounting for 60 percent of the market value in China's stock market.—*Xinhua*

China stock index futures close higher — 3 Sept

BEIJING, 3 Sept—China's stock index futures all turned higher on Monday with the contract for September, the most actively traded, moving up 0.45 percent from the previous trading day to 2,234.4points.

The October contract added 0.43 percent to close at 2,247.2 points. The December contract rallied 0.4 percent to 2,272.2 points, while the March 2013 contract gained 0.54 percent to finish at 2,306.4 points.

The stock-index contracts, agreements to buy or sell the Hushen 300 Index at a preset value on an agreed date, are designed to allow investors to bet on and profit from both gains and declines in the market.

The index futures was launched at the China Financial Futures Exchange (CFFEX) and started trading from 16 April, 2010. The CFFEX has set the base value for all the four contracts at 3,399 points.—*Xinhua*

Hyundai Motor Aug sales down, first fall in over three years

SEOUL, 3 Sept—Hyundai Motor Co's (005380.KS) total sales fell for the first time in more than three years in August, hurt by a slew of partial strikes at South Korean factories that hit domestic sales hard.

Workers staged the partial strikes in July and August, their first walkout in four years and the South Korean automaker's second-costliest strike, as annual wage talks stalled over pay, a new shift scheme and other factors.

Hyundai and its union leaders last week reached a tentative wage deal, which if approved in a Monday vote will allow the carmaker to avert further walkouts.

Results of the vote are expected after midnight, a union spokesman said. Hyundai, the world's fifth largest carmaker along with affiliate Kia Motors, said it sold 293,924 vehicles globally last month, down 4.6 percent from a year earlier, the first fall since May 2009 in the wake of the global financial crisis. Hyundai's domestic shipments slid 30 percent, while its overseas sales inched up 0.4 percent.

Prior to the results, shares in Hyundai ended up 0.42 percent, in line with the wider market's .KS11 0.4 percent gain.

The latest walkouts stopped Hyundai making 76,723 cars worth 1.59 trillion Korean won ($1.40 billion). The firm will try to make up the losses with extra work later this year and it sales target should be met on an annual basis, analysts and company officials have said.—*Reuters*

The logo of Hyundai Motor is seen on a car displayed at a Hyundai dealership in Seoul on 26 July, 2012.
REUTERS

Chinese heavy industry firm takes stake in German truck maker

JINAN, 3 Sept—Weichai Power, an automotive and equipment manufacturing firm under Shandong Heavy Industry (SHIG) on Monday clinched a deal to buy a one-quarter stake in German forklift truck maker Kion Group.

The 738 million-euro (922 million US dollars) deal was signed in Jinan, capital of east China's Shandong Province, and marked the greatest direct investment in a German firm made by a Chinese company to date.

Under the deal, Weichai Power will invest 467 million euro to acquire a 25-percent stake in Kion Group, and another 271 million euro for a 70-percent majority stake in Kion's hydraulics business. *Xinhua*

Shenzhen stock indices close higher — 3 Sept

BEIJING, 3 Sept— The Shenzhen Component Index on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange closed at 8,361.67 on Monday, up 150.68 points, or 1.84 percent.

A Share Index: 9,292.68 points, up 167.45 points, or 1.84 percent;

B Share Index: 4,083.07 points, up 34.1 points, or 0.84 percent;

Total turnover: 53.12 billion yuan (8.38 billion US dollars).

Xinhua

Taipei stocks close 0.72 pct higher

HONG KONG, 3 Sept—Taipei's share prices closed higher on Monday with the weighted index up 53.47 points, or 0.72 percent, at 7,450.53, according to news reaching here from Taipei.

The local bourse fluctuated between 7,462.15 and 7,389.68 during the day's trading. Turnover totaled 74.70 billion new Taipei dollars (about 2.50 billion US dollars).—*Xinhua*

New drug to fight cancer shows early promise

VIENNA, 3 Sept—An anti-cancer drug developed by a University of Vienna researcher has proven to be effective against various tumour types in its phase I clinical trials, the Austrian *APA* news agency reported on Wednesday.

The drug, NKP-1338, is developed by Bernhard Keppler, Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Vienna, and is the first anti-cancer drug based on ruthenium, a rare transition metal belonging to the platinum group, the University stated in a Press release.

"The study's findings support what has already emerged from our pre-clinical studies: the drug selectively attacks tumors and is effective against various tumour types," Keppler said.

The active ingredient in the drug is inserted via the protein transferrin directly into the tumor. It is then activated and brings about the tumor cell's apoptosis, or programmed cell death. At the same time, the protein GBR78 which is responsible for the resistance of many tumor cells to treatment is inhibited.

"Through this process waste products accumulate in the tumor cell, which ultimately lead to the death of cell," said Keppler.

Xinhua

Bernanke says Fed ready to act but short on specifics

JACKSON HOLE, 3 Sept—Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke on Friday left the door wide open to a further easing of monetary policy, saying the stagnation in the US labour market was a "grave concern," but he stopped short of providing a clear signal of imminent action.

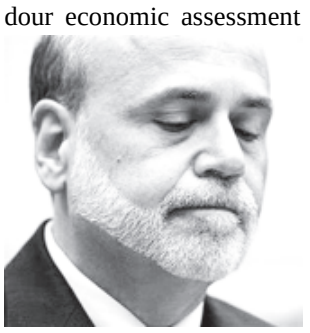
His stark language gave a temporary lift to US stocks, but economists walked away from the Fed chairman's remarks still divided over whether the central bank would launch a fresh round of bond purchases at its upcoming meeting in September.

Bernanke said the Fed had to weigh the costs as well as the benefits of more monetary stimulus, although he hinted the costs were likely worthwhile.

"As we assess the benefits and costs of alternative policy approaches ... we must not lose sight of the daunting economic challenges that confront our nation," Bernanke said at the Kansas City Fed's annual Jackson Hole symposium.

"Taking due account of the uncertainties and limits of its policy tools, the Federal Reserve will provide additional policy accommodation as needed to promote a stronger economic recovery and sustained improvement in labor market conditions in a context of price stability."

That was a somewhat weaker hint of policy easing than the minutes of the Fed's last policy meeting had delivered, but Bernanke's dour economic assessment



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke

left few doubts where his sympathy lay.

"The stagnation of the labour market in particular is a grave concern not only because of the enormous suffering and waste of human talent it entails, but also because persistently high levels of unemployment will wreak structural damage on our economy that could last for many years," Bernanke said.

Financial markets see-sawed in the wake of Bernanke's comments. US stocks closed roughly where they were before Bernanke spoke, but yields on US government bonds hit a three-week low in anticipation of Fed action and the US dollar fell against both the euro and the yen.

Reuters

All freshmen pose for a group photo with faculty members and guests at the South University of Science and Technology (SUSTC) in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong Province, on 2 Sept, 2012. The founding ceremony and the opening ceremony of the new semester of SUSTC was held here on Sunday. The university is widely regarded as the country's first test for a new educational system meant to give the students better training for innovative research. A total of 188 students from six provinces of the country were admitted to the SUSTC this July.—XINHUA

New Egyptian ambassador arrives in Israel

JERUSALEM, 3 Sept — Egypt's newly-appointed ambassador to Israel arrived on Sunday, local media reported. Atef Sayed Al-Ahl is no stranger to Israel, as he served in the past at the Egyptian consulate in the southern Red Sea resort city of Eilat.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed the news to *Xinhua*, but refused to officially comment until Al-Ahl is sworn-in by President Shimon Peres on 17 October. Al-Ahl replaces outgoing ambassador Yasser Rida, who concluded his four-year term.

Sources in the Egyptian embassy in Israel told the Walla news site that Al-Ahl arrived in Israel on Sunday morning and is expected to start and attend his official duties soon. The sources added that Al-Ahl's appointment as Rida's replacement has nothing to do with the change in governments in Egypt, and was planned in advance. This is only one appointment out of a group of Cairo's ambassadors who traveled to new posts, Saudi Arabia, France and Switzerland, among them.

The relationship between Israel and Egypt, who signed a peace treaty in 1979 ending nearly three decades of battles, have had their ups and downs. For the past 15 years, under the reign of former president Hosni Mubarak, high-level security, diplomatic and economic cooperation between the two countries intensified.

However, personal relations tourism between the neighbouring nations languished, due to a "cold peace" which saw professional unions and other agencies impose a series of sanctions against anyone visiting the Jewish state.

Additionally, the outbreak of the so-called Arab Spring in Cairo also brought out visceral resentment of Israel by many Egyptian residents, including a ransacking of the Israeli embassy by an enraged crowd.

Extremists sabotaged a natural gas pipe supplying gas to Israel some 14 times, and, with the rise of the Muslim Brotherhood into power, Israeli officials feared disintegrating diplomatic ties, due to the groups entrenched opposition to Israel's existence.However, when Muslim extremists carried out an attack on the Egypt-Israel border a month ago killing 17 Egyptian policemen, both countries' security forces coordinated in fighting the mutual threat in the Sinai Peninsula.

Xinhua

Secrets of the Chinese travellers

BEIJING, 3 Sept — Hong Kong, Beijing and Hainan province's Sanya remain the most popular tourist destinations for online shoppers in China, according to a recent survey released by Taobao, China's largest online marketplace.

The survey, which looked at the buying habits of online shoppers in the first half of this year, found that Hong Kong is on the top of the list for netizens when they think of travel, with more than 200,000 people making reservations for hotels in Hong Kong through Taobao's travel platform between January and June.

The most noteworthy finding was that people from different regions of China tend to have different purchasing habits when arranging their travel. For example, among those surveyed, people in Hangzhou in East China's Zhejiang Province are more inclined to spend a lot on high-end tours, while those in Shanghai, the economic hub of China, prefer to spend more on lodgings, booking five-star hotels when they arrange their tours.

According to the survey, people in Hangzhou are more casual and are more inclined to travel independently and randomly.

It found that 28,791 people from Hangzhou chose to book their air tickets as late as the day of their departure, the highest at a percentage of 14 percent, followed by people from Guangdong at 13.8 percent.

Xinhua

New couples celebrating their weddings in Sanya, in South China's Hainan Province. Sanya is one of the most popular tourist packages bought by online shoppers in China, according to a survey by Taobao, China's largest online marketplace.—XINHUA

Vehicles move on a flooded street in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar, on 2 Sept, 2012. Over the last ten days or so, at least 40 people have reportedly been killed as heavy rains and floods hit parts of northern, northwestern and eastern Pakistan. XINHUA

Sichuan colliery blast death toll rises to 45

PANZHIHUA, 3 Sept — Death toll from Wednesday's colliery blast in southwest China's Sichuan Province has climbed to 45, with one still missing, authorities said on Sunday night. Search was continuing in the Xiaojiawan Coal Mine in Panzhihua City, some 750 km southwest of Chengdu, the provincial capital, according to the press office of the Panzhihua city government. The mine was struck by a gas blast at around 5 pm on Wednesday, trapping about a third of the 154 miners who were working underground and injuring 54 others, 17 of them seriously.

Initial probe indicated that chaotic management and sheer ignorance of safety rules in the mine, owned by Zhengjin Industry and Trade Co, Ltd, were mainly to blame for the accident. The State Council, or China's cabinet, has established an investigation team, led by Yang Dongliang, head of State Administration of Work Safety, to look into the accident.

Xinhua

New students of a local military school take part in a swearing ceremony while they start a new term in St Petersburg, Russia, on 2 Sept, 2012. —XINHUA

Bomb hoaxes alert China to aviation threat

WUHAN, 3 Sept — Two airline bombing threats in China within a week have stirred concern over public education and management of aviation safety. On Sunday morning, a Chinese man whose hoax bomb warning caused the diversion of a domestic flight on Thursday was escorted by police from Guangdong to a detention centre in central China's Hubei Province.

Xiong Yi, a 29-year-old male resident of Shiyan City in Hubei, made an anonymous phone call to an airport in Shenzhen, Guangdong, at 10:43 pm on Thursday, claiming that explosives had been planted on Shenzhen Airlines Flight ZH9706, according to police.The plane was in mid-air, bound for Shenzhen from Xiangyang in Hubei. It made an emergency landing at an airport in Wuhan at 11:24 pm out of concerns for passenger safety. Police conducted a thorough inspection but found no dangerous items on the aircraft or in passengers' belongings.

Xiong was caught on Saturday afternoon in a hotel in the southern province of Guangdong and confessed to police he'd fabricated the information. Police have yet to reveal Xiong's motives as the investigation is still going on. The case follows a similar incident to hit China's civil aviation industry earlier in the week. An Air China flight from Beijing to New York returned to Beijing Capital International Airport after a threatening message concerning the flight was received on Wednesday evening.—*Xinhua*

Book returned to Chicago library after 78 years

CHICAGO, 3 Sept — A Chicago-area woman wanted to return an overdue copy of "The Picture of Dorian Gray" to the Chicago Public Library, but first she wanted to be sure she wouldn't go to jail. That's because the book, a rare limited edition of the Oscar Wilde novel, was checked out in 1934. Harlean Hoffman Vision found it in her late mother's possessions, with a Chicago Public Library stamp. The library is conducting a rare three-week amnesty programme for overdue items, and Vision figured this was her chance to return the book, said Ruth Lednicer, the library's marketing director. The books was returned on Thursday.

"She kept saying, 'You're not going to arrest me?' and we said, 'No, we're so happy you brought it back'," said Lednicer.

Vision didn't know the library caps late fines at $10 on books — without the cap and the amnesty, total fines on "Dorian Gray" would have amounted to $6,000. The last amnesty was held 20 years ago, and resulted in the return of 77,000 items.— *Reuters*

42 minors allowed to resign from Defence Services

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—The Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office allowed 42 minors from respective commands to quit military services, handing them over to their parents at No (1) Transit Centre in Yangon this morning.

It was attended by Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win from the Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office, senior military officers, directors-general and directors of the Home Affairs Ministry, the Defence Ministry, the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Ministry, the Labour Ministry and the Union Attorney-General's Office, officials of UNICEF, UNHCR, ILO, Save the Children, World Vision, World Food Programme and UNDP, 42 minors who were allowed to resign and their parents.

Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win and UNICEF Resident Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha delivered addresses. The officials then handed letters approving their resignation from the Defence Services and citizenship scrutiny cards for children between 10 and 18 to the children who were handed over to their parents or guardians.

The children and their parents were then transported interim camp arranged by CTFMR and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement. The camp will help the minors contact their parents if they have lost contact and provides medical treatment if necessary. The camp will also enable the children to rejoin the school or pursue informal education. Vocational trainings and materials are provided by the camp which will also fund the homecoming of the minors.

Myanmar signed UN CTFMR on 27 June, 2012, to wage campaign against minor recruitment for military services.

As the country has agreed with the detailed plans, the measures will be carried out to get rid of all minors in the Defence Services within 18 months.

The Tatmadaw is taking measures to prevent drafting minors and to allow resignation as early as possible if there is any mistaken recruitment of minors.—*MNA*

***Maj-Gen Tin Maung Win from Commander-in-Chief (Army) Office speaking at the ceremony to hand over 42 minors to their parents.*—MNA**

***UNICEF Resident Representative Mr Ramesh Shrestha gives a speech.*—MNA**

Republic of the Union of Myanmar Constitutional Tribunal of the Union Announcement No.2/2012

2nd Waning of Wagaung, 1374 ME

(3rd September, 2012)

Remonstration of Chairman of Investigation Board U Thein Swe and members

1. It is reported that 301 Pyithu Hluttaw representatives at first have signed a proposal and sent it to the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw to impeach Chairman of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and members. Those representatives are adverse parties in this case.
2. They have no right to be as a chairman and members of the Investigation Board formed by Pyithu Hluttaw. This concept can be seen at Penal Code Section No.556 and paragraph 41 of Services Regulations Manual Book issued by the former State Council Office.
3. PREM's Law of Habeas Corpus, Certiorari, Mandamus and Emergency Legislation says that "Nobody has the right to make decision in the case in which they get engaged". This law principle is the prime of fair judiciary in the world.
4. Thus, according to the investigation ways and practices, as those 301 representatives who proposed to impeach the Chairman of Constitutional Tribunal of the Union and members, have no rights to participate in Pyithu Hluttaw Investigation Board, they are objected.

Health care services provided to local people in Mawgyun

MAWLAMYINEGYUN, 3 Sept—The health care services on field trips of White Heart gourp was held at Nyaungdon New School Building in Myoma Ward 2 of Mawlamyinegyun on 28 August.

Dr Wai Min, Dr Ye Min Lwin and health care service team of White Heart provided health care services to 108, workers of Township Development Affairs Committee, sanitation workers and local people from Myoma Ward 2.

Officials attended to the needs of health care services and Chairman of the group U Khin Maung Zin explained purpose of giving health care services to the local people.—*Myanma Alin*

Cash assistance provided to war veterans in Hlaingbwe

HLAINGBWE, 3 Sept—Hlaingbwe Township War Veterans Organizing Committee provided cash assistance to disabled veterans and older veterans at its office on 24 August morning.

Chairman of Township War Veterans Organizing Committee Captain Khin Soe (Rtd) gave a speech and presented K 7000 each to 48 disabled veterans and K 15000 each to older veterans of above 70, amounting to K 396,000 to 52 persons.—*Myanma Alin*

NOURISHMENT WEEK LAUNCHED: ***The nourishment week activity was launched at Basic Education Primary School No. 2 on 23 August. After Acting Head of Pabedan Township Health Department Dr Ei Ei Khaing had given facts about iodized salt, Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Aye Aye Maw and party distribute iodized salt to students.*—MYANMA ALIN**

Basic education schools upgraded in Myeik District

MYEIK, 3 Sept—In 2012-2013 academic year, Myeik District of Taninthayi Region was allowed to upgrade 11 basic education schools.

These numbers of upgraded schools in the district were one Basic Education High School Branch and two BEMSs in Myeik Township, one BEHS branch and one BEPS branch in Taninthayi Township, four BEHS branches, one BEMS, seven BEMS branches and three BEPS branches in Kyunsu Township.—*Myanma Alin*

New digital electric meters installed in Mandalay

MANDALAY, 3 Sept—Under the arrangements of Electricity Supply Enterprise under the Ministry of Electric Power No. 2, analog electric meters are being substituted with modern digital ones in Mandalay as of 11 August.

Thanks to use of digital meters, the meter readers can read the digits of electricity consumption without any errors.

In the installation of new digital electric meters, the people do not pay any charge.

Myanma Alin

District News

Road safety measures would…

(from page 16)

At report-submitting session, member of Bill Committee U Khin Maung Lwin submitted the committee's report on the Bill revoking Land Confiscation (Mines) Act.

At the proposal-submitting session, U Aung Thein Lin of South Okkalapa Constituency submitted the proposal on **"giving permits only to farmers who are actually doing farming as pasture lands across the country are allotted under the names of departments and companies and these departments and companies allow farmers to do farming there and are taking tenancy from farmers".**

At the informing session, the Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw informed Hluttaw of the appointment of U Thein Swe of An Constituency as Chairman of Investigation Board which is formed by Pyithu Hluttaw for investigation of Chairman and members of the Constitutional Tribunal in the place of Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa.

At the proposal-discussion session, nine representatives held discussion on the proposal submitted by U Than Nwe of Butalin Constituency on 16 July on **"emphasis should be placed on conservation of natural forests in the country for the stability of natural environments, restoring eco-system and long-term extraction of forests and forest products".**

With respect to that proposal, Deputy Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Aye Myint Maung said that the Ministry inspects blocks in accord with laws, procedures and disciplines in connection with private timber extractors' over extraction and compensation for damaged plants. The ministry is taking action and supervises the compensation for damages.

The Ministry had made amendments to laws and bylaws, and sent them to the Attorney-General Office. After Land Use Policy and Land Use Plan have been drafted, the Ministry will carry out the conservation of natural forests.

Hluttaw decided that responsible persons, organizations and people are to participate in it, and approved it.

At the urgent proposal submitting session, U Yaw Di Dway of Putao Constituency submitted the proposal on **"urging the Union government to provide necessary assistances to government staff who are facing difficulties in discharging their duties in their posting areas and private entrepreneurs from home and abroad, especially from Putao district and Chiphwe and Sawlaw regions as well as displaced persons in Kachin State".**

Today's meeting came to an end at 4.05 pm, and the day on which the 39th day session will be held will be announced.

MNA

Union Environmental Conservation and Forestry Minister back from Republic of Korea

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun attended the opening of ASEAN-Korea Ministerial Level Special Meeting for Cooperation in Forestry Sector held in Seoul of the Republic of Korea on 30 August morning.

At the opening ceremony, Agriculture and Forestry Deputy Minister of Lao People's Democratic Republic Dr Stipho maska and Korean Forest Services Minister Dr Don Ko Lee extended greetings and Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea Mr Kim Hun Sik made an opening speech.

Union Minister U Win Tun said at the meeting that Myanmar is implementing conservation of ecosystem in Bago Yoma Mountain Ranges and reduction of impact project for climate change with the assistance of Korean Forest Services, for uplift of living standard of people is needed to beneficially use natural resources.

Myanmar is striving political and economic reforms with momentum and carrying out social and economic programmes for sustainable development, recently environmental conservation law was ratified and is arranging to form environmental conservation department, said the Union Minister.

The Union Minister discussed with ministers from ASEAN countries and Korea for cooperation of forestry sector in ASEAN region, implementation of projects, cooperation on development of human resources and mitigation of climate change.

On 29 August, the Union Minister met with Korean Forest Services Minister Dr Don Ko Lee and discussed measures for cooperation of Myanmar-Korea forestry sector, sending for trainees to attend forest and environmental conservation post graduate course, cooperation in research and development tasks and investment in forestry sector. Environmental conservation tasks will be carried out two region level project and nine State level project in ASEAN countries with the assistance of the fund from the Republic of Korea according to ASEAN-Korea forestry sector cooperation agreement.—*MNA*

***Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry U Win Tun poses for a documentary photo together with the attendences at ASEAN-Korea Ministerial Level Special Meeting for Cooperation in Forestry Sector held in Seoul of the Republic of Korea.*—MNA**

1st Coordination Committee meeting held under Myanma JDS programme

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— According to the Myanma JDS programme for 2013-2014, the first Coordination Committee meeting was held at the meeting hall of the Higher Education Department (Lower Myanmar) this afternoon chaired by Deputy Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint and co-chaired by Japanese Ambassador to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Minister-Counsell Mr. Maruyama, Ichiro.

The committee members presented matters related to programme on awarding stipends and scholarships to the designated ministries in 2013-2014 academic year, and its related forms and selecting system at the meeting. The Chairman approved the presentations and then urged those present to cooperate with Japan's Universities.

MNA

***Deputy Minister for Education Dr Myo Myint makes address at 1st Coordination Committee under Myanma JDS Programme.*—MNA**

Cash donated to MCWA branches of Border Affairs Ministry

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Htay and Daw Myint Myint Khaing attended a donation ceremony at the assembly hall of the Ministry of Border Affairs, here, at 10 am today.

Also present on the occasion were patrons, the chairperson of Ministry of Border Affairs Maternal and Child Welfare Association Branch and members, members of Departmental MCWA branches and staff families, totalling 130.

Daw Myint Myint Khaing, wife of the Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanma Industrial Development, Patron of Border Affairs Ministry MCWA Branch delivered an address and donated K 500,000 each to MCWA branches of Progress of Border Area and National Races Department, Education and Training Department and Rural Region Development Department. Chairperson Daw Nan Aye Khaing of MCWA Branch spoke words of thanks.

MNA

Union CPT minister on tour of Myaing Township

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept— Union Minister for Communications, Posts and Telegraphs U Thein Tun paid visit to Myaing Township where he drove stakes for construction of radiology department in Myaing People's Hospital in Pakokku District of Magway Region on 1 September.

He thanked the wellwishers and local people for their cooperative efforts in equipping the hospital with operation theatres, generators and other medical equipment, saying it was a fine tradition of the township.

The Union Minister donated cash for the construction.

The Union Minister also attended the ceremony to grant agricultural loans to farmers of six villages in Letyetma village in the township, with the call for boosting production of crops.—*MNA*

Defence cruises into final in Inter-Ministry Football Tourney

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Semifinal of the 6th Nay Pyi Taw Inter-Ministry Men's Football Tournament was held at Nay Pyi Taw Sports Ground No. 1, here at 3.30 pm today.

In the match, Ministry of Defence routed Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries 3-0.—*MNA*

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now.

Amyotha Hluttaw approves…

(from page 16)

government is allocated that duty, the ministry is ready to lend a hand to the government, especially for technical assistance in carrying out survey tasks.

Afterwards, six Amyotha Hluttaw representatives made discussions about **foreign investment bill** that has been approved by Amyotha Hluttaw.

The bill committee of Amyotha Hluttaw decided to review the discussions.

Then, one Amyotha Hluttaw representative discussed about **the bill for amending of Auditor-General of the Union's Law** that has been approved by Pyithu Hluttaw.

The bill committee of Amyotha Hluttaw decided to review the discussions.

Chairman of Women and Child Affairs Committee of Amyotha Hluttaw Professor Dr Mya Oo and committee members read out the reports of the committee to the Hluttaw.

The Hluttaw announced that those wishing to partake in discussion about the report may register.

One representative agreed with the proposal on **"urging the union government to emphasize on SME that helps grass roots survive in life before starting AFTA projects in 2015",** proposed by Representative Dr Myat Nyana Soe from Yangon Region Constituency No. 4.

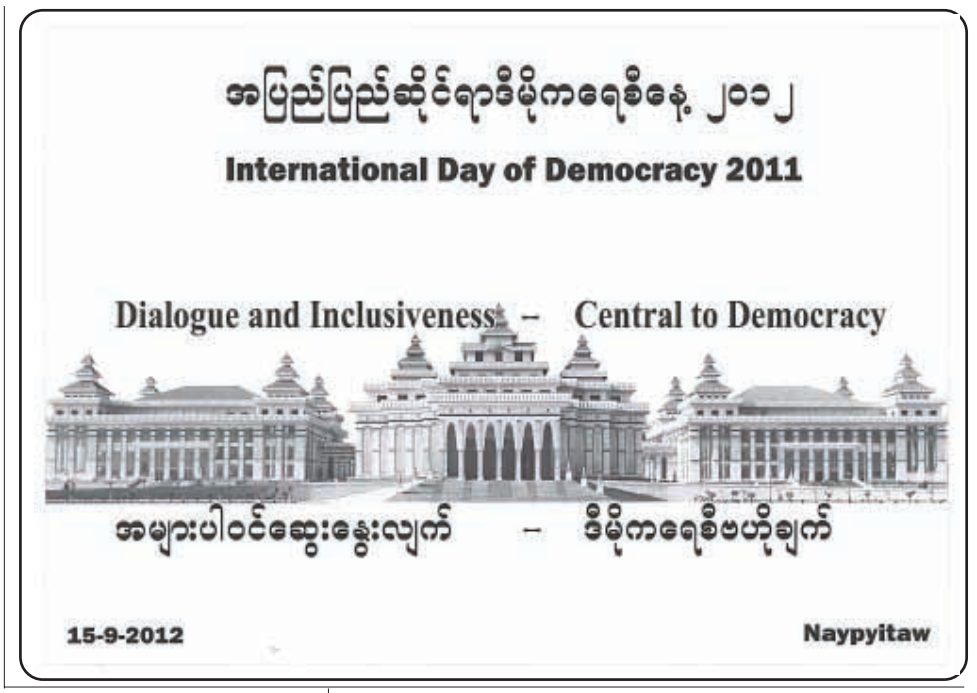
Deputy Minister for Commerce Dr Pwint Hsan made clarification the proposal.

The Hluttaw announced that the proposal couldn't be approved on account of more "No" than "Yes" votes.

The today's session came to an end at 3:25 pm and the 39th day session continues at 10:00 am on 5th September.

The new names for Chairman, secretary and members of the reformed committees were presented by the Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw, two queries answered, two bills discussed, one report submitted and one proposal discussed and approved by the Hluttaw.

MNA



Union Transport Minister receives Canadian minister

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received delegation led by Canadian International Trade Minister Mr Edward Fast at the ministry here this afternoon.

The meeting focused on cooperation in aviation and mercantile cooperation, CRJ aircrafts manufactured by Bombardier company, Twin Otter aircrafts, installation of engines manufactured by Canada and possibilities of investments for Canadian investors in Dawei Special Economic Zone.—*MNA*

Appointment of Ambassador agreed on

NAY PYI TAW, 4 Sept—The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar has agreed to the appointment of Mrs Maria Michail as non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cyprus to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Mrs Maria Michail was born in 1973. She graduated from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom in 1994 with a B.A in Politics and obtained a M.A in European Studies from the University of Surrey, United Kingdom in 1995.

Mrs Maria Michail joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus in 1997. She served as Deputy High Commissioner in London in 2003 and Deputy Permanent Representative at the Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations in Geneva from 2009 to March 2012. Mrs Maria Michail is currently High Commissioner of Cyprus to India with effect from 1 April 2012.

Mrs Maria Michail will serve as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cyprus to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar with residence in New Delhi.

MNA

More than 3000 dentists in action

YANGON, 3 Sept—A total of 3129 dentists registered at Dental Medicines Council are providing dental care to the public, said Union Minister for Health Dr Pe Thet Khin in his address to the opening of the first academic refresher course for dentists at Myanmar Dental Medicines Council Office here yesterday morning.

He underlined the need to keep in touch with new findings and therapies in fast changing world of medicines, saying the purpose of the training is to fill that gap.

The course that concludes on 8 September is being attended by 310 dentists.—*MNA*

ASSOCIATION FORMED: ***Perennial Crops and Industrial Crops Producers Association of Namhkam Township of Muse District was held at the hall of the township on 17 August. Shan State (North) In-charge of Industrial Crops Development Department U Hlaing Min Tun, Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw Soe, Head of District Industrial Crops Development Department U Kyaw Htay and members participated in discussions.***

MYANMA ALIN

Union EP-2 Minister, Thailand Deputy Minister of Ministry of Energy discussed

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Union Minister for Electric Power No.2 U Khin Maung Soe and a delegation led by Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Energy of Thailand Dr Wichianchot Sukchotrat discussed installation of two 125 Mega watts generators in Myanmar from Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT) in order to implement bilateral cooperation as well as to provide electricty needs at the Ministry, here, this afternoon.

The installation of those generators in Myanmar will be ready to supply electricity in full swing in 2013 when the SEA Games are held.

The installation of Gas Turbine will be provided by Thailand. The expenses of urbanized area where the generators will set up have to cost by Myanmar. EGAT will provide necessary assistance as well as technical assistance.

MNA

***Union EP-2 Minister U Khin Maung Soe and Deputy Minister of Energy Dr Wichianchot Sukchotrat of Thailand and party pose for documentary photo.*—MNA**

Displaced persons in Rakhine State receive aids

YANGON, 3 Sept—More than 65000 victims are taking refuge at 20 relief camps in Sittway and Maungtaw Township, receiving aids from the government, social organizations, INGOs and NGOs.

About 500 make-shift tents have been constructed for the local people who had fled the violence before it returned to normalcy. UNHCR has also confirmed the donation of 400 make-shift tents which, on arrival, will be transferred to the villages for extension of the camps.—*MNA*

Dawei Magazine funded

DAWEI, 3 Sept—With the aim of enabling the local people to know Dawei culture and development of the region, a coordination meeting was held for publishing of Dawei Magazine at the hall of Taninthayi Region Government on 23 August afternoon.

Chief Minister of the Region U Myat Ko delivered an address. Those present participated in the meeting with suggestions on emergence of Dawei Magazine.

The Region Chief Minister donated K 500,000 to the fund of the Township Writers Association through Chairman of the association U Ba Myint.

Myanma Alin

District News

Nourishment Week launched in Sittway

SITTWAY, 3 Sept—The nourishment week activity 2012 was launched at Uttama Hall in Sittway of Rakhine State on 30 August morning, with an address by Chief Minister of Rakhine State U Hla Maung Tin.

Head of Rakhine State Health Department Dr Than Tun Aung explained the purpose of holding the nourishment week activity.

Next, the State Chief Minister and guests viewed giving vitamin-A tablets to children and ferrous sulphate and vitamin-3 to expectant mothers.

Myanma Alin

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS HONOURED: ***The annual meeting of parent-teacher association of Basic Education Primary School No. 1 of Bahan was held in conjunction with the prize awarding ceremony for outstanding students in 2012-2013 academic year at the school on 26 August. Assistant Director U Sein Win of No. 3 Basic Education Department of Yangon Region presents prize to Maung Kyaw Lin Htet in poster contest.***

MYANMA ALIN

Snatching cases occur in queue of motorcycles for licences

MANDALAY, 3 Sept—Directorate of Road Transport, Customs Department, Myanma Insurance and Myanma Economic Bank gives licences to about 700 motorcycles a day through one stop service at Police Institute ground in Chanayethazan Township of Mandalay as of 5 June.

Up to 24 August, the departments have issued licences to 36750 motorcycles with 24Ya/-… number plates.

The 4th October which is the last date for issuance of motorcycles, the owners and motorcycles took in the queue at night. However, members of Myanmar Police Force from Mandalay Region supervised the people in the queue because snatching cases occurred daily.

A warning was issued that the motorcycles are to take a queue at 4 am to minimize motorcycle snatching cases and losses. If not, action will be taken against offenders.

At present, brokers take K 5000 to K 10000 for a place in the queue from the motorcycle owners.

Myanma Alin

Gravel road serves as production road in Yedashe Township

YEDASHE, 3 Sept—Aungzeya gravel road linking Ngakhonma Creek and Zaydan Ward of Thagara in Yedashe Township was repaired by Yedashe Township Development Affairs Committee recently.

Local people from over 20 villages such as East Kyaunggon of Thagara, Wedaunt, Letpankhon and Hngetpyawtaw use the gravel road for transport of agricultural produce. The damaged road made troubles to transport of local people in the past. At present, the new gravel road becomes better transport facility for the local people.—*Kyemon*

People in Rakhine State provided with clothes

MEIKTILA, 3 Sept—Yanaungmyin Social Group, Myatnoepiti Social Group, Withakhar Women's Group of Meiktila Township social organization and faculty members of Meiktila University on 2 September donated clothes to the people of Rakhine State who are suffering loss of houses and their property in recent situations through Distinct Fire Services Department.

Head of District Fire Services Department U Kyaw Hsan said, "This donation was organized by Myatnoepiti Sayadaw, and 3346 pieces of clothes worth about K 500,000 through our department."—*Kyemon*

Damaged sections of Yangon-Mandalay Highway repaired

THAGARA, 3 Sept—As trucks rolled along Yangon-Mandalay Highway, some road sections were damaged in the rainy season.

In the last week of August and the first week of September, repairing of damaged road works are accelerated in the sunny day.

After designating the ASEAN standard in the transport services, tracks hung with trailers along their trips.

Due to heavy loads of vehicles, pits and damages emerged on some road sections.

In consequence, some high model cars need to be repaired after driving on the damaged road sections.

Kyemon

Non-Formal Primary Education launched in Myaungmya Township

MYAUNGMYA, 3 Sept—A ceremony to open the non-formal primary education course was held at Basic Education High School No. 1 in Myaungmya of Ayeyawady Region on 17 September noon.

On the occasion, Township Administrator U Ko Ko Latt made a speech. Region Supervisor U Tin Tun reported on opening of Non-Formal Primary Educations in the townships of the region and Township Education Officer Daw Myint Myint Aye on opening of the Non-Formal Primary Educations-NFPEs in urban areas and villages.

After that, officials presented over K 4 million to the fund of the education department. Wellwishers donated bags, umbrellas, slippers, school uniforms and exercise books for 120 students of six camps.

The Township Administrator presented certificates of assignment to camp supervisors.

Myanma Alin

Information for anti-human trafficking

Nowadays, the government is accelerating its tasks in taking preventive measures against trafficking in person.

In so doing, telephone numbers are announced as the connections with authorities concerned for enabling the people to actively participate in taking the anti-human trafficking measures.

These telephone numbers are 067-412555 and 067-412666 in Nay Pyi Taw, 09-49555666 in Muse, 09-49555777 in Mandalay and 09-49555888 and 09-49555999 in Yangon.

British government ready to underwrite infrastructure projects

LONDON, 3 Sept—British Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne on Sunday said the government would underwrite altogether 50 billion pounds (79.3 billion US dollars) of infrastructure and house building projects, in a bid to boost the country's sluggish economy. Osborne said the Infrastructure (Financial Assistance) Bill would be introduced in the next few weeks and should become law by the end of October.

The Bill is to give green light to 40 billion pounds of construction projects by using the government's low interest rates to underwrite them.

Projects qualified for government guarantee must be "nationally significant," ready to start construction within 12 months, financially credible and be of "good value" for taxpayers.

British government ready to underwrite infrastructure projects.—XINHUA

Meanwhile, ministers are expected to make plans to underwrite up to 10 billion pounds worth of new homes, including guaranteeing the debt of housing associations and private sector developers.

The government will outline details for these projects very soon as the Parliament resumes from summer break this week.

Commenting on the expansion of the Heathrow airport which has been repeatedly appealed by senior Conservative politicians recently, Osborne did not rule out the possibility of a third runway for Britain's largest airport, and agreed that extra runway capacity was needed in the South East of England. "It is a question of where it should go—Heathrow, a new (Thames) estuary airport, Stansted, Gatwick — people have lots of different options," the Chancellor said.

Xinhua

APEC to bring opportunities for Russia, regional integration: expert

MOSCOW, 3 Sept — The upcoming Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit will open up opportunities for Russia's development and regional integration in general, according to a Russian expert. During a recent interview with *Xinhua*, Gleb Ivashentsov, deputy director of the Russian APEC Study Centre, said Russia intended to demonstrate its huge growth potential in the Far East as well as its aspiration to integrate into the Asia-Pacific region by hosting the top-level gathering.

Ivashentsov said the resource-rich Transbaikal and Eastern Siberia regions in the Far East would lead Russia's cooperation with APEC economies.

Russia would not become a "raw materials appendage" of its Asian partners, but would focus on regional modernization by pouring funds gained from natural resources exports into railways, highways and other infrastructure construction in these areas, the expert said.

The Russian government had drawn a blueprint for boosting its industrial sector and exports of high-tech products in the Far East region, Ivashentsov said.

For example, an aircraft plant in the Far Eastern city of Komsomolsk-na-amure could produce "the most advanced military planes in the world" and these fighters were popular among Russia's APEC partners, he said.

The "East" cosmodrome under construction in the Amur region would bring Russia more chances of space cooperation with APEC economies."

Currently, Russia has been engaged in active space cooperation with China, Japan and South Korea. It has also launched a number of spacecraft for APEC partners," he said.

Ivashentsov praised Russia-China cooperation under the APEC format, saying there were "broad prospects" for further development between the two sides.

China's support of Russia's initiatives in the forum was "very important," Ivashentsov said, adding the two countries had similar views on various issues, which contributed to their comprehensive strategic partnership.

In general, the APEC forum had been a facilitator of regional integration, pushing for free trade agreements among several member economies. However, Russia was a "spectator" in this process, he said.

Xinhua

Evangelist Reverend Moon Sun-myung blesses newlyweds during a mass wedding ceremony at Sun Moon University in Asan, south of Seoul in this 14 Oct, 2009 file photo.—RETUERS

Unification Church head Sun Myung Moon dies in South Korea

SEOUL, 3 Sept — Sun Myung Moon, the founder and head of the Unification Church which has millions of followers around the world, died at a retreat near the South Korean capital Seoul on Monday, church officials said. Moon was 92 and had suffered complications from pneumonia, the officials said. Moon had been hospitalized in Seoul in mid-August and was moved to the retreat last week when his family and church believed there was little chance of recovery.

Moon had led an active public life until recently, officiating a mass wedding for 2,500 in March and leading a service of more than 15,000 followers in July. The church said he had fallen gravely ill in early August after a lingering bout of cold and exhaustion that began in July. Moon is survived by his wife — the pair are called "true parents" by followers — and 10 of their 13 children.Born in what is now North Korea in 1920, Moon founded the church soon after the Korean War that ended in 1953, rapidly expanding the ministry internationally and building a business at the same time that served as the backbone of the empire.

The Unification Church runs the *Segye Times* newspaper in South Korea and more than a dozen other firms in South Korea along with overseas businesses. Critics of the church have for years vilified the organization as a heretical and dangerous cult and questioned its murky finances and how it indoctrinates followers, described in derogatory terms as "Moonies."

Moon has handed over day-to-day operations of the church, which has its headquarters in Seoul, to one of his sons and the management of the Tongil Group with interests in construction, resorts, travel agencies and a newspaper to another son.

Reuters

Bus crash kills two, injures 13 students in central China

WUHAN, 3 Sept — Two high school students were killed and another 13 injured after their bus crashed into a tree and overturned in central China's Hubei Province, local authorities said on Monday.

A group of 34 senior high school students and a teacher were on their way to a chemistry competition in downtown Jingzhou when their bus crashed into a roadside tree and rolled over at 6:20 am on Sunday, said an official with the city government's information office.

Two students died in the accident and another 13 were wounded, among whom two suffered severe injuries, said the spokesman. The students were from the No1 High School in Songzi city which is administered by the city of Jingzhou. The rainy weather may have been one of the reasons that caused the tragedy and a further investigation is underway.—*Xinhua*

Rescuers work at a traffic accident site in Longhua Village of Jingzhou City, central China's Hubei Province, on 2 Sept, 2012.—XINHUA

Mexican traditional music performers, known as "mariachis", participate in a parade during the 19th International Meeting of Mariachi and Charreria, in Guadalajara, Jalisco State, Mexico, on 2 Sept, 2012. — XINHUA

US Steel, union reach tentative agreement

NEW YORK, 3 Sept — United Steelworkers said on Sunday it reached a tentative agreement with US Steel on a three-year labour contract for more than 16,000 workers employed at the company's US facilities. The union said in a statement it had been negotiating for a collective-bargaining agreement with the steelmaker since June. Members of the union will cast a deciding vote on the agreement over the next few weeks.

But union negotiations continue with Luxembourg-based ArcelorMittal — the world's largest steelmaker — over a new labour contract, after a midnight deadline passed without an agreement."We have been exchanging proposals with the company and remain engaged in negotiations," USW president Leo W Gerard said in a statement. He added that members of the union will continue to work under the terms set in a 2008 contract while the negotiations are ongoing. The contract, however, has not been formally extended.

The company is restarting blast furnaces idled in the run-up to the contract expiry at midnight on Saturday, Gerard said. ArcelorMittal operates steel plants in Indiana, Ohio and several other states. United Steelworkers represents about 850,000 workers in the United States, Canada and the Caribbean. The deal with US Steel comes a day before the Labour Day holiday on Monday, which honours American workers.— *Reuters*

Three killed, five injured as blast hits Peshawar, Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, 3 Sept—At least three people were killed and five others including foreigners got injured when a blast hit Pakistan's northwest city of Peshawar on Monday morning, reported local media *Geo*.

The nature of the blast is not known yet. Some local media reports said that the blast took place near a UNHCR office and the target was a UNHCR vehicle.

There is no official confirmation about this yet.

Xinhua

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SEA FLOURISH VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SEA FLOURISH VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 4.9.2012 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: CITIC SHIP MANAGEMENT LTD

Phone No: 256924/256914

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (123N)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV SINAR BIMA VOY NO (123N) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2012 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 SAMUDERA SHIPPING LINES

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (507)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (507) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 3.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

TRADE MARK CAUTION

Johnson & Johnson, a Company incorporated in United States, of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08933, U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Mark:-

SUSTRELLE

Reg. No. 4185/2012

in respect of "Human pharmaceutical preparations **(Int'l Class 5)**".

Fraudulent imitation or unauthorised use of the said Trade Mark will be dealt with according to law.

Win Mu Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L
for **Johnson & Johnson**
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 4 September 2012

China non-manufacturing sector's growth rises

BEIJING, 3 Sept — The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) of China's non-manufacturing sector, a key economic indicator, rose 0.7 percentage points to 56.3 percent in August, new survey results have indicated.

The figure rebounded after a fall in July as growth in the non-manufacturing sector stabilized, according to data released by the China Federation of Logistics and Purchasing (CFLP) on Monday. A PMI reading above 50 percent indicates expansion from the previous month, while readings below this mark indicate contraction.— *Xinhua*

Storm Isaac moves east while impact lingers in Louisiana

***StTammany officials inspect lock two of the Pearl River Navigational Canal after Hurricane Isaac in Bush, Louisiana, on 1 September, 2012.*— REUTERS**

NASHVILLE, 3 Sept—As the remnants of Hurricane Isaac moved east on Sunday, bringing with it a wet Labour Day holiday weekend, the storm's impact was still being felt in Louisiana, where more than a hundred thousand people were still without power.

Entergy, Louisiana's largest power provider, said about 160,000 of the Louisiana homes and businesses it serves remained without electricity, leaving them without air conditioning under sweltering temperatures.

The storm, which was downgraded from hurricane strength last week, is headed along the drought-stricken Ohio Valley, which is due to see heavy rains on Monday, the Labour Day holiday.

From the spine of the Appalachian Mountains on west, downpours and thunderstorms could disrupt outdoor holiday activities, especially on Monday afternoon and early evening, said Carl Erickson, a meteorologist with AccuWeather.com.

"People might be able to sneak some plans in there, but they're going to have to watch the sky," Erickson said. Storms are likely to continue in the northeast through the early part of the week.

President Barack Obama is scheduled to visit Louisiana on Monday — one day before the Democratic National Convention kicks off in Charlotte, North Carolina. The White House has said Obama will visit first responders and survey the damage from Hurricane Isaac.

Isaac was the first hurricane to strike the United States this year and it hit New Orleans almost exactly seven years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city, causing an estimated 1,800 deaths.

At least five deaths in Louisiana and two in neighboring Mississippi were blamed on Isaac and both states suffered from widespread flooding, authorities said.

Isaac was expected to be a mixed blessing for the drought-parched Midwest farm belt, since experts said its rains came too late for this season's crop of corn and most soybeans.

The worst drought in nearly half a century remains deeply entrenched across nearly two thirds of the United States.

Isaac's rains could help speed up pasture recovery, however, and get the US winter wheat crop off to a good start.

Isaac lingered over New Orleans for the better part of two days, providing a first and successful test of the city's new $14.5 billion flood-control system assembled after Katrina. Areas outside those flood protections fared worse.

At least one levee was overtopped southwest of New Orleans, leaving some homes under 12 feet of water.

Reuters

Tibet to receive 10 mln tourists this year

LHASA, 3 Sept — Southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region is expected to receive a record 10 million-plus tourists this year, a local tourism official said on Monday.

These tourists will bring revenue of 12 billion yuan (1.89 billion US dollars), or 17 percent of the region's gross domestic product (GDP), said Yu Yungui, head of the Communist Party committee of the region's tourism bureau. Yu said more than 7 million domestic or foreign tourists visited Tibet from January to August, up more than 25 percent year on year. Tourism revenue over the past eight months jumped 30 percent year on year to 7.5 billion yuan.

Yu attributed the boom to tour activities organized this year. Such activities have run under the themes of Tibetan culture and scenic beauty, such as mountains, snowy landscapes and sunshine. Large-scale advertising and various festivals, such as Tibetan New Year, have also helped attract tourists, he said.

Tibet is situated on the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau, an area predominantly populated by ethnic Tibetans and prevailed by Buddhist culture. Signature tourist destinations include the world's highest peak Mount Qomolangma, the sacred lake Nam Co and Tibetan Buddhism heritage sites such as Potala Palace, Jokhang Temple and Zhaxi Lhunbo Monastery.

Nearly 300,000 people in the region are employed in the tourism sector with fixed assets exceeding 25 billion yuan, according to government figures.—*Xinhua*

A humanoid robot known as "Nao" performs during the 11th China International Equipment Manufacturing Exposition in Shenyang, capital of northeast China's Liaoning Province, on 1 Sept, 2012. A total of four humanoid robots, which can sing, dance and even demonstrate the popular martial art Tai chi, were displayed during the Exposition. — XINHUA

European shares lifted by central bank hopes

A cameraman stands in front of the DAX board at the Frankfurt stock exchange on 29 Aug, 2012.
REUTERS

LONDON, 3 Sept — European shares crept higher on Monday after weak factory data highlighted the poor health of the world economy, keeping alive talk of fresh stimulus from major central banks. However, with US investors out for the Labour Day holiday, markets were likely to trade in a limited range.

Expectations that central banks would take steps to boost growth increased after two Chinese surveys showed factory activity in world's second largest economy slowing more than expected in August. "I think we're going to see more stimulus from pretty much every central bank on the face of the planet," said Michael Ingram, market analyst at BGC Partners. "You know we're living in a globalised economy. It's a globalised slowdown so policy makers have to step up to the plate."

The FTSEurofirst 300 index .FTEU3 of top European shares was up 0.5 percent in early trade on Monday to 1,088.42 points, adding to gains of 0.5 percent on Friday. The euro stood at $1.2575, just below an eight-week peak of $1.2638 set on Friday when US Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke left the door open for further stimulus.

But any move from the Fed is not expected until its next meeting in mid-September at the earliest and will be heavily influenced by the August payrolls report due out this Friday.—*Reuters*

Bushfire engulfs 4 sq km vegetation near Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, 3 Sept— Local authorities said on Sunday they are probing into the cause of a bushfire that engulfed more than 1,000 acres (4 square km) of vegetation near Los Angeles.

The fire, started early afternoon in Angeles National Forest on the San Gabriel Mountains near Glendora, 37 km east of downtown Los Angeles, prompted an evacuation of campgrounds and a rehabilitation centre in the area.

Authorities have dispatched 200 firemen and nine water-dropping tankers, Angeles National Forest spokeswoman L'Tanga Wats said. All buildings in the area are safe, according to officials.

Xinhua

Woman's prize-winning pumpkins destroyed

A 93-year-old woman says vandals destroyed giant pumpkins she was growing in her yard in Pasadena, Calif.

Mae Powell found her pumpkins, including a 300-pound "giant pumpkin" she planned on entering in a weigh-off in Irvine this October, smashed to pieces along the street in front of her house Friday morning, the *Pasadena (Calif) Star News* reported.

"Every year I win a prize," Powell said, "but I can't enter this one now. ... Who knows what I'll do."

Four other pumpkins that were destroyed were going to be donated to the Huntington Library's Children's Garden, Powell said. Powell reported the vandalism to the Temple City Sheriff's Station, but Lt Ignacio Somoano said there was no "workable information" at this point. She also offered a $1,000 reward to anyone who had information about the vandalism.

BJ Ledyard, a friend of Powell's, said the pumpkins were a source of pride in the neighborhood. "It brings people together because everyone says 'Oh, I know that house it's the one with the pumpkins,'" Ledyard said. "It's something people love to come by and see."

Mae Powell surveys the remains of her destroyed prize winning pumpkin.

News Album

Lonesome George: he was truly one of a kind.

Goodbye George, the last giant Galapagos tortoise

It was a sad day for Darwinians when the Galapagos National Park in Ecuador announced that Lonesome George had died.

George was the last giant tortoise of his kind, the sole surviving member of a species from La Pinta, one of the smallest islands in the Galapagos. He was found in 1972 and had become a conservation icon for Ecuador's Galapagos Islands. He was estimated to be over 100 years old.

"This morning the park ranger in charge of looking after the tortoises found Lonesome George (and) his body was motionless," said the head of the park, Edwin Naula. "His life cycle came to an end." Giant Galapagos tortoises can live up to 200 years and were among the many species that helped Charles Darwin formulate his theory of evolution.

The park said they had planned a necropsy to determine what caused George's death, after which they would consider embalming his body so that he could still be on display. The park gets over 180,000 visitors a year with George being one of the biggest attractions. The islands also pull in celebrities; Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie visited the Galapagos recently.

Scientists had been trying to get George to mate since 1993 and introduced two females of a different subspecies into his pen. Both partners laid eggs twice, but they were all infertile.

Actors shine in Venice film based on Scientology

VENICE, 3 Sept—Philip Seymour Hoffman shines as a cult leader in "The Master", a compelling new film inspired by the real life of Scientology founder L Ron Hubbard about how power and faith can corrupt.

The movie, from "There Will Be Blood" director Paul Thomas Anderson, has its world premiere at the Venice film festival on Saturday and with the Weinstein Company behind it as US distributor, Oscar nominations look like a decent bet. It was labeled "controversial" months before release mainly because of parallels with Scientology, a self-described religion followed by some of Hollywood's biggest names that has a reputation for carefully guarding its image.

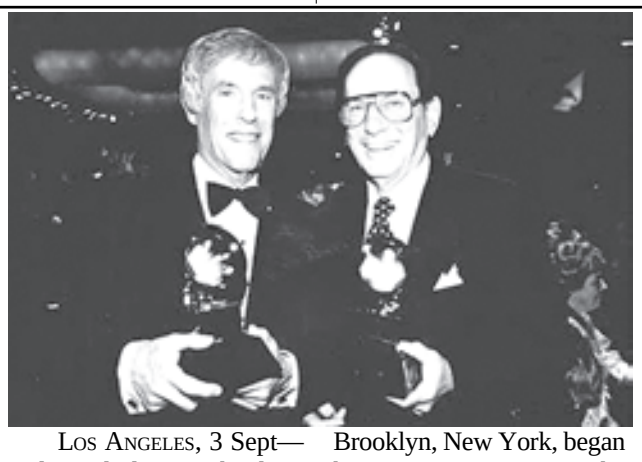
Its detractors describe the movement as a cult, which they say harasses people who seek to quit, although the movement rejects the criticism.

Anderson confirmed that Hoffman's character Lancaster Dodd, a charismatic, charming and controlling man who leads a faith named "The Cause", was based on Hubbard, who died in 1986.

"It's a character that I created based on L Ron Hubbard. There are a lot of similarities with the early days of Dianetics," he told reporters after a press screening, referring to the self-help system that Hubbard developed into Scientology.

"I don't really know a whole lot about Scientology, particularly now, but I do know a lot about the beginning of that movement and it inspired me to use it as a backdrop for these characters."

He added that he had shown the film to Tom Cruise, a follower of Scientology who starred in Anderson's 1999 drama "Magnolia". "We are still friends. Yes, I showed him the film and the rest is between us."—*Reuters*



"Raindrops Keep Fallin'" songwriter Hal David dies at 91

LOS ANGELES, 3 Sept—Hal David, a lyricist who along with composer Burt Bacharach took the pop world by storm in the 1960s with hits such as "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on my Head" and "Walk on By," died in Los Angeles on Saturday at age 91, a representative said.

David died at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre of complications from a stroke, said Jim Steinblatt, spokesman for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, or ASCAP.

Earlier this year, David and Bacharach received the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song from the Library of Congress, during a White House musical tribute.

David, a native of Brooklyn, New York, began his songwriting career in the late 1940s by collaborating with writers he had met at Manhattan's famed Brill Building, which at the time was the center of the pop industry.

He started working with Bacharach in the late 1950s and their songs were recorded by such artists as Frank Sinatra, Marty Robbins, Tom Jones and Barbra Streisand.

The singer most associated with the songwriting duo is Dionne Warwick, who rose to fame by scoring a number of Top 10 hits in the 1960s with material from David and Bacharach.

Bacharach's and David's song "Raindrops Keep Fallin' on my Head" was written for the 1969 movie "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and won the Academy Award for Best Song.

They also won a Grammy in 1969 for best score from an original cast show album for their Broadway musical "Promises, Promises," which included the song "I'll Never Fall In Love Again." The play returned to Broadway in 2010 starring Kristin Chenoweth and Sean Hayes.

The songwriting duo's other hits included "What the World Needs Now Is Love," "I Say a Little Prayer," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," and "(They Long to Be) Close to You," which is best known from a version by the Carpenters.—*Reuters*

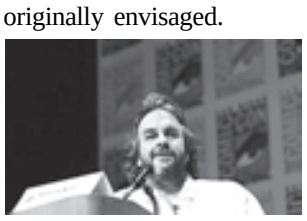
Actor Jackie Chan (C) carries an auction object to show to audience at the 2012 BAZAAR Stars Charity Night in Beijing, capital of China, on 1 Sept, 2012. Chinese showbiz stars, entrepreneurs and celebrities attended the event which raised more than 40 million yuan (6.3 million US dollars) in Beijing on Saturday.
XINHUA

Second "Hobbit" movie gets new name, July 2014 release for third

LOS ANGELES, 3 Sept—The third film in the upcoming "Hobbit" movie trilogy will be released worldwide in July 2014, the movie studios behind the venture said on Friday, and the second film now has a new name.

The third film — "The Hobbit: There and Back Again" — will open in movie theaters on 18 July, 2014 - just seven months after the newly titled second film "The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug" arrives on 13 Dec, 2013. The second film originally carried the "There and Back Again" title. The first film, "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey" starring British actor Martin Freeman as Bilbo Baggins, has already been set for a 14 Dec, 2012 opening.

Director Peter Jackson, Time Warner Inc's Warner Bros. and New Line Cinema, and MGM announced in July that the 3D-film adaptation of the classic novel by JRR Tolkien would be split into three films rather than the two originally envisaged.



Warner Bros executives said they believed the third movie would play well in the summer — the most lucrative period for the movie industry and the launch pad for action-packed blockbusters.

"We wanted to have a shorter gap between the second and third films of 'The Hobbit' trilogy. Opening in July affords us not only the perfect summer tentpole, but fans will have less time to wait for the finale of this epic adventure," Dan Fellman, president of domestic distribution at Warner Bros said in a statement.

Reuters

Broadway's 'Spider-Man' producers, Taymor settle sticky suit

NEW YORK, 3 Sept—A bitter legal dispute between the producers of Broadway's version of "Spider-Man" and the musical's ousted director, Julie Taymor, has been resolved, a court filing showed on Thursday.

"The parties in this action have reached an agreement in principle," US District Judge Katherine Forrest in Manhattan said in a three paragraph order that gave no additional details.

The order said the parties have 60 days to come back to court to reopen the litigation before the order becomes final.

While it has packed the theater, "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" made a disastrous start on Broadway in 2010, with injuries to actors, opening night delays and the eventual firing of Taymor, the Tony-winning director of "The Lion King."

The stunt-heavy musical, which is based on Marvel Comics' most famous character and cost more than $70 million to bring to the stage with music by Bono and The Edge, was reworked after Taymor left the production in March 2011.

In November 2011, Taymor filed a copyright infringement lawsuit against the "Spider-Man" producers.

Taymor said that she had worked on the musical's original book — the non-sung words — before she left the show and that the producers continued to make "unauthorized and unlawful use" of her written works after she left.—*Reuters*

Oosthuizen takes control of Deutsche Bank with birdie blitz

NORTON, 3 Sept— South African Louis Oosthuizen produced a tournament record birdie blitz to take control of the Deutsche Bank Championship during Sunday's third round, leaving the highly fancied Rory McIlroy and Tiger Woods in his wake.

Oosthuizen reeled off nine birdies on his way to an eight-under 63, including a tournament record seven in a row from the fourth, to move to 19 under par for the tournament.

It left the 2010 British Open champion three shots clear of McIlroy, who returned a tidy 67 to sit alone in second and in striking distance at 16-under.

Woods managed a 68 to move into tie for third with fellow American and Ryder Cup hopeful Dustin Johnson (65) at 13-under.

"It was obviously probably the start anyone would dream of on that front nine," Oosthuizen, who went out in a course record 29, told reporters. "I made everything, so you get those days where you just look at a putt and you hole it." Oosthuizen started his charge with a tap in birdie on the par five second hole before his game went white hot on the fourth.

He coaxed in a seven-foot birdie putt on the drivable par four to start his blitz.

The 29-year-old drained back-to-back 20-foot birdies on five and six to take the outright lead and when he knocked in a five-footer on the seventh he led by three.

The 2012 Masters runner-up kept the streak alive with a 42-foot bomb on the eighth and impressed when a 23-footer went down on the ninth for an opening 29, a course record for TPC Boston.

Reuters

Louis Oosthuizen of South Africa

Djokovic eases through, Roddick parties on

NEW YORK, 3 Sept— Novak Djokovic continued his stroll through the US Open draw on Sunday while former champion Andy Roddick staved off retirement by winning in front of 20,000 of his new-found best friends at raucous Arthur Ashe Stadium.

While Djokovic had a workmanlike 6-3, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Frenchman Julien Benneteau to reach the fourth round, the stadium turned rowdy watching Roddick's 7-5, 7-6, 4-6, 6-4 triumph over Italy's Fabio Fognini.

Other winners included top-seeded Belarusian Victoria Azarenka and defending champion Sam Stosur of Australia on the women's draw and David Ferrer of Spain and Swiss Stanislas Wawrinka on the men's side.

The party continued at Flushing Meadows for Roddick, who has become a rock star since announcing on Thursday he would retire after the US Open.

Serbia's Novak Djokovic

New York fans always enjoyed watching Roddick but it has been raised several notches. Fans in Ashe Stadium cheered the 30-year-old American's every move and repeatedly broke into chants of "Let's go An-dy, let's go, An-dy."

When Fognini's service return slammed into the net on match-point, the crowd, including Roddick's model/actress wife Brooklyn Decker, erupted.—*Reuters*

***Andy Roddick serves to Italy's Fabio Fognini in the third round of play at the 2012 US Open tennis tournament, on 2 Sept, 2012, in New York.*—REUTERS**

Pienaar pulls out of Brazil friendly

JOHANNESBURG, 3 Sept —South Africa captain Steven Pienaar has pulled out of Friday's friendly against Brazil in Sao Paulo, a statement from the country's football association said on Sunday.

The Everton midfielder withdrew from the game after pulling a thigh muscle during Saturday's 2-0 defeat by West Bromwich Albion in the English Premier League.

South Africa's Steven Pienaar speaks during an interview following the launch of Puma's kits for nine African national soccer teams at the Design Museum in London on 7 November, 2011.
REUTERS

Racing Genk full back Anele Ngcongca, who picked up an injury in his team's UEFA Europa League tie against Luzern last week, is also missing while South Africa Footballer of the Year Siyabonga Nomvethe is a doubt.

Friday's match is the first in charge for new South Africa coach Gordon Igesund, brought in after the 2010 World Cup hosts failed to win either of their opening two qualifiers for the 2014 finals in Brazil.

Reuters

Juventus pile on the misery for hapless Udinese

***Juventus' Sebastian Giovinco (R) shoots to score a fourth goal past Udinese's Maurizio Domizzi during their Italian Serie A soccer match at the Friuli stadium in Udine on 2 September, 2012.*—REUTERS**

MILAN, 3 Sept—Juventus thumped Udinese 4-1 away on Sunday after the hosts, still coming to terms with their failure to qualify for the Champions League, had goalkeeper Zeljko Brkic sent off after 13 minutes.

Forward Sebastian Giovinco, back at Juve after two seasons with Parma, scored twice for the Serie A champions, who have now won their first two games of the new campaign, having gone unbeaten in the league last season.

Brkic was controversially dismissed after clattering into Giovinco as he ran on to a long Andrea Pirlo pass.

Chile midfielder Arturo Vidal fired the penalty past replacement goalkeeper Daniele Padelli, to set Juventus on their way.

Udinese, beaten in their Champions League playoff by Braga on penalties last Tuesday to fall at the same stage for the second season running, made little headway as Juventus kept possession.

Montenegro forward Mirko Vucinic scored the second goal at the end of the first half with a curling shot, after linking up with Kwadwo Asamoah, who left Udinese for Juventus in the close season. Giovinco then put the visitors further ahead in the 53rd minute when Padelli failed to hold Claudio Marchisio's shot, and added the fourth in the 71st minute following a move nicely set up by Pirlo. Midfielder Andrea Lazzari, a recent signing from Fiorentina, pulled a consolation goal back for Udinese in the 78th minute.

Reuters

International Sports

Liverpool's manager Brendan Rodgers watches his team play Arsenal as fans leave early during their English Premier League soccer match at Anfield in Liverpool, northern England on 2 September, 2012.
REUTERS

Rodgers left to ponder Liverpool striker shortage

LONDON, 3 Sept—The hot seat at one of England's powerhouses was already feeling a little uncomfortable for Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers on Sunday after a 2-0 home defeat by Arsenal left him reflecting on the club's worst start to a league campaign for 50 years.

Four months after gaining plaudits for guiding Premier League newcomers Swansea City to 11th place with an eye-catching brand of football, the Northern Irishman has plenty of problems to solve if Liverpool are to challenge for a top-four place.

The most pressing of them is a lack of goals.

Luis Suarez has proved profligate this season and Fabio Borini, signed from AS Roma, ran around to little effect before being substituted against Arsenal.

The fact that he was replaced by Stewart Downing, a shot-shy winger, hardly impressed the Anfield faithful still scratching their heads as to why England striker Andy Carroll was loaned to West Ham United with no replacement signed.

While Liverpool enjoyed spells of the kind of possession football Rodgers preached at Swansea, too often moves ended in cul-de-sacs or fizzled out in the final third.

Rodgers acknowledged the transfer window had left him with a lack of options up front.

"It's something that's gone now," he told Liverpool's website. "We all know we needed reinforcements and the players needed help, but the window is shut.

"We can't do anything about it now. My only concentration is with the players that are here and they've been fantastic. They've given me absolutely everything every day and I couldn't ask for any more from them.

"We've got what we've got. A lot of young players are going to get an opportunity." "What has happened has happened, we'll reflect on it as a club and hopefully come January and the next window we can transition the group that allows us to compete."

While the opening day defeat by West Bromwich Albion and Sunday's loss to Arsenal have been disappointing, a 2-2 draw with champions Manchester City suggested that Rodgers' side will not be languishing near the bottom for too long.

"We'll get better as our season progresses," he said.

"It was always going to be a difficult start. I have an inherent belief in this way of working, and I've had success with it. Over time here, that will be the same.

"These are the hard yards that you've got to put in early on and take the flak for."

Because of next weekend's World Cup qualifiers Rodgers will have to wait two weeks to try and kickstart Liverpool's season when his side travel to Sunderland, after which they are at home to Manchester United.—*Reuters*

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(4-9-12 09:30 am ~ 5-9-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Yadana Labha Muni Pagoda Festival
* News
* Jetro Business Support Centre Yangon
* Myanmar Agricultural Sector: Window to the World
* News
* 27th SEA Games Preparations "Judo"
* Yearning For Khin Art Exhibition
* News
* Mobile Living Style and Car Expo
* News
* Topic on Journal "The Consequences of Climate Change"
* Skilful Marionette Performance of New Generation Artistes
* News
* Victory of ASEAN Youths (Myanmar)
* News
* A Holiday Paradise & Me
* News
* Maha Wai Yan Communal Temple
* Myanmar Movie ''Life As Parents''

MYANMAR TV

(4-9-2012) (Tuesday)

7:00 am
1. Paritta By Venerable Mingun Sayadaw -Uppatathandi Paritta

7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am
3. Nice & Sweet Song

8:05 am
4. Songs of Yester Years

8:15 am
5. Teleplay (Health)

8:25 am
6. Selected Songs For 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions (2012) (Oldies & Mono Classical) (Amateur (Second) Division Level) (Women)

8:55 am
7. Song of National Races

4:10 pm
8. Musical Programme

4:45 pm
9. University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -Second Year (English)

5:05 pm
10. The Mirror Images of The Musical Oldies

5:30 pm
11. Sweet Melody

6:20 pm
12. Kyae Pwint Myaye Yin Khone Than

6:35 pm
13. Sing A Song

7:05 pm
14. TV Drama Series

8:00 pm
15. News
16. Bakery World
17. India Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

Weather forecast for 4th September, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	29/84	25/77	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
2	Kayah	30/86	21/70	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
3	Kayin	30/86	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	21/70	17/63	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	28/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	32/90	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershower	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	28/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
8	Bago	31/88	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
9	Magway	35/95	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershower (IH)	(100%)
10	Mandalay	37/99	26/79	Scattered rain or thundershower (IH)	(100%)
11	Mon	28/82	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
12	Yangon	31/88	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	23/73	18/64	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	27/81	20/68	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	28/82	22/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	31/88	24/72	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	35/95	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershower	(100%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	31/88	22/72	Some rain or thundershower	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	37/99	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershower	(80%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today	During the past (24) hours, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Magway Region, scattered in Mandalay Region, Chin and Kayah States, fairly widespread in Bago Region and Rakhine State and widespread in the remaining Regions and States withRegionally heavyfalls in Lower Sagaing Region and Mon States and isolated heavy falls in Upper Sagaing, Magway and Yangon Regions. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Kyeikkhame (6.18) inches, Minkin (4.76) inches, Kalaywa (4.41) inches, Chaungson (4.09) inches, PyinOoLwin (2.80) inches, Moekok (2.71) inches, Gangaw (1.58) inches, Shwebo (1.53) inches.
Bay Inference	Monsoon is moderate to strong in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.
State of the Sea	Squalls with moderate to rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coasts. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35) mph.
Outlook for sub-sequent two days	Likelihood of increase of rain Northern Myanmar areas.

Motor racing-Button enjoys Spa win after Alonso crashes

SPA FRANCORCHAMPS, 3 Sept— McLaren's Jenson Button won the Belgian Grand Prix from pole position on Sunday after a first corner pile-up ended the hopes of team mate Lewis Hamilton and Ferrari's Formula One leader Fernando Alonso. Button enjoyed an untroubled afternoon in the Spa sunshine, making just one stop and taking the chequered flag 13.6 seconds clear of Red Bull's double world champion Sebastian Vettel, who won from pole last year.

Finland's Kimi Raikkonen, the 2007 champion, took third place for Lotus to strengthen his title challenge in his comeback year with a fourth podium in five races. Alonso, who started the race with a 40 point lead over Red Bull's Australian Mark Webber, had hoped for a record-equalling 24th successive points finish but that was shattered in a cloud of carbon-fibre after a matter of metres.

His lead was slashed to 24 points, less than a race win, with Vettel rising to second overall. Webber dropped to third, 32 points adrift of Alonso. Raikkonen is one point behind in fourth.

The Spaniard could at least consider himself fortunate not to have been hit on the head by the flying Lotus of Frenchman Romain Grosjean, whose car took off after colliding with Hamilton and flew over the front of the Ferrari. Grosjean was handed a one-race ban for causing the collision, which brought out the safety car, meaning he will miss next weekend's Italian Grand Prix at Monza.

Sauber's Sergio Perez also retired on the spot in a miserable afternoon for his Swiss team after a Saturday qualifying session that had promised so much with both their cars in the top four.

Kamui Kobayashi, only the second Japanese driver to start from the front row, was also caught up in the first lap mayhem and went to the back of the field and finished 13th.

His brakes had already started smoking before the start, which was jumped by Venezuelan Pastor Maldonado — who was handed a 10 place penalty for Monza for that and a later collision that ended his race.

Button's 14th career win, and first at the classic Spa circuit, came in his 50th race for McLaren and his satisfaction was evident as he posed for a team photograph with father and girlfriend in 'rocket red' T-shirts. "This circuit is such a special one to most drivers, the way it flows and the history, so to get a light to flag victory is very special," said the 2009 champion after his second win of the season.

Reuters

McLaren Formula One driver Jenson Button of Britain celebrates after winning the Belgian F1 Grand Prix in Spa Francorchamps 2 September, 2012.
REUTERS

Pistorius cries foul after 200m loss to Oliveira

LONDON, 3 Sept—Oscar Pistorius complained vociferously about the length of his opponent's blades after he was beaten into second by Brazil's Alan Oliveira in the men's 200 metres final at the London Paralympic Games on Sunday. South African Pistorius streaked into an early lead and was almost 10 metres ahead as the athletes came into the home straight, before the Brazilian launched an astonishing fightback.

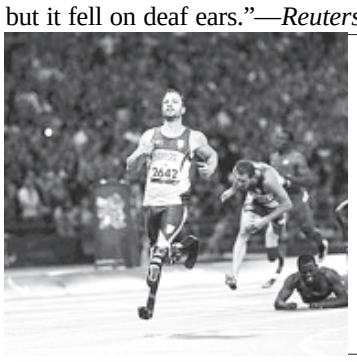
Oliveira ate up the ground and surged past Pistorius in the final few metres. The underdog finished with a time of 21.45 seconds, seven hundredths of a second ahead of Pistorius, who won gold in the event four years ago in Beijing, with American Blake Leeper in third.

The result left Pistorius seething about his opponent's prosthetic blades, which he claimed were too long.

"This is a really strong race of mine, and as I said in the mixed zone, the size of some of the other guys' legs are unbelievably long," Pistorius told Britain's Channel 4.

"Not taking anything away from Alan, he's a great athlete, but the guys who do the measuring in the courtrooms, some of these guys are a lot taller and you can't compete for stride length."

"We're not racing a fair race. The International Paralympic Committee (IPC) have the regulations, but the regulations allow the athletes to make themselves unbelievably high. We tried to address the issue in the weeks leading up to this, but it fell on deaf ears."—*Reuters*



South Africa's Oscar Pistorius crosses the finish line in second place during the men's 200m T44 classification at the Olympic Stadium during the London 2012 Paralympic Games on 2 Sept, 2012.
REUTERS

Sharapova shines after the rain delay

NEW YORK, 3 Sept— Maria Sharapova shrugged off a verbal jab from Nadia Petrova about being saved by the rain after sneaking into the quarter-finals of the US Open on Sunday.

Sharapova won a nail-biter 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 against her fellow Russian to set up a clash with Frenchwoman Marion Bartoli. Petrova led 2-0 in the third set when rain halted proceedings for an hour and 13 minutes.

Sharapova spoke to her father, Yuri, on the telephone during the break and took his advice to play with increased energy and aggression when play resumed. Petrova said it was Sharapova's lucky day because she could regroup when the match was slipping away.

"You should ask her what happened," a frustrated Petrova said. "I don't know what went through her head. I had been in control in the third set. I had everything in my hands."

Maria Sharapova of Russia celebrates match point to defeat Nadia Petrova of Russia during their match at the US Open women's singles tennis tournament in New York, on 2 Sept, 2012.
REUTERS

"Maria looked hesitant and she couldn't get a hold of her game. But then after the rain break, actually it went in her favour because she had time to think, regroup, talk to her coach."

"And then she came out completely cool and collected. She started playing big tennis. Unfortunately, luck was on her side today."

Sharapova paused and then shrugged when told of Petrova's remarks. "Great," Sharapova said. "I'm the winner so whatever she wants to call it is fine with me."

Sharapova was told by her coach, Thomas Hogstedt, during the delay that her father wanted to speak to her.

"I called him," Sharapova said. "I didn't want to hear it after, if I didn't call him. I didn't want to have that conversation."

"He just said, 'Your energy dropped in the beginning of the second set. That's over. That's done. Now you got to go out there and fight.' I wasn't going to leave that court without a fight."

Sharapova's two hour, 14-minute victory was her 11th win in as many three-set matches this year.

"It's a nice statistic," she said. "It certainly wasn't on my mind because every match is different, different circumstances, whether you have started slow and come back in the second set or whether you had a letdown in the second. "No matter how you start the match, it's always how you finish. Whether it's an hour or whether it's three hours that you're out there, I don't want to give up until the last point."—*Reuters*

R/489 Printed and published by the New Light of Myanmar press in Nay Pyi Taw, the News and Periodicals Enterprise, Ministry of Information.

Road safety measures would be achieved only when there is cooperation between responsible departments, organizations and people

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Pyithu Hluttaw regular session continued for 38th day, at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall in Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10 am today, attended by Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann and 383 MPs.

At today's session, four questions were raised and replied, one report submitted, one new proposal submitted, the matter informing the Hluttaw undertaken, one proposal discussed and one urgent proposal submitted.

U Kyaw Ni Naing of Laukkai Constituency raised the question on **"if there is a plan to designate the appropriate rates for service charges for issuance of citizenship scrutiny card and census".** Regarding the question, Deputy Minister for Immigration and Population U Kyaw Kyaw Win replied that the Ministry is making preparation for the reviews on designation of appropriate rates. Plans are under way to make amendment to Myanmar Citizenship Procedures (1983).

With respect to the question of U Ko Gyi of Mahaaungmyae Constituency on **"how to tackle increasing number of traffic accidents that occur in cities across the country"**, Deputy Minister for Home Affairs Police Maj-Gen Kyaw Kyaw Tun said that implementation of Five International Vehicle Control Systems is in progress so as to reduce traffic accidents. Road safety measures would be achieved only when there is cooperation between responsible departments and organizations and people.

Regarding the question of U Than Myint of Wundwin Constituency on **"if there is a plan to carry out the upgrade of schools in Wundwin Township, renovation of the damaged schools and fund request for buildings",** Deputy Minister for Education U Aye Kyu replied that schools will be upgraded depending on the number of students. Fund will be allotted for renovation of four damaged schools. And arrangements are under way to allot fund for schools that are in urgent need of construction in the coming financial year.

With respect to the question of U Kyaw Win of Kangyidaunt Constituency on **"whether there is a plan to have hospitals and clinics in Universities and Colleges and to upgrade health care system there"**, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Win Myint said that Hospitals have high-quality health coverage for students of universities and colleges, staff and their families. So, there is no any plan to establish hospitals in the universities at present.

(See page 8)

38th day session of Pyithu Hluttaw meeting in progress.

MNA

Amyotha Hluttaw approves names for Chairmen, Secretary and members of the reorganized committees

Amyotha Hluttaw representatives sign attendance book.

MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Amyotha Hluttaw regular session continued for 38th day at Amyotha Hluttaw Hall of the Hluttaw complex, here, at 10:05 am today, in the attendance of Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Khin Aung Myint and 200 Amyotha Hluttaw representatives.

At today's session, the Amyotha Hluttaw Speaker proved the names of new Chairmen, Secretary and members of the reorganized Hluttaw committees.

Concerning with the query on **"there is any plan to grant permissions for State level projects and the government's projects to businessmen in transparent manners to ensure fair competitiveness",** Deputy Minister for National Planning and Economic Development Dr Set Aung said that the ministry has been using open tender system rather than those for giving private entrepreneurs permissions to privatize State-owned assets without running any advertisements in the newspapers to purchase things from the government since the country began its reforms. On the other hand, the ministry is supporting SME/SMI to keep away from choosing heavy companies with a lot of demands. In doing so, it makes SME get market access besides getting only demands, as well as helping it set supporting industries in cooperation with foreign countries.

Besides, the ministry follows rules and regulations of the constitution in carrying out businesses for economic development implements putting eyes on market oriented system. As for the governmental departments, corruption is needed to keep away to upgrade State-owned and private-owned businesses to keep abreast of international standard.

Regarding the query on **"there is any plan to recover sufferings from natural disasters such as floods, erosion and landslides causing in Ye in Mon State",** Deputy Minister for Transport U Han Sein said that the Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems under the ministry is carrying out repairing of courses of rivers for smooth of waterway with the use of allotted budget. But there is no plan to allot budgets for recovering of floods and landslides in towns.

There has yet been to get better landslide causes of Ye because it is out of the allotted budget. If the State

(See page 9)

Some foreign airlines to fly to Yangon

NAY PYI TAW, 3 Sept—Nowadays, the increased number of tourists enters Myanmar daily. Thus, some foreign airlines are interested in running of their flights to Myanma economic hub Yangon.

At present, Thai Airways, Thai Air Asia, Bangkok Airways, Silk Air, Jetstar Asia, Malaysian Airlines, China Airlines, China Southern Airlines, China Eastern Airlines, Air Asia and Vietnam Airlines are running their flights to Myanmar.

As of October, five more foreign airlines will fly to Yangon. These airlines are ANA Air Nippon Airways (Japan), Water Airline, China (Taipei)-based EVA Airlines, Korea Airlines and Germany-based Condor Airlines.

Moreover, other foreign airlines are preparing to fly to Myanmar directly.

Myanma Alin