

The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

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President U Thein Sein attends opening of Myanmar Global Investment Forum

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Myanmar Global Investment Forum jointly organized by Myanmar Investment Commission and Hong Kong-based Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd was held at the Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC) here at 10 am today, attended by President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Thein Sein.

Also present on the occasion were Union Ministers, deputy ministers, heads of department, ambassadors and diplomats from foreign embassies, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, CEC members, chairmen of Dawei, Thilawa and Kyaukpadaung Special Economic Zones Management Committees and members, the CEO of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd and



President U Thein Sein meets CEO Mr Tony Shale from Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd (Asia Branch) and foreign organizations and entrepreneurs at MICC. MNA

members and 506 organizations totaling 861. Mr Tony Shale of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Ltd (Asia Branch) and businessmen from foreign companies and organizations at the meeting hall of MICC, and elaborated on sector-wise reforms being undertaken in the nation including political and economic sectors.

Market competition for agriculture produces and country's products would be intense



Vice-President U Nyan Tun inspects booth, laboratory and seeds bank displayed at Agriculture Research Department under A&I Ministry in Zeyathiri Township. MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Vice-President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar U Nyan Tun inspected works at Agriculture Research Department under the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Zeyathiri Township, Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this morning.

At the seed bank of Agriculture Research Department, Union Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation U Myint Hlaing reported to the Vice-President on implementation of three main tasks—marketable quality seed production,

training and education of good agriculture patterns for farmers and research and development for agriculture development, with the aim of farmer centered-development.

After that, Director-General Dr Thein Lwin of Agriculture Research Department, Rector of Yezin University of Agriculture Dr Tin Htut and Deputy Ministers for Agriculture and Irrigation U Ohn Than and U Khin Zaw made clarifications.

(See page 7)

Next, local and foreign businessmen held discussions on economic prospects of Myanmar and further development, sustainability and pledges.

Later, Union Minister for Finance and Revenue (See page 6)

Republic of the Union of Myanmar
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Deputy Ministers reshuffled

Under Section 234, Sub-sections (A) and (D) of the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Section 16, Sub-section (B), Para (9) of the Union Government Law, Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 1 U Myint Zaw and Deputy Minister for Electric Power No. 2 U Aung Than Oo have been transferred to the Ministry of Electric Power as deputy ministers.

Sd/Thein Sein
President
Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Member of Indian Parliament



NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa received a delegation led by Member of Indian Parliament Mr Mukut Mithi at Pyithu Hluttaw Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

They held a discussion on promotion of bilateral ties as well as contacts between the two parliaments and between Hluttaw representatives of the two countries.—MNA

Sri Lanka to join jewellery industry in Myanmar

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Mines Dr Myint Aung received a delegation led by Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr HR Piyasiri at the ministry, here, at 1 am

today.

At the call, they focused on participation in production of finished goods in jewellery sector by applying advanced technology.—MNA

Crimes Fire surveillance CCTV installed on Mann Myanmar Plaza

MANDALAY, 12 Sept—A CCTV has been installed on the top of Mann Myanmar Plaza (Zaygyo) in Mandalay to be able to make surveillance for outbreaks of fire as part of efforts of Mandalay Region Fire Services Department to take fire preventive measures.

The CCTV can enlarge the place on outbreak of fire

about 200 times through digital zoom and depict the images with the use of infrared ray.

With the use of CCTV, the department can manage putting out of fire in time and sending of fire engine to the scene so as to reduce loss and damage in the fire.

Myanma Alin



Lost motorcycle found in Laikpya Lake

BAGO, 12 Sept—U Khin Maung Oo of 3rd Pyidawtha Street in Yongyi Ward of Bago informed Bago Police Station No. 1 that he lost a brown colour motorcycle with number plate 9Ya/....

At 8.30 am today, a local informed the police station that a handle of motorcycle could be seen in Laikpya Lake. SIP Zaw Moe Lwin and party inspected it.

According to the investigation, it was the lost motorcycle.—Myanma Alin

Pyithu Hluttaw Deputy Speaker U Nanda Kyaw Swa receives Member of Indian Parliament Mr Mukut Mithi.
MNA

Border Affairs Minister receives Indian delegation

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Border Affairs Lt-Gen Thein Htay received a delegation led by Mr Mukut Mithi of Indian Parliament at his office, here, this afternoon.

They discussed development tasks along border areas between the two countries and coordination in transport, education and health sectors.—MNA

Israeli Ambassador calls on Union L&F Minister

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Department U Ohn Myint received Israeli Ambassador Mr. Hagay Moshe Behar in the Ministry, here, at 2 pm today.

At the call, they had a cordial discussion on the training of livestock and fisheries, breeding of milch cow and fisheries.—MNA

Health Ministry pays more attention to vaccination



WHO Medical Officer Dr Vinod Kumar Bura gives vaccination to children.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Health Ministry is giving priority to health care for rural people, Union Minister Dr Pe Thet Khin said in his speech at opening session of Immunization Year 2012 at the ministry here this

morning.

He said immunization could reduce mortality rate of children between one and five. Most townships with under 80 percent immunization coverage are remote ones. The

immunization will be carried out in 118 townships in open season with 61 townships to receive vaccines ahead of open season. He promised all the children with interrupted dosages for various reasons will receive

vaccines this year.

Medical Officer of World Health Organization Dr Vinod Kumar Bura and In-charge of Young Child Survival Development Section of UNICEF Dr Marinus Gotink gave talks on importance of vaccination in health care.

The WHO medical officer presented medical equipment for intensive care unit worth US\$ 1.5 million donated by international donors for region and state hospitals to the Union minister.

The ceremony was attended by Union Minister for Labour U Maung Myint, deputy ministers, National Health Council members, departmental heads, officials, members of social organization and guests.

“More than 70,000 children who did not receive vaccines in the previous year will be vaccinated this year,” project manager Dr Kyaw Kan Kaung of extensive immunization division of the Ministry of Health.

MNA

Express bus turns over in Thaton

YANGON, 12 Sept—An express bus running Yangon-Ye route turned over in Thaton at 3.45 am on 9 September.

Aung Thiha Express Bus plunged into the opposite way and then turned over between mile posts 151/4 and 151/5 on Yangon-Mawlamyine Highway in Binhlaing Ward of Thaton Township.

In the incident, Sai Khun Thet Oo, 25, was injured at bruise at right calf, U Kyaw Oo, 30, at bruise at right calf and Wai Lin Aung, 26 at bruise at left hand.

Kyemon

Eighth standard girl student died in lightning

BAGO, 12 Sept—A female student was stricken by lightning and heavy rains on 6 September in Bago.

At 7.30 pm on 6 September, the eighth standard student of East Myolay Village in Bago Township set together with her mother on the bench. While going onto the upstairs

Illegally cows seized at Myinmu Jetty

MYINMU, 12 Sept—At 5.30 pm on 9 September, cows were illegally carried by motorboat without any permission near Khandaw Monastery in Athawka Ward of Myinmu of Sagaing Region.

Together with witnesses, SIP Kyi Lwin and party checked the motorboat and found 18 cows without any permission.

Myinmu Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against U Sein Hla, son of U Swa, Ko Phyto, son of U Khin Maung Soe, Ko Maung Chit, son of U Ba Gyan, Ko Myat Thu, son of U Hla Thauang, Aung Naing Min, son of U Thein Win and Ko Maung Naing, son of U Nyunt Shwe of Kyaukyit Village in Myaung Township under the law.

Myanma Alin

where her father was worshiping the Buddha by ladder outside the wall of house, he was stricken by lightning. She died on the spot.

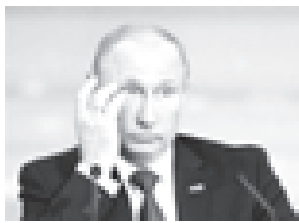
Bago Township Police Station No 1 opened the file of lawsuit against her death.—Kyemon

WORLD

Putin says Romney stance shows Russia right about missile shield

SOCHI, 12 Sept—US presidential candidate Mitt Romney's critical stance on Russia proves that Moscow's opposition to an American anti-missile shield in Europe is sound policy, President Vladimir Putin said on Tuesday.

In his second public remarks about the Republican nominee in a week, Putin said there were "pluses and minuses" to Romney's attitude toward Washington's former Cold War enemy. "The fact that Mr Romney considers us enemy No 1 and clearly has a poor opinion of us is a minus. But the fact that he speaks that way—directly, frankly and clearly—means that he is a direct and candid



Russia's President Vladimir Putin

person. That's a plus," he said.

"We'll focus on the pluses, not the minuses," he told reporters in the Black Sea resort of Sochi. Romney once called Russia "without question our No 1 geopolitical foe", and has promised "less flexibility and more backbone" in policy on Russia if he defeats President Barack Obama in the 6 November election.

In power since 2000, Putin began a six-year presidential term in May after a campaign in which he used anti-American rhetoric as a political tool, accusing the United States of stirring up street protests in Russia.

Last week, Putin said that Romney's criticism was in large part electioneering, but that his apparent animosity meant Russia's suspicions about a missile shield the United States is building in Europe would only deepen if he is elected. US plans for a missile defense shield in Europe, which Washington has already started to deploy, have been a major irritant in US-Russia relations.

Washington says the

shield is meant to counter a potential threat from Iran and will pose no risk to Russia.

Russia says the system's interceptors will be able to destroy Russian warheads in flight by about 2018, weakening its nuclear arsenal and upsetting the balance of power.

Moscow wants a binding guarantee the system would never be used against it.

Putin elaborated on the idea on Tuesday, saying he was "grateful" to Romney because his description of Russia as a foe "has once again confirmed our approach to the issue of missile defence is the right one.—Reuters

RUSSIA

OECD pushes Mexico's Pena Nieto to back labour bill

MEXICO CITY, 12 Sept—The head of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development on Tuesday urged Mexico's President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto to support a proposed labour reform put before Congress by outgoing President Felipe Calderon. Calderon's draft bill to soften antiquated labour regulations and make trade unions more transparent faces opposition from Pena Nieto's centrist Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which ruled Mexico continuously between 1929 and 2000.

The bill, which intends to make the labour market more competitive, foresees making work contracts in Mexico more flexible,

enshrining trial periods in law and forcing unions to disclose details of their assets and submit to external audits.

Unions have staunchly defended their rights and have helped sink efforts at labour reform in the past. By the same token, Calderon's National Action Party (PAN) has set great store by opening the unions up to more scrutiny.

Support from organized labor was a keystone of the PRI's base and despite corruption scandals, unions have powerful representatives inside Congress, among them the leader of the oil workers' union, who has just entered the Senate for the PRI.

Reuters



Mexico's President-elect Enrique Pena Nieto speaks to the media next to Mexican President Felipe Calderon (not pictured), after attending a private meeting at Los Pinos Presidential Palace in Mexico City on 5 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Obama, Netanyahu vow to prevent Iran from acquiring nuke bombs

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept—US President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated on Tuesday their determination to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. In their one-hour phone conversation that the White House described as part of ongoing consultations, the two leaders discussed the threat posed by Iran's nuclear programme, and bilateral cooperation on Iran and other security issues.

"President Obama and Prime Minister Netanyahu reaffirmed that they are united in their determination to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, and agreed

to continue their close consultations going forward," the White House said in a statement.

The phone talks came as Netanyahu pointed his finger at Washington over the latter's refusal to set a clear red line over Iran's controversial nuclear activity.

The Obama administration insisted that there is still "time and space" to pursue the two-track approach of sanctions and diplomacy to pressure Iran to give up its uranium enrichment activities. "The world tells Israel 'wait, there's still time'. And I say, 'Wait for what? Wait until when?' Those in the international community who

refuse to put red lines before Iran don't have a moral right to place a red light before Israel," Netanyahu said on Tuesday at a joint Press conference with visiting Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borisov.

Netanyahu and other Israeli leaders have threatened time and again preemptive air strikes on Iran's nuclear sites to stop its uranium enrichment activities, though the Islamic republic insists on the peaceful nature of its nuclear programme.

Washington, however, is in no mood to see an armed conflict over Iran in an election year as Obama is seeking a second term in November.

Xinhua

MIDDLE EAST

US ambassador to Libya killed in attack: Libya official

BEIRUT, 12 Sept—The US ambassador to Libya and three other embassy staff were killed in a rocket attack on Tuesday night that targeted his car in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi, a Libyan official said on Wednesday.

"The American ambassador and three staff members were killed when gunmen fired rockets at them," the official in Benghazi told Reuters.

Asked about the deaths, a US Embassy employee in Tripoli said: "We have no

information regarding this." The employee said the embassy could confirm the death of one person.

The Libyan official said the US ambassador had been on his way to a safer venue after protesters attacked the US Consulate in Benghazi and opened fire, killing a staff member, in protest at a US film that they deemed blasphemous to the Prophet Mohammad.

The official said the ambassador and three other staff were killed when

gunmen fired rockets at his car. He said the US Embassy had sent a military plane to transport the bodies to Tripoli to fly them to the United States.

Gunmen assaulted the Benghazi compound on Tuesday evening, clashing with Libyan security forces, who withdrew under heavy fire. The attackers fired at the buildings while others threw handmade bombs into the compound, setting off small explosions. Small fires were burning around the compound.

The assault followed a protest in neighbouring Egypt where demonstrators scaled the walls of the US embassy, tore down the American flag and burned it during a protest over the same film which they said insulted the Prophet Mohammad.

MNA/Reuters

Protesters destroy an American flag pulled down from the US embassy in Cairo on 11 Sept, 2012. REUTERS



German court seen okaying EU bailout fund, strings attached

BERLIN/KARLSRUHE, 12 Sept—Germany's Constitutional Court is expected to give its approval on Wednesday to the euro zone's new bailout fund while insisting on guarantees to

centre-right coalition and Left Party hardliners opposed to European integration.

If the court in Karlsruhe were to defy expectations and uphold injunctions against the bailout fund in its 10 am (0800 GMT) ruling, it could devastate bond and currency markets and plunge the euro zone into turmoil by depriving it of funds to keep debt-laden southern states afloat.

But legal experts believe the eight judges in the court's Second Senate will back the treaties, based on its previous rulings that have allowed integration while insisting on full consultation with the Bundestag (lower house).

"The constitutional limits for surrendering sovereignty are not set in stone but open to interpretation, meaning economic, social and political circumstances can be taken into account," said Tanja Boerzel, a law professor at Berlin's Free University.

"A 'No' from the court on the ESM could have not just fatal consequences for the euro, but could also spark a constitutional crisis as the Bundestag and Bundesrat (upper house) ratified the ESM and fiscal pact with constitutional majorities," she said.

Reuters



German Chancellor Angela Merkel attends a session of the lower house of parliament Bundestag in Berlin on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

safeguard German parliamentary sovereignty and limit Berlin's financial exposure.

Chancellor Angela Merkel remained tactfully quiet as the court kept policymakers and markets on tenterhooks for months, delaying the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and fiscal compact to check that they comply with German democratic rules.

But Finance Minister Wolfgang Schauble blurted out last week he was "sure" of victory over the 37,000-odd plaintiffs, who include eurosceptics from Merkel's

Measles cases in Zambia alarming

LUSAKA, 12 Sept—Cases of measles in Zambia are alarming and the disease has become a major threat to the lives of children, the *Zambia Daily Mail* reported on Tuesday.

"Children are our future and the authorities cannot sit idly by and watch them die of measles and other diseases we can easily prevent," Minister of Community Development, Mother and Child Health Joseph Katema was quoted as saying by the paper at the launch of a national immunization week set on 10-15 Sept. According to government statistics, between 2010 and 2011, 37,582 cases of measles were reported by various health centers countrywide and that 238 children died from measles during the same period.

The government, he said, is committed to reducing the child mortality rate by two-thirds by 2015 and that it will try by all means to prevent deaths of children from preventable diseases. Meanwhile, the World Health Organization (WHO) has said the immunization programme offers a unique opportunity to protect Zambia's children against measles, *Daily Mail* said.—Xinhua



The view of the lower front and underbelly areas of NASA's Mars rover Curiosity combines nine images taken by the rover's Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI) during the 34th Martian day, or sol, of Curiosity's work on Mars (9 Sept, 2012). Curiosity's front Hazard-Avoidance cameras appear as a set of four blue eyes at the top center of the portrait.—XINHUA

Dark energy is real, Anglo-German researchers argue

LONDON, 12 Sept—Dark energy, the mysterious cosmic force thought to be the fuel behind the accelerating expansion of the universe, is real, according to an Anglo-German team of astronomers. After a two-year study, scientists at the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom and LMU University Munich in Germany have concluded that the likelihood of dark energy's existence stands at 99.996 percent.

That's the same level of certainty as this year's celebrated discovery of the Higgs boson, or a subatomic particle that looks very much like it, by scientists at the CERN research centre near Geneva.

Although accepted by many scientists as the best explanation for why the universe is expanding at an ever-faster rate, the theory of dark energy has its skeptics.

Astronomers studying the brightness of distant supernovae over a decade ago won the 2011 Nobel Prize for Physics for their conclusion that the expansion of the universe was accelerating. But some scientists argue this is an illusion, caused by the relative movement of Earth in relation to the rest of the cosmos. Others suggest shortcomings in our understanding of gravity are more likely responsible than dark energy.

"Dark energy is one of the great scientific mysteries of our time, so it isn't surprising that so many researchers question its existence," said Bob Nichol, a member of the Portsmouth team involved in the research, which was published in the academic journal *Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society*.—Reuters

Facebook CEO dangles search and mobile, shares rally

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Sept—Facebook Inc CEO Mark Zuckerberg soothed investors in his first major public appearance since the No.1 social network's rocky May IPO, breathing life into its struggling shares after hinting at new growth areas from mobile to search.

The 28-year-old co-founder looked confident in a gray T-shirt and jeans, asking Wall Street to be patient as the company developed new products, addressing issues such as employee morale, and dashing rumours Facebook may build a smartphone.

Facebook became the first US company to debut on stock markets with a value of more than \$100 billion. But it has since lost more than

half of its capitalization as investors fret about slowing growth and the company's challenges making money as users shift from PCs to mobile devices.

Zuckerberg, who has himself lost billions of dollars on paper since Facebook's market debut, admitted to disappointment about his company's crumbling share price, but argued Wall Street has yet to grasp the full potential of its fledgling mobile business.

His comments helped drive Facebook shares up more than 3 percent after hours to above \$20, building on a 3.3 percent gain in regular trade on Tuesday. The stock is still well off its \$38 debut price.

"It was positive just to

see him out there speaking," said Raymond James analyst Aaron Kessler. "He was hinting that the stock was undervalued, and we'll see about that. But he's looking at this business as a multiyear investment, even if investors are looking for results much



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks during a question and answer session at the TechCrunch Disrupt conference in San Francisco, California, on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

Huawei plans \$2 billion British expansion

LONDON, 12 Sept—Chinese group Huawei Technologies, the world's second-largest telecoms equipment maker, is to invest \$2 billion expanding its operation in Britain, creating about 700 new jobs in the next five years. Founder and chief executive Ren Zhengfei outlined Huawei's plan on Tuesday, when he also met Prime Minister David Cameron.

"The UK is an open market, which welcomes overseas investment. I am, therefore, very pleased today to be announcing the \$2 billion investment and procurement plan, promoting the development of openness and free trade," Ren said. Cameron, who has been targeting overseas investment to help kick-start economic growth, said: "I want to see more companies invest in the UK as we work to achieve sustainable and balanced growth within our economy."

"The British government values the important relationship with China, both countries have much to offer each other and the business environment we are creating in the UK allows us to maximize this potential." Huawei, whose expansion plans have been met with suspicion in Australia and the United States over concerns about cyber security, said it would invest 650 million pounds (\$1.0 billion) in Britain, where it will build its workforce to over 1,500 by 2017. A further 650 million pounds will be spent buying components over the next five years, it said.

Reuters

Cheap and cheerful: scientists find colour that never fades

Science

LONDON, 12 Sept—Scientists have found nature's way of creating colour that never fades, a technique they say could replace pigments used in industry with natural plant extracts in products from food coloring to security features in banknotes.

Layers of cellulose that reflect specific wavelengths of light—"structural colour" found in peacock feathers, scarab beetles and butterflies—make a particularly intense blue in the Pollia condensata plant, scientists say.

Samples of the fruit in plant collections dating back to the 19th century had not lost any shine or intensity, they found.

"By taking inspiration from nature, it is possible to obtain smart multifunctional materials using sustainable routes with abundant and cheap materials like cellulose," said University of Cambridge physicist Silvia Vignolini. "It is 10 times more intense and bright than any color achieved with a pigment," said Vignolini, who led the study with plant scientist Beverley Glover.

Although the fruit has

no nutritional value, birds were attracted by its bright colour, possibly as a decoration for their nests or to impress mates, helping in seed dispersal.

"This obscure little plant has hit on a fantastic way of making an irresistible, shiny, sparkly, multi-coloured, iridescent signal to every bird in the vicinity, without wasting any of its precious photosynthetic reserves on bird food," said Glover.

And, unlike pigments, structural colour does not fade over time as it is not broken down by absorbing light.

"Edible, cellulose-based nanostructures with structural colour can be used as substitutes for toxic dyes and colorants in food," said Vignolini. The paper industry is already set up to extract and use cellulose and its processes could also be adapted for security labeling or cosmetics, she said.

"Cellulose-based structures have a really strong optical response and are completely inert in the human body," she said.

Another advantage of the technique is that the

desired colour can be achieved by adding layers in the structure to reflect different wavelengths, rather than buying new pigment.

Similar research by Peter Vukusic at Exeter University into the structure that creates colour in butterfly wings has spawned a pigment-free photonic make-up from French cosmetics company L'Oreal.

"I saw how brilliant optically some of these structural colours are," Vukusic told Reuters. "Some species collected as far back as the eighteenth century are as bright today as freshly hatched butterflies."

Vukusic said although some car companies, including BMW, have also exploited the phenomenon to produce iridescent paint that changes colour when viewed from different angles, "this is nothing compared to what you see in nature".

He said that if production challenges can be overcome, the abundance of cellulose—the basis of most green plant material—makes it a material with great potential.

Reuters

Apple's iPhone needs to dazzle as market gets crowded

SAN FRANCISCO, 12 Sept—The new iPhone 5 has to be more than just another smartphone as it carries the weight of Apple Inc's future on its slim frame.

Five years after the first iPhone upended the mobile industry, analysts say Apple is looking increasingly defensive as Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and other rivals have been first to market with phones that sport bigger screens or run on faster wireless networks.

Apple will try to close that gap on Wednesday with the unveiling of the newest iPhone, which is widely expected to offer 4G wireless technology for the first time, and a 4-inch display, up from the current 3.5 inches.

But it remains to be seen if Chief Executive Tim Cook has any surprises up his sleeve, and if he will show off any technological breakthroughs that can put the iPhone 5 head and shoulders above the competition.

"They have been in the crosshairs of a lot of companies for a long, long time," Sterne Agee analyst Shaw Wu said.

"They were the upstarts before," he added. "Now they are more in a defensive role."

Apple shares typically rally ahead of, and sell off



The logo of Apple is seen on a product displayed at a store in Seoul on 24 August, 2012.—REUTERS

after, a major product launch. They have gained 15 percent in the past six weeks to touch an all-time high on Monday.

Apple has grappled with competitive pressure since the first iPhone in 2007, though its rivals have changed as former market leaders such as Canada's Research In Motion or Finland's Nokia struggle, and as Asian powerhouse Samsung has come to the fore.

While no one company has yet been able to match Apple's seamless integration of hardware and software, Google Inc's Android has become the most-used mobile operating system in the world, and Samsung has the lead in device sales.

Wednesday's iPhone 5 launch also comes days after Nokia unwrapped its first phone to run the latest Microsoft Windows software, intended to spearhead a new family of devices.

Reuters



The logo of the Huawei Technologies Co Ltd is seen outside its headquarters in Shenzhen, Guangdong province, on 17 April, 2012.

REUTERS

Business

World oil demand to rise by 0.84 million barrels per day in 2012: EIA

HOUSTON, 12 Sept—World oil demand will rise by 0.84 million barrels per day (bpd) in 2012 to 89.09 million bpd, the US Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Tuesday.

Global oil demand will rise by a further 1 million bpd to 90.1 million bpd in 2013, an increase of 130,000 bpd from the agency's last month's estimate, the EIA said in its monthly short-term energy outlook report.

Meanwhile, the EIA expects oil demand in the United States, the world's biggest oil consumer, to drop 1.5 percent this year to a 15-year low of 18.67 million barrels per day.

Demand for gasoline, the most widely used petroleum product in the United States, is expected to decrease 0.2 percent from a year ago to an 11-year low of 8.73 million barrels a day.

Increased US domestic crude oil output will help reduce US dependence on oil imports, according to the EIA.—Xinhua

US trade deficit grows to 42 bln USD in July

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept—The US trade deficit edges up slightly in July, with a decline of exports outpacing a drop of imports, the Commerce Department said on Tuesday.

The total trade deficit grew to 42 billion US dollars in July, up from a revised 41.9 billion dollars in June. Exports fell 1 percent from the previous month to 183.3 billion dollars in July. Imports shed 0.8 percent from the previous month to 225.3 billion dollars in July.

The US trade deficit with the 27-nation European Union expanded to 12 billion dollars in July from 8.4 billion dollars in June. Its trade deficit with China rose 7.3 percent to 29.4 billion dollars in the period.

Trade deficit has been a drag of the US economic growth for many years. US economy grew at an annual rate of 1.7 percent in the second quarter, with real exports increasing 6 percent and real imports increasing 2.9 percent.—Xinhua

FDA warns L'Oreal about claims for anti-aging creams

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept—Regulators warned L'Oreal SA, the world's biggest cosmetics group, to stop advertising skincare products using language that makes them sound like drugs.

The US Food and Drug Administration said Lancome USA, a L'Oreal unit, claimed some of its skin creams could "boost the activity of genes" or "stimulate cell regeneration" to reduce signs of aging.

Any product that is

intended to affect the structure or function of the human body is classified as a drug, the FDA said, according to a warning letter posted on its website on Tuesday. Companies are not allowed to sell drugs in the United States without demonstrating to the FDA that their products are safe and effective.

L'Oreal, a French company, said it was committed to complying with all laws and regulatory standards.



L'Oreal cosmetics are displayed in a shop in Riga on 13 April, 2012.—REUTERS

Asian shares rise before German ruling, Fed meeting

TOKYO, 12 Sept—Asian shares rose to three-week highs and the euro hit a four-month peak against the dollar on optimism that a German court will approve the legality of the euro zone's bailout fund later on Wednesday and the US Federal Reserve may ease this week. The positive mood was bolstered by reports saying Spain is considering asking help from the European Central Bank's bond buying plan but not a full sovereign bailout.

European equities were seen narrowly mixed, with a 0.3 percent rise in US stock futures suggesting a firm Wall Street start. Financial spreadbetters called London's FTSE 100 .FTSE, Paris's CAC-40 .FCHI and Frankfurt's DAX .GDAXI to open between a 0.1 percent drop and a 0.2 percent rise. L EU N Risk momentum was also supported by comments from Premier Wen Jiabao on Tuesday that China is on track to meet this year's target for economic growth and if needed, the government could utilize a 100 billion yuan (\$15.8 billion) fiscal stability fund to boost growth.

The Australian dollar, a typical gauge of risk appetite and highly sensitive to the economic health of Australia's largest export destination, China, climbed to a three-week high of \$1.0490. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan .MIAP-J0000PUS added 1.2 percent,

driven higher by a 1.6 percent jump to a three-week high in Seoul shares .KS11, with Europe-sensitive shipbuilders among the best performers. Australian shares AXJO rose 0.8 percent as banks advanced. Germany's Constitutional Court said on Tuesday that it will go ahead with a ruling on Wednesday on the European Stability Mechanism (ESM) and budget rules, due at 0800 GMT.

Markets are anticipating an approval, which would help facilitate the ECB's bond-buying programme aimed at capping soaring borrowing costs in euro zone members that ask for a bailout.

A favourable court decision would show European sovereign debt and banking issues "are being addressed in a more robust form and obviously would be positive for banks there and banks here," said Peter Warnes, head of equities at

"We are aware of FDA's letter to Lancome and will respond to their regulatory concerns in a timely manner," a company spokeswoman said.

Some of the products mentioned in the letter, dated 7 September, include Genifique Repair Youth Activating Night Cream and Absolu Eye Precious Cells Advanced Regenerating and Reconstructing Eye Cream.

On its website, Lancome describes the Genifique Repair cream, which costs \$98 for a 1.7-ounce container, as "our first night care that boosts the activity of genes." The company cites an in-vitro test on genes to back up the claim.

The FDA said failure to fix the advertising claims could lead to enforcement actions, such as seizure of the products and injunctions against their manufacturers and distributors.—Reuters

Market

Morningstar, adding that it will signal "the market is freeing up a bit."

Japan's Nikkei average N225 rose 1.6 percent as the recovery in risk appetite dampened demand for the safe-haven yen, which eased 0.1 percent to 77.87. The yen rose to a 3-1/2 month high of 77.70 on Tuesday. The euro rose to \$1.2883 on Wednesday, its highest since mid-May. Rallies in riskier assets bolstered sentiment in Asian credit markets, narrowing the spread on the iTraxx Asia ex-Japan investment-grade index by 7 basis points to its tightest level since August last year.

"There is a general trend globally that money is flowing into higher-yielding credits" as yields on safe-haven government bonds such as German Bunds and Japanese government bonds remain suppressed, said Toru Yamamoto, chief strategist at Daiwa Securities.

Reuters



A visitor looks at his mobile phone in front of monitors displaying market indices at the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo on 13 July, 2012.—REUTERS



A woman walks past an Aeropostale store in Times Square in New York, on 27 July, 2012.—REUTERS

Holiday retail sales seen up 3.3 percent: ShopperTrak Business

LOS ANGELES, 12 Sept—US retail sales should rise 3.3 percent this holiday season, on what is expected to be the first increase in shopper traffic since 2007, according to a forecast from research firm ShopperTrak released on Wednesday.

ShopperTrak, a data firm that makes sales projections based on shopper visits to more than 50,000 retail locations around the United States, expects foot traffic to increase 2.8 percent during the peak holiday shopping months of November and December.

The holiday season can make or break a company's annual results, accounting for one-third of annual sales in many cases.

Monthly retail sales have

been up versus a year ago for the last 34 of 35 months, as consumers gain confidence in the US economy's slow but fitful recovery.

Traffic trends have been improving since the US Presidents' Day holiday in February, ShopperTrak founder Bill Martin said.

In recent years, shoppers had been going to stores with lists of what they intended to buy and did not spend a lot of time browsing stores.

That behavior seems to be changing, Martin said.

This year, shoppers are "a little more relaxed about walking around and seeing what's available in stores" and that presents opportunities to ring up additional sales, he said.

Reuters

For heart health, fish oil pills not the answer Health

NEW YORK, 12 Sept—Omega-3 fatty acids, found in oily fish such as sardines and salmon and once touted as a way of staving off heart disease and stroke, don't help after all, according to a Greek study. Based on a review and analysis of previous clinical trials including more than 68,000 participants, Greek researchers whose report appeared in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* said the fatty acids have no impact on overall death rates, deaths from heart disease, or strokes and heart attacks.

This was true whether they were obtained from supplements such as pills, or from fish in the diet, said the researchers, led by Mosef Elisef at the University Hospital of Ioannina. "Overall, omega-3...supplementation was not associated with a lower risk of all-cause mortality, cardiac death, sudden death, myocardial infarction, or stroke based on relative and absolute measures of association," Elisef and his team wrote.

A decade ago, medical evidence suggested that boosting omega-3s, including the acids known as EPA and DHA, with food or supplements had a strong protective effect even though the mechanism wasn't understood.

Scientists cited improvements in levels of triglycerides - a type of fat in the blood—as well as blood pressure levels and heart rhythm disturbances. But since then, the picture has grown clouded. Earlier this year, a group of Korean researchers found that omega-3 supplements had no effect on heart disease or death based on 20,000 participants in previous trials.

The current study pooled results of 18 clinical trials that assigned participants randomly to take either omega-3 supplements, or not. It also includes two trials in which people got dietary counseling to increase their consumption of omega-3 rich foods. Because the trials in the Greek analysis went as far back as 1989, researchers also considered whether growing use of statins and other medications could explain why later studies failed to support the earlier findings. But Elisef and his team said that wasn't the case.—Reuters

President U Thein Sein attends opening of Myanmar

(from page 1)

U Win Shein explained matters on amendment of tax law, revocation of revenue law, enacting of microfinance services law, amendment of interest rate, seeking help of IMF for combination of foreign currency exchanging rate, opening of four new private banks, extended opening of banks (branch), opening of foreign currency exchange counters and issuing of foreign currency trading licenses to 14 private banks.

After that, the Vice-Governor of the Central Bank of Myanmar and local and foreign businessmen discussed matters on banking development and market transparency.

Next, Deputy Minister for Energy U Htin Aung clarified on energy sector of Myanmar including potentials for production of oil and gas and future prospects.

Afterwards, those from local and foreign companies and organizations discussed sustainable development of oil and gas of Myanmar.

This was followed by discussions of those from local and foreign companies and organizations on the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law, robust investment and private investment.

The ceremony came to an end with a general round of discussions in the evening.—MNA



President U Thein Sein cuts a ribbon to open Myanmar Global Investment Forum.—MNA



CEO of Euromoney Institutional Investor (JERSEY) Asia Branch Mr Tony Shale extends greetings.—MNA

Union Transport Minister meets MD of Merubeni Aerospace Corporation

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Transport U Nyan Tun Aung received Managing Director Mr Hiroshi Ikuno and party of Japan-based Marubeni Aerospace Corporation at the ministry, here, yesterday evening.

They discussed holding of workshop in the second week of October in 2012 so

as to exchange views on launching of small-scale earth survey satellite of Myanmar provided by Japanese government to forecast weather, aviation and maritime communications, agriculture, marine administration, forest management, mining and better communications.—MNA

Myanmar, Sri Lanka to promote trade

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Union Minister for Commerce U Win Myint met a delegation led by Sri Lankan Ambassador Mr HR Piyasiri and Chairman Mr. Asoka Hettigoda of National Chamber of Commerce and party of Sri Lanka at the Ministry of Commerce, here, at 2 pm today.

They discussed more coordination for signing Preferential Trade Agreement or Free Trade Agreement, holding of trade exhibitions between two countries, promotion of cooperation in private sector, investment of entrepreneurs from Sri Lanka in Myanmar.—MNA



U Tin Tun, Daw Khin Saw Win and family from Thida Ward, Kyimyindine Township, Yangon recently donated K 400,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged. Joint-Treasurer U Chiet Myaing accepts the donation.—NLM

Unknown man dies at archways of Monastery

KYAUKME, 12 Sept—An unknown man died at the archways of Namsalin Monastery in Ward 2 of Kyaukme in Shan State (North) on 11 September.

Novices saw the body before going for ams round, and informed the abbot about it.

Due to information given by the Sayadaw, Township Administrator

U Kyaw Naing, the commander of Myomapolice station and officials inspected the body and sent it to the People's Hospital.

The dead person was about 40 years old Shan national. There was no injury at the body. The police station is conducting investigation for the dead body.

Kyemon

News in Brief

Victorious sports teams honoured

Victorious sports teams representing Shan State were honoured at the hall of Shan State Sports and Physical Education Department in Taunggyi on 11 September morning. Shan State Minister for Social Affairs presented cash awards to them teams who secured 14 gold, 12 silver and 19 bronze medals in Region and State Champion Challenge Cup.

International Literacy Day observed in Shan State

A ceremony to mark the 2012 International Literacy Day was held at Basic Education High School No 5 in Taunggyi on 8 September, with an address by the Chief Minister of Shan State.

Basic tailoring course 21 Sept

The basic tailoring course No 4/2012 for women's wear will be opened on 21 September and it will last two months. The training course will admit only 20 trainees and applications are to be submitted at room-301, building-169, Aungchantha Road in Ward 5 of Kamayut Township, not later than 20 September.

Free health care provided

A medical team from Shwehlay Station Hospital of Thandwe Township gave health care services to over 150 local people in Khamaungdon Village-tract. The team plans to provide similar services to the local people in other village-tracts.

Paper-reading session on 15 Sept

Annual paper-reading session, organized by Myanmar Geosciences Association, will be held at the hall of Myanmar Engineering Society at Hline University Campus in Yangon, at 9 am on 15 September. Any enthusiasts may attend it.

Action to be taken against phone caller drivers

As of early September, All Private Bus-line Control Committee of Yangon Region gave a directive to bus lines that action will be taken against drivers calling while driving to be able to avoid traffic accidents.

Market competition for agriculture produces...

(from page 1)

In response to the reports, Vice-President U Nyan Tun said that for the State's agricultural sector development, it needs to make efforts for enabling farmers to extensively use marketable quality seeds across the country. It also needs to share agricultural technologies by establishing model educative plantations in townships and villages in region and states in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area in order that agricultural technologies and good agriculture patterns are within the farmers' reach.

To fulfill the needs of quality seeds and agricultural technologies, agriculturalists are to share their research findings with the farmers, and it needs to seek practical ways for adequate use of fertilizers and inputs, which is a basic requirement for the development of agricultural sector.

Under ASEAN Regional Agreement, there would be free trade in

ASEAN countries in 2015. Market competition for agriculture produces and country's products would be intense. Thus, the agriculturalists on their parts are to implement the needs of all sectors in order that the farmers can enjoy higher income and living standards and get their confidence in their future. He urged the agriculturalists to make efforts for the development of agricultural sector with a sense of patriotism, country's development, self-confidence and pride after taking the examples of neighbouring countries' successes of agriculture reforms.

After that, the Vice-President looked into the research booths in Agriculture Research Department, paddy strains grown in Region/State, biotechnological labs and seed bank, and raised questions he went to know.

Then, he also inspected 85-day thriving pollinated Plae Thwe hybrid paddy and systematic pollination at research

plantation. The agriculturalists explained parent paddy seeds needed for 1,000 acres of F1 Pale Thwe hybrid paddy seed production farm will be produced.

Afterwards, the Vice-President handed over 60 Kg of maize seeds each to respective principals for the research of University of Agriculture (Yezin) of Agriculture Research Department and Institute of Agriculture (Pyinmana) and presented gifts to the agriculturalists.

The Vice-President and party proceeded to the 10-acre farmer educative quality sugarcane plantation near Thabyaybin village in Zeyathiri Township, and there, the deputy director-general of Industrial Crops Development Department reported to the Vice-President on thriving quality sugarcane plantation and extended growing of sugarcane in the coming season.

The Vice-President urged the officials to grow and distribute the high-yield sugarcane strains that can increase the growers' income.

MNA



Vice-President U Nyan Tun gives maize seeds to principals of University of Agriculture (Yezin) and Agriculture Science (Pyinmana) for research cultivation.—MNA

Heavy rain floods Yesagyo

YESAGYO, 12 Sept—Due to heavy rains, roads, schools and houses are still flooded in Layyapayae Ward of Region 8 in Yesagyo Township. Thus, the local people are facing difficulties of food, accommodation and transport matters.

A bridge was built across the drain at the

junction of the ward. As flood moves the bridge from the drain, the local people are

taking care of road accidents at the bridge and drain.—Kyemon



Dam damaged in heavy rains in Taungdwingyi

TAUNGDWINGYI, 12 Sept—The torrential rains in Taungdwingyi Township from 4 to 10 September and Chaukdaunt Dam in Lamaing Village of Talokkon Village-tract in the township was damaged and embankment broke down at 6 pm on 7 September.

The dam with 105 feet long and 54 feet wide was built by over 100 farmers from Talokkon, Lamaing, Hngetpyawdaw,

Aungchantha and Aungkhaing villages at a cost of K 10 million in 2007-2008, said Dam Committee Chairman U Myint Sein.

U Tin Myo Latt, Township Administrator and officials inspected the dam and said that they would repair the dam for supplying water to monsoon paddy fields in time.

Kyemon

Relief supplies provided to flood victims in Kawa

YANGON, 12 Sept—Karunaranthi Funeral Service Association of Ward 8 in Thakayta Township of Yangon Region handed over rice, clothes, instant noodle and various kinds of snacks worth K 1.5 million donated by wellwishers of ward dwellers to 385 flood victims of Thakkala, Magebin, Kathitbin, Tartan, Tesu, Hsetesu, Letpankaya, Kathitpin



South and Thazi villages Region on 5 September. of Kawa Township of Bago

Kyemon

Amyotha Hluttaw Deputy Speaker receives Member of Indian Parliament



Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein receives a delegation led by Mr Mukut Mithi of Indian Parliament.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Nyein received a delegation led by Member of Indian Parliament Mr Mukut Mithi and party at Hluttaw Complex, here, this afternoon.

Present at the call together with the

Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw were chairmen of the Hluttaw Affairs Committee.

Both sides had a discussion on legislation of the two Hluttaws and functions of the affairs committees.

MNA

Heroin seized in Lashio

HSIPAW, 12 Sept—While waiting in Manhsu Highway Bus Terminal in Ward 8 of Lashio at 2 pm on 4 September, Lashio Anti-Drug Special Squad of Shan State (North) saw and searched Van with number plate 4A... of Ma Bauk Ja, 51, daughter U An Paw Nu Lanu of Mongyulay Village in Kutkai Township and Ma Yun Aung, 35, daughter of Indala of Panlawt Village of Kutkai Township. The authorities seized

660 grams of heroin in 44 boxes of soaps packet with plastic sheet from three boxes worth K 12.5 million.

According to further investigation, the authorities arrested Sein Gwam, 35, son of U Phaw Htaing Gam of Mantong who ordered the two women to carry heroin, at Room 222 of New Asia Hotel in Lashio. Lashio Police Station opened a file of lawsuit against them.—Myanma Alin

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 13 September, 2012

Marriage means loyalty

Marriage is a special bond between two individuals, a strong commitment to love each others and cherish common values for the whole remaining part of life and an integration of two different lives as one.

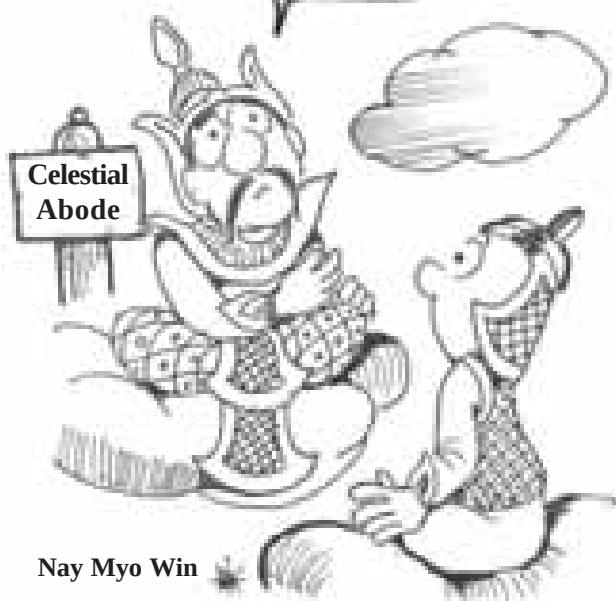
Some people take it for granted as a natural phenomenon. Some pay only a scant attention on the ingredient of love in marriage and search for marriage of convenience. Some yearn for romantic reunion with the better half. Some simply enter into traditional arranged marriage. In whatsoever way you get married, the only recipe for happiness in life beyond your wedding day is to have every faith in each other. How trustworthy you are to your spouse indicates your social morality. Things that could shake the mutual trust between the couple should be avoided.

The coordination also defines how happy you are in your married life. You should convince your other half of your honesty. If you are still hiding secrets behind your family, you will not find the deep happiness in it. When a marriage ends, nobody wins. It depends on personalities of each individual how they could manage their colourful married life last forever.

Adultery is the largest sin to marriage. It is also a biggest breach of moral principles. But no one will be perfect. There will still be the unfaithful in our society. If they can violate the strongest bond that can exist between the two people, they may not hesitate to break other agreements and may be loyal to none.

So, we should prove our loyalty towards our family members.

We have seen a decline
in number of
newcomers. Do we need
a promotion?



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

Curses in Bagan Stone Inscriptions

The American Heritage Dictionary gives the following meanings of the word “curse”

“curse = an appeal or prayer for evil or injury to befall someone or something; the evil or injury that comes from or as if from an invocation; a profane oath or foul language; swear word, a censure, ban, anathema. To invoke evil, calamity or injury upon, damn, afflict.”

All these meanings perfectly fit curses found in Bagan stone inscriptions. Stone inscriptions of other periods of Myanmar history do contain curses, but Bagan stone inscriptions’ curses are most common, very fearsome and frightening.

Blessings, curses, swearing and abusive language are inherent intangible aspects of human culture since Homo Sapien was fully evolved and developed. They are found in all cultures and civilizations of any date and period across the world. Here it is pertinent to cite two outstanding stories of frightening curses the writer had learnt in his study of archaeology and ancient history.

The first was the curse of a world renown Egyptian Pharaoh “Tutenkhamen”, an 18-year old boy king whose body was mummified and preserved in a hidden pyramid in the valley of the Nile River. A British research team led by Professor Howard Carter and his financial patron Lord Canavon discovered the pyramid after they nearly gave up in the post First World War. The second entrance which they reached through a secret underground tunnel bore a curse in ancient Egyptian pictorial letters which Egyptologists deciphered:

“Whosoever disturbs me lying in peace in this eternal world, shall meet with a violent death by one of four elements of Nature (1) Water (2) Fire (3) Earth and (4) Wind.”

At the entrance of the third chamber, they found some human skeletons with some treasures in their hands presumably the grave robbers who could not escape with their loots. After the party had emptied the great Pyramid by transporting, including the Pharaoh’s mummy with a gold mask of one ton weight covering its face, to London Museum by ships, the team was celebrating their success on board their home bound ship from the port of Alexandria. Egypt at that time was a British Protectorate. They were toasting joyfully. One of them raised his big beer mug and poured beer into his mouth. But beer went into his nostrils and he died as if drowned in the water— a very strange happening, accident? curse? Death by the element of water?

Three months after everyone of the research team was back home, another strange event took place. The Egyptologists were discussing their plan for their loots and the mummy. Two of them were intensely absorbed in their project. One of them with long and thick beard struck a match to light the pipe held in his mouth. Strange enough, instead of his pipe, unknowingly he had lit his beard and the fire that caught his beard consumed his body to death instantly! Death by Fire! This incredible tragedy shocked the team. But they ruled out as an unfortunate accident, with the excuse that after thousands of years the spell of the curse must have gone.

During summer, one British researcher of the team was holidaying in his country house. He used to gather dry fallen leaves and dump them into a pit for making natural fertilizer. One early evening, with a big basketful of dry leaves he tumbled into the pit and was sinking in the pit as he was a heavy weight. He yelled for help but neighbours were absent from home. When at last a girl heard his last yell and people rushed to the spot he was already dead, deep in the pit. Death by Earth!

In the winter of the same year, the youngest of the Team strong and healthy died of cold stroke. When his obituary appeared in the newspapers, all his colleagues were shocked and frightened. Death by Wind? He was perfectly healthy and no complaint of any disease. Suddenly his breathing stopped for no apparent reason. Members of the Team felt released because all four curses were now over.

It would be too long to narrate strange happenings that took place in London Museum when the mummy was about to go on cultural trips to foreign museums. The writer was in London at that time and he made press-cuttings of news of mummy’s curses revived. The writer had seen the mummy at the British Museum a number of times. Later in

Maha Suddhamma Jotikadhaja Sithu Dr Khin Maung Nyunt

1987, during his official visit to Egypt, he saw the mummy in the special room of Cairo Museum. An old curator told me that he had been hearing whispers of the mummy to restore it to its pyramid and not exhibit in the museum. Was he joking or was he serious?

The second story was the cursed Hope Blue Diamond which is today on display at the Smithsonian Institute Museum in the US. There is a fictionalized history book of “The Hope Blue Diamond”, which Indiana Jones would have loved to make a hit movie. A blue diamond of a big size and extraordinary quality which French Sun King Louis XIV bought at exorbitant price from a French jeweller-adventure Tavanier who managed to rob that jewel from a jade Rama-Sita combined statue kept in an Hindu Temple in Bayan. After many adventurous stratagems, Tavanier escaped with the blue diamond which he sold to the French King. Devotees and worshippers held many congregations and performed pujas and religious rites to invoke Rama and Sita to inflict terrible curses upon whosoever owned it or wore it because the blue diamond was worn by Sita. The said book describes a series of curses befalling its owners and wearers.

The first to be struck by the curse were Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette. The Queen wore the Blue Diamond as her favourite necklace. In 1789, the French Revolution broke out. The people held the king and the Queen solely responsible for their woes, distresses and poverty. After public trial Louis and Marie were beheaded by a machine “Guillotine”. The diamond mysteriously disappeared. But it changed many hands among European monarchs—Kaisers, Tsars, Caesars and Kings, inflicting inexplicable tragedies and deaths upon owners and wearers. To cut the long story short, finally it emerged at the auction shop in Bard Street, London. Arc American Billioner Mr Hope got the Blue Diamond as he was the highest bidder.

Hope turned the Blue Diamond into a pendant to give as birthday present to his wife. They arranged a sumptuous party and the wife made a special blue colour dress to match with the present. Two days ahead they brought the Blue Diamond from their bank and kept it in the safe in their bedroom. One late night, the wife was awoken by whispers. She saw blue rays of light from the safe whispering,

“My dear, do not wear me. It is cursed.” She told her husband that strange happening and persistently refused to wear it saying that it was not a dream but a true phenomena she experienced. So they donated the Blue Diamond to the museum of Smithsonian Institute. The writer had seen it at the museum, and had read an article “The cursed Blue Diamond” with a photograph in Readers’ Digest some years ago.

In his lecture on Underwater Archaeology given to the Ph.D. students, the writer gives reference to the recently salvaged Titanic which some researchers are saying it was cursed. The invincible and unsinkable highly modernized and technologically built great ship met its tragedy due to a trifle cause. It was not a big rock but an outcrop of an iceberg that broke and sank it. In spite of warnings, S.O.S messages for rescue, Titanic met its ill fate. Why? two curse stories emerged.

The RMS Titanic of 46,328 tons on its maiden voyage secretly carried as cargo an Egyptian mummy. When it was salvaged, the mummy was still not retrieved. Was it the curse of the mummy that caused the unbelievable tragic fate of Titanic hit by a mere iceberg and delay in SOS message and arrival of rescue team, claiming 1517 lives— the deadliest peacetime maritime disaster in history.

The other story was that Titanic was not christened. Built in Belfast, Ireland launched on 31 May 1911, began its maiden voyage on 10 April 1912 on the route from Southampton to New York city. The ship’s code numbers when converted to letter read “No Pope”. A 23-year-old crew master John Coffey stowed away because he held a superstition about travelling on the Titanic.

Now, we shall turn to Bagan curses. The writer had done cursory research on them. Stone inscription pillars in situ, at the museums, in the sheds at old Myanmar capitals and major towns, and border areas are plenty.

(See page 9)

Curses in Bagan Stone...

(from page 8)

Archaeology Department made fascimile copies in ink rubbings and U Min Swe, a research officer had compiled and published 41 inscriptions in a small booklet. In this article eleven are cited as samplings.

Bagan monuments and all other tangible objects were donated by people from all walks of life—monarchy to the grassroots, both clergy and laity. Blessings, wishes, prayers and curses in the inscriptions reflect their social status, characters and mentality. The two most outstanding stone inscriptions are (1) Yaza Kumar Inscription and (2) Monk envoy Shin Dithapamaukha's Inscription which have curses. In the former the curse was in one line

"Those who molest or persecute three villages of farm laboureres dedicated to the Pagoda shall never see Meteya, the next Buddha"

In the same vein, the curse in the latter runs:-

"Those who molest or destroy my dedications shall never see the next Buddha, Meteya."

For Buddhists, to miss Buddha means to miss his teachings without which you can never improve your present life and life hereafter and you have no chance to attain Nirvina which is the ultimate goal. Therefore that kind of curse is the most fearsome of all.

The eleven samplings are as follows:

- (1) Thingyi Saya Inscription originally located in the compound of Maha Bodhi Temple now in the museum. It was dated 1188 A.D. The donor dedicated 23 pagoda slaves [servicemen] to the Temple. His curse runs:-
"if anyone destroys my dedication, he, his wife, his children, his grandchildren, his siblings, his relatives shall be cast into Awizi, the lowest hell of all hells. Though as many as the grains of sand of Buddhas appeared they shall miss them."
- (2) Nantaungmyo Mingyi Inscription. This king donated many farms. It was dated 1223 A.D. The curse reads
"He who destroys my dedications shall be born hairless and skinless creatures. If he was born human he shall be forever socially outcast and forever miss all Buddhas."
- (3) Saw Min Latt Phaya Inscription. He built a stupa and a meditation cave, monasteries and farms and fields to support them. It was dated 1231 A.D. His curse are:-
"He who loots or destroys my dedications shall meet with eight kinds of punishments. When he dies he shall be cast into big different levels of hell. He shall suffer manifold more than Devadatta has been suffering. Any man or woman who robs my glebe lands, upon death shall go under a big stone slab of enormous dimensions. He or she shall be half buried, no water to drink, no food to eat, with the tongue coming out and forever starving."
- (4) Manuha Phaya Inscription. King Manuha of Thaton sold his manawmaya ruby ring to the wealthy man of Myingabar at 6 cartloads of pure silvers. With these silver he built a pagoda on the hillock named Sri Jeyabhumi. He set a stone inscription in 1067 A.D. with the following curses.
"He who destroys my dedications shall be born in the period with no Buddha. No Buddha could teach him dhamma. He shall forever be cast in hell"
- (5) Na Taung Htat Phaya Inscription in the museum. Dated 1185 A.D. Weiluwaddy, the queen of King Sithu donated many glebe lands, farm, labourers and cattle to the Na Taung Htat pagoda. She left the following curses in the inscription.
"He who destroys my dedications shall be inflicted with all dangers. Down to the

seven generations of his descendents shall also be inflicted with all dangers. They all shall be cast into all hells forever. No Buddha could give them dhamma to redeem them from hells or the whirlpool of Samsara [The Cycle of Births and Rebirths and sufferings].

- (6) Nga Myin Thin Inscription dated 1294 A.D. located in the compound of Phaungdaw Oo Pagoda in Thedaw-Wundwin, Meiktila Township. Many pagodas, slaves [servicemen] were donated. The curse in the inscription runs:-
"He who molest my dedications shall be cast into Awizi, the deepest of all hells. His food and his dresses shall be poisonous and he shall die of poisons."
- (7) Min Saya Dhamma Yaza Kawi Inscription dated 1268 A.D. Originally found in the compound of an old brick monastery near Myinkaba village. Now in the museum. He donated pagoda, slaves, farmlands and farm cattle to the pagoda he built. The following is his curse:
"He who loots my glebe lands, molests my pagoda slaves and takes the donated farm cattle shall be shortlived, shall never prosper, shall never meet the Buddha. He shall forever be cast into the deepest hell Awizi."
- (8) Thamanta-pate couple's Inscription dated 1271 A.D. Located in an old brick building to the north of Amana monastery at Min Nan Thu village. The curse is as follows:-
"If my relative or a monk or anyone who loots my glebe lands, he shall be shortlived. He shall never prosper. King's punishments shall befall him. He shall be killed by fire, water, thunder, weapons, tiger, leopard, wolf. He shall be immediately killed by incurable diseases. He shall be forever cast into Awizi hell. He shall never see the Buddha"
- (9) Min Ein Kyi Inscription dated 1284 A.D. Located in the shed. Registered No.10 at Lay Myet Hna Pagoda at Min Nan Thu village. This king built a monastery and donated farmlands and pagoda slave. The curse in the inscription are:-
"He who loots or destroys my dedications shall suffer all kinds of diseases, extreme poverty, meet all dangers, shall be cast into hells several times, shall suffer much more than Devadatta has been suffering, shall never see the Buddha."
- (10) Commander Tuyin Kapo Inscription dated 1308 A.D. Located in the compound of Shwezigon pagoda at Badat Htaung village, Myin Mu Town. This commander and his father donated many glebe lands to the pagoda. Their curses are:-
"He who loots or destroys my dedications shall be burnt to death by fire caused by a cart load of cotton. If he were born human, he shall be inflicted with leprosy, he shall forever be starving, no water to drink, no food to eat. When he dies, he shall be cast into the deepest hell. No Buddha shall given him the teaching of Dhamma."
- (11) Khin Mun Taw Inscription dated 1315 A.D. Located at Kin Mun village, Chaung U Town, Monywa District. He dedicated 3 pagoda slaves for the upkeep of the pagoda he built. The curses in the inscription are:-
"He who molests my dedications shall be inflicted with all diseases, he shall be shortlived, all dangers shall befall him. When he dies, he shall be cast into hells. He shall suffer much more than Devadatta. He shall be cast into hells countless times."

Readers, we have two big alloy Buddha Images and one bronze bell that were sent back to Myanmar. They are well known as Pyitaw pyan phayas and Pyitaw pyan Khaung Laung— meaning home returned Buddha Images and home returned bell. They are one big alloy Buddha Image in the temple in the compound of Botahtaung Pagoda, Yangon, and one Buddha Image of alloy in the temple in Za Lun Town. The home returned bell is now restored at the north-west corner of Shwe Hsan Daw Pagoda at Pyay Town. How and why these sacred objects were returned to the country of their origin were recorded in the contemporary archives.

Myanmar traditional boxing challenge 16 Sept



YANGON, 12 Sept— Organized by Myanmar Traditional Sports Federation of the Ministry of Sports, the Myanmar traditional boxing challenge, with the sponsorship of Victory Myanmar Group Co Ltd and T&T Group, will be held at Theinbyu Boxing Gymnasium in Yangon on 16 September.

In the challenges, Myanmar boxer golden belt champion Tway Ma Shaung

(Naga Mahn) will meet with East African boxing champion Umar (Uganda) who had 60 wins, 13 loss and two draws in 75 matches.

Myanmar boxer golden belt champion Lone Chaw (Nyaungdon) will play against New Zealander boxing champion Erua Druce. The foreigner had 18 wins, 10 draw and two losses in 30 matches.

On the opening day, six

five-round matches and two four-round matches including two foreigner challenges will be held.

The fixtures on six local challenge boxing will be Ye Yint (Naga Mahn) vs Kyel Sin Phyo (Aphyuyaung Thway Thit); Ahman (T&T) vs. Kyel Lay (Shwe Phu) in the four-round matches; and Shwe Phala (Naga Mahn) vs. Hlyit Hlyit Lay (Aphyuyaung Thway Thit); Lay Hnyo Shin (Thazi) vs. Nay Ruby (Aphyuyaung Thway Thit); Saw Gaw Muto (T&T) vs. Htet Aung Oo (Taunggale); Thar Thar (T&T) vs. Saw Ohn Myint (Alinyaung) in the five round matches.

The tickets for the ordinary stand are fixed at K 7000 per head, grand stand K 10000 and K 15000. For buying tickets in advance, dial 01-387382 and

District News

Illegal bus terminals cause traffic jams



MANDALAY, 12 Sept— Buses from Mandalay-PyinOoLwin bus lines stop on 27th and 35th streets in Chanayethazan Township, those of Kyaukse bus line on 29th and 82nd streets, those of bus lines to Tada U, Myittha and Singaing on 33rd and 85th streets, and those of Sagaing bus line on 30th streets. Their stopover activities cause traffic jams on the road and the houses. The buses are to enter and depart Mahaaungmye Bus Terminal legally.

The buses from Mandalay-PyinOoLwin and Mandalay-Kyaukse lines are not allowed to enter the north of 35th Street. If not, action will be taken against traffic rules brokers under Section 26 of Mandalay City Development Committee Law.

Kyemon

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Mexican Senate urges arrest for border killing of Mexican

MEXICO

MEXICO CITY, 12 Sept—Mexico's Senate urged President Felipe Calderon's administration on Tuesday to pressure the United States to find and extradite the US border patrol agent Mexico blames for the fatal shooting of a Mexican on the border with Texas last week.

The killing on 3 September was the second time in two months Mexico complained of one of its nationals being shot over the frontier by US border agents.

In a statement, the Mexican Senate urged Calderon to start a joint investigation with US authorities over the incident, in order to make an arrest "with the aim of extraditing the agent responsible."

US media reports said the man identified by the Mexican Senate as Guillermo Arevalo Pedraza was shot after rocks were thrown at agents across the border and that the United States had begun an investigation of the incident.

Officials for the US Border Patrol could not immediately be reached for comment.

Laura Rojas, a senator belonging to Calderon's conservative National Action Party, or PAN, said the incident, which took place between Nuevo Laredo in Mexico and Laredo, Texas, was part of a "pattern of repeated violence" against Mexicans.—Reuters

Two killed, eight injured in Istanbul bomb blast

Turkey



Police check the site of a blast in Istanbul, Turkey, on 11 Sept, 2012.—XINHUA

ISTANBUL, 12 Sept—One Turkish policeman and a young suicide bomber were killed and eight other people injured in a bomb blast in Istanbul on Tuesday. Eyewitnesses told Xinhua that the suicide bomber who was dead is 25 years old. But police gave no more information about the bomber.

An unexploded hand grenade was also found in the police station after the attack.

Istanbul Police Chief Huseyin Capkin has confirmed the blast was the

result of a suicide bombing. Parts of a police station in Istanbul's Sultangazi District have collapsed after a suicide bomber hit the 3-floor building. Wounded people were taken to nearby hospitals, according to the police.

The police has blocked roads and entrance to the police station which is located near the Ataturk international airport. Initial reports said the bomber detonated the explosives he was wearing in the police station's front yard.

Xinhua



Photo taken on 11 Sept, 2012 shows the police station where a bomb blast took place in the Sultangazi district of Istanbul, Turkey.—XINHUA



Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne addresses the CBI Scotland annual dinner in Glasgow on 6 Sept, 2012.

REUTERS

LONDON, 12 Sept—The government will pick a replacement for Bank of England Governor Mervyn King by the end of the year, seeking a central bank chief whose powers will stretch from healing the economy to policing the banks.

Formally advertised for the first time, the post calls for "a person of undisputed

integrity and standing"—a sign that any commercial bankers tainted by this year's market rate-setting scandal need not apply.

Financial Services Authority Chairman Adair Turner, Britain's former top civil servant Gus O'Donnell and Bank Deputy Governor Paul Tucker have been touted as potential replacements for

Australia

SYDNEY, 12 Sept—An Australian judge rejected a request on Wednesday for mediation between Asia's richest woman and her three children in a dispute over a multi-billion dollar family trust, saying there was little chance of a settlement.

The case, which started being heard in the New South Wales Supreme Court on Wednesday, is an unwelcome distraction for mining magnate Gina Rinehart as she scrambles to secure funding for a \$10 billion iron ore mine.

It also brings more unwanted public scrutiny of Rinehart, who has become more vocal on policy matters but prefers keeps her personal life under wraps.

Lawyers for Ginia Rinehart, the only child to side with her mother in the family feud, asked that a mediator be appointed to hear the attempt by three of her siblings to have Gina Rinehart

removed as trustee.

At stake is access to a near-one-quarter share in Hancock Prospecting, one of the world's largest privately-owned mining companies.

Hancock Prospecting Pty Ltd is developing what would be Australia's fourth-largest iron ore mine and generates hundreds of millions of dollars a year in royalties from rich iron ore tenements secured by Gina Rinehart's father Lang Hancock, a legendary figure in Australian mining history.

"Ginia had a most genuine interest in moving the case to mediation without further public ventilation of this very unhappy family dispute," Ginia's lawyer Francois Kunc said. Justice Paul Brereton rejected the request.

"Nothing has emerged at this stage which would suggest a mediation at this stage had a high prospect for success,"

Mediation rejected between Australian mining magnate, kids



Australia's richest woman and mining magnate, Gina Rinehart (R), adjusts a cap on the head of Australia's Minister for Resources, Energy and Tourism, Martin Ferguson during a visit to the Alpha Coal project test pit in the Galilee Basin about 800kms (497 miles) northwest of Brisbane in this on 6 November, 2010 handout picture.—REUTERS

he said. The dispute has already caused a delay at Hancock's flagship Roy Hill iron ore mine, rail and port project in Western Australia, which is now running into some stiff headwinds from slowing China demand and soaring costs.

A halving in iron ore prices over the past year has dented both investor appetite for such projects and the 58-year-old widow's fortune, estimated by Forbes in February at around \$18 billion.

Reuters

Florida university offers blunt response to hazing death

ORLANDO, 12 Sept—Lawyers for Florida A&M University offered a blunt response on Monday to a lawsuit over the hazing death of drum major Robert Champion, essentially saying there was no one to blame for the tragedy but Champion himself.

The response, accusing Champion of "imprudent" behavior, came in a motion to dismiss the wrongful death lawsuit filed in Orange County Circuit Court by Champion's family, according a report late Monday in the online edition of the Orlando Sentinel newspaper. Lawyers for Champion's family and the university could not be reached for immediate comment.

The Sentinel quoted the university's defence attorneys as saying Champion, a 26-year-old leader in the school's renowned marching band, knew of the dangers of hazing but decided to submit himself to the brutal ritual nonetheless.

He had signed a pledge against the practice and knew that it was both illegal and a violation of school policy. But in an apparent bid to win the respect of his fellow musicians, he allowed himself to be beaten aboard a charter bus in Orlando last fall, sustaining injuries that ultimately caused his death, the lawyers said.

"Respectfully, as a 26-year-old adult and leader in FAMU's band, Mr. Champion should have refused to participate in the planned hazing event and reported it to law enforcement or university administrators," the lawyers were quoted a saying.

"Under these circumstances, Florida's taxpayers should not be held financially liable to Mr Champion's estate for the ultimate result of his own imprudent, avoidable and tragic decision and death."

Reuters

REGIONAL

India to back Palestine's bid for full UN membership

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—India on Tuesday said it would back Palestine's bid for equal and full membership of the United Nations.

"India had played an active role in supporting the efforts of the state of Palestine to secure full membership status at UNESCO. We will continue to support Palestine's bid for full and equal membership of the United Nations," Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said in a statement.

The Prime Minister issued the statement after a meeting with visiting Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in the national capital.

Singh pledged 10 million US dollars to Palestine to help meet the Middle East nation's budgetary needs and said that New Delhi would continue to help the country in development and nation building.

Abbas also met Indian President Pranab Mukherjee and inspected a guard of honour at the latter's official residence at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

Xinhua



Chinese Naval Training Vessel "Zheng He" is pictured after its arrival at the Muara Port of Brunei on 11 Sept, 2012. Chinese Naval Training Vessel "Zheng He" arrived at Muara Port of Brunei on Tuesday morning, commencing its friendly visit to the country for the next four days.

XINHUA

New Zealand

Crew rescued after trawler catches fire off New Zealand

WELLINGTON, 12 Sept—All 43 crew were rescued after they were forced to abandon their New Zealand-registered fishing trawler when a fire took hold of the vessel off the east of the South Island on Wednesday. Most of the crew of the 64-metre Amaltal Columbia were transferred to the Russian fishing vessel, the Ivan Golubets, which came to the rescue after an emergency call went out at 5.40 am local time, while the rest were picked up by another New Zealand vessel, according to the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ).

No injuries had been reported and the whole crew had arrived at Lyttelton Harbor, near Christchurch, later in the day. The fire had started in the stern and spread throughout the vessel, said a statement from the RCCNZ, which was continuing to monitor the boat. "This is a good result in difficult conditions with winds of 30 knots and a swell of 4 metres," search and rescue mission coordinator Tracy Brickless said in the statement. A Royal New Zealand Air Force P3 Orion also responded to the mayday call from the Amaltal Columbia, which was about 40 nautical miles east of Christchurch.

The Transport Accident

Investigation Commission announced it had begun an inquiry into the fire. Two investigators had been assigned to the inquiry and were monitoring the situation from Wellington until the vessel's movements were confirmed, said a statement from the commission. The vessel was still burning on Wednesday afternoon, Radio New Zealand reported. The trawler had been about half full of fish and was reported to have at least 200,000 liters of fuel on board, said the report.

The fire was in the hold, which had been sealed to prevent the flames from spreading. Search and rescue officer Kevin Banaghan told Radio New Zealand there were environmental concerns about the vessel.—Xinhua

India's Supreme Court refuses to frame guidelines on media reporting

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—India's highest judiciary, the Supreme Court, has declined to frame guidelines for media reporting of court trials but said that a temporary ban on media coverage could be imposed by a higher court only in cases where the accused may not get a fair trial, local media reported.

"They (orders of postponement) should be

12 parties ineligible for Indonesia's 2014 polls

JAKARTA, 12 Sept—An official at Indonesian General Elections Commission (KPU) said that 12 out of 46 registered political parties have failed to meet basic administration requirements, and are therefore ineligible to take part in the 2014 general election, local media reported on Wednesday.

"The 12 parties have failed to fulfill all 17 items of administration requirements,

hence the eliminations," KPU chairman Husni Kamil Manik said on Tuesday.

KPU commissioner Ida Budhiati said the remaining 34 registered political parties would still undergo a series of verification processes before being declared as participants in the 2014 general election.

"At the first stage, the 34 parties are required to complete further administration requirements

before 29 Sept," she said as quoted by the *Jakarta Post*. All nine parties in the parliament have also registered with the KPU and all passed the first administration checks.

The 2014 elections will select eligible candidates to sit in the parliament, elect new president replacing Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono who has served in two maximum presidency periods allowed by the existing law.—Xinhua

Indonesia

Pakistan factory fires kill 125 workers

KARACHI, 12 Sept—Fires swept through two factories in Pakistan, one in the city of Karachi and the other in Lahore, killing at least 125 people, police and government officials said on Wednesday. The death toll from the late Tuesday fires is likely to raise fresh questions about industrial safety in the nuclear-armed South Asian nation and draw more criticism of the deeply unpopular government.

In the deadliest incident, flames raced through a garment factory in the teeming commercial capital of Karachi, killing at least 100 people. "People started screaming for their lives," said Mohammad Asif, 20. "Everyone came to the window. I jumped from the third floor."

In Lahore, a fire raged in a shoe factory, killing at least

25 people. Critics say Pakistan's government is too corrupt and ineffective to focus on the welfare of workers and a dizzying array of other problems, from crippling power cuts, to widespread poverty to a Taliban insurgency.

"The owners were more concerned with safeguarding the garments in the factory than the workers," said garment factory employee Mohammad Pervez, holding up a photograph of his cousin, one of the workers who is still missing. "If there were no metal grills on the windows a lot of people would have been save. The factory was overflowing with garments and fabrics. Whoever complained was fired."

At a Karachi hospital, about 30 bodies burned beyond recognition were

lined up at a morgue. "There is no space left here. It's full," said ambulance worker Wasif Ali. "They keep coming."

Senior Superintendent of Police Amir Farooqi told *Reuters* that police were raiding parts of Karachi to search for the factory owners.

Farooqi said 35 people



Residents gather while firefighters try to extinguish a fire at a shoe factory in Lahore on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

workers pulled out charred corpses and covered them in white sheets. Relatives of workers stood around in the street awaiting word of their fate. Several wept. The cause of the garment factory fire was not clear.

"Within two minutes there was fire in the entire factory," said factory worker Liaqat Hussain, 29, from his hospital bed where he was being treated for burns all over his body. "The gate was closed. There was no access to get out, we were trapped inside."—Reuters

INDIA

proportionality."

"Orders of postponement should be ordered for a limited duration and without disturbing the content of the publication. The order of postponement will only be appropriate in cases where the balancing test otherwise favours non-publication for a limited period," said Justice Kapadia.

Xinhua

JAPAN

Nine-vehicle crash injures two in western Japan

OSAKA, 12 Sept—Two men were hurt on Wednesday in an accident involving nine vehicles in a motorway tunnel in the western Japanese prefecture of Okayama, local press reported.

The accident occurred at around 8:40 am local time when nine vehicles including a heavy lorry and passenger cars collided with each other in the tunnel of Sanyo Expressway in Okayama City of the prefecture.

The injured were carried to hospital and one of them is in serious condition, the report added.

After the accident, local police temporarily closed the east bound lanes on the motorway between Okayama Interchange and Sanyo Interchange. Investigation is underway.

Xinhua

Pakistan

were injured in the garment factory fire and bodies were still being recovered from the facility which employed about 450 people.

The latest death toll in Karachi was more than 100 people, said Farooqi.

Smoke was still rising from the factory as rescue

A d v e r t i s e m e n t

**THE REPUBLIC OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION
INVITATION TO PREQUALIFICATION**

Date of issue : 12th September, 2012
Name of Project : **Private Sector Participation in the Development of Mandalay International Airport**

1. The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA), Ministry of Transport, intends to develop Mandalay International Airport as a major logistic hub with private sector participation. Accordingly, DCA will accept submissions for prequalification from interested local firms and foreign firms in joint venture or consortium under the Myanmar Foreign Investment Law.
2. The DCA intends to prequalify firms for private sector participation in the operation, management and maintenance of all of the following service/work sectors of Mandalay International Airport.
 - (a) Development of an airport master plan
 - (b) Passenger Terminal Operations
 - (c) Airside and Landside Operations
 - (d) Ground Handling Facilities and Services
 - (e) Catering Facilities and Services
 - (f) Cargo Facilities and Services
 - (g) Maintenance Services for pavement, visual aids, electrical systems and navigational aids and other facilities
 - (h) Upgrading and expansion of the airport terminal and related facilities including expansion of the aircraft parking apron, according to the master plan
3. The DCA will implement the above development arrangements as a whole with a form of public-private partnership with private sector financing.
4. The successful prequalified firms may expect that the invitation for bids will be made in November, 2012.
5. The prequalification documents may be obtained by interested firms upon submission of evidence of payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 1000 to DCA. The method of payment shall be to Current Account No. MD 010019, Myanmar Economic Bank by means of bank transfer through Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank.
6. To obtain further information, interested firms should contact the address indicated below:

Deputy Director General,
Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
Telephone : 951 533001, 951 533013 Fax: 951 533016
Email : dydg@dca.gov.mm, ddassd@dca.gov.mm

7. Place and deadline for submission of Prequalification documents:
Dead line for application submission:- 15th October, 2012 at 1500 Hrs Myanmar Standard Time.
Director General,
Department of Civil Aviation, Myanmar
Telephone : 951 533015 Fax: 951 533016
Email : dgdca@dca.gov.mm

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (314)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ORA BHUM VOY NO (314) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of M.I.P where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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

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

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

Phone No: 256908/378316/376797

CLAIMS DAY NOTICE

MV ILC FRIEND SHIP VOY NO (-)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV ILC FRIEND SHIP VOY NO (-) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.9.2012 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T-2 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: RK SHIPPING & TRADING
PTE LTD**

Phone No: 256924/256914

Russian garment factory fire kills 14 Vietnamese workers **Russia**

Moscow, 12 Sept—A fire swept through a garment factory outside Moscow on Tuesday, killing at least 14 Vietnamese migrant workers, Russian emergency officials said.

Firefighters sent to put out the blaze found 14 bodies in the factory in the town of Yegoryevsk, southeast of Moscow, and four victims were hospitalized with burns, the Moscow region emergencies department said.

All those killed were Vietnamese citizens, the Federal Emergency Situations Ministry said. The *Interfax* news agency said the garment factory was illegal.

Many migrant workers from Asian countries work in Russian factories in cramped conditions that are often at risk from fires. Death rates from fires are far higher in Russia than in Western countries such as Britain and the United States.

Reuters

TRADE MARK CAUTION
Johnson & Johnson, a corporation incorporated in the United States of America, of One Johnson & Johnson Plaza, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08933 U.S.A., is the Owner of the following Trade Marks:-

INVEGA
Reg. No. 8005/2007



Reg. No. 8005/2007
in respect of "Human pharmaceutical preparations (Int'l Class 5)".
Fraudulent imitation or unauthorized use of the said Trade Marks will be dealt with according to law.
Win Ma Tin
M.A., H.G.P., D.B.L.
for Johnson & Johnson
P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 13 September 2012

**Drive
Safely**

The opening ceremony of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2012, also known as the Summer Davos Forum, is held in Tianjin, north China, on 11 Sept, 2012, with its theme of "Creating the Future Economy".—XINHUA



US, German space agencies sign civil aviation agreements

WASHINGTON, 12 Sept—US space agency NASA and the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) have signed two cooperative agreements to advance air traffic management benefiting airline passengers and citizens of both countries.

The agreements were signed on Tuesday at a Berlin Air Show ceremony by NASA's Associate Administrator for Aeronautics Research Jaiwon Shin and DLR's Executive Board Member for Aeronautical Research Rolf Henke.

"NASA has enjoyed a long history of successful cooperation with DLR," Shin said in a statement. "Our ability to work closely together will benefit each nation by increasing air traffic capacity and reducing aviation's impact to the environment."

One agreement sets the terms and conditions on a range of activities relating to coordinated aircraft arrival, departure and surface operations research.—Xinhua



The Republic of the Union of Myanmar
Union Civil Service Board
Vacancy Announcement
Announcement No. 17 / 2012
4th Waning of Wagaung 1374 ME
(5 September 2012)

1. Department of Civil Aviation under the Ministry of Transport has issued an announcement of vacancies for the following positions-

Sr.No	Position	Vacancy	Educational Qualification
(a)	Assistant Engineer (Mechanical)	1	B.E(Aeronautical)
(b)	Assistant Engineer (Electrical/Mechanical)	1	B.E(Electrical power)

2. The applicants -
 (a) must be citizens of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.
 (b) must not be over 35 years of age (40 years if service personnel) on 3 October 2012.
 (c) must be in good health, must be physically fit and possess well intact limbs.

3. Applications must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board, Nay Pyi Taw in person, or by expedited Mail Service, or by registered letter not later than 3 October 2012.

4. With regards to filling in the application form, documents to be attached, mode of payment of Ks.500/- for examination fee, subjects to be studied for written examinations and personal interview, candidates applying for the vacant positions will have to follow the instructions manifested in the Guide Booklet published under Letter No. 1/ Selection (Main) 2012, dated 2 January 2012.

5. For service personnel, his or her original application altogether with the recommendation of the ministry concerned and a passport photo of the applicant must be sent to Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw through the Head of Department by 3 October 2012. An extra copy of the application together with photo must also be attached.

6. Written examinations will be held in Nay Pyi Taw. Candidates will be examined in Myanmar and General Knowledge examination papers on 3 November 2012 (Saturday) and English examination paper on 4 November 2012 (Sunday).

7. Identity cards for candidates sitting for the examination will be issued at Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in Nay Pyi Taw commencing 1 November 2012.

8. For more information, applicants may contact Office No. (17) of the Union Civil Service Board in person or by phone (067 - 409052, 067 - 409430).

9. This announcement and the guide booklet for applicants may be browsed on Websites: ucsb.imis.com.mm and www.ucsb.gov.mm.

Kim Kardashian is urging young Americans to be politically informed

NEW DELHI, 12 Sept—The Keeping Up With The Kardashians star is encouraging young people to vote in the United States and generally be interested in the electoral process.

Eager to make her point, the 31-year-old star caught a flight to Charlotte, North Carolina to host the official Democratic National Convention's after-party on Thursday, (6 September).

She boarded a private jet with her publicist Jonathan Cheban and designer Rachel Roy following an appearance at Fashion's Night Out in New York City.

After launching her new fragrance exclusively at Lord & Taylor she tweeted a picture of the passengers seated and eating from a fast food chain.

She posted on the micro-blogging website: "This is how we do. . . . Private plane & Wendy's! DNC party here we come."

Before her journey, Kanye West's girlfriend expressed her interest in American politics.

She told E! News: "I always think it's like really important to help others get informed."

Her rapper partner famously encouraged fans to "vote or die" in 2008.

She added: "Voting is such a personal decision. No matter what [party] you are. I think it's just important to be informed to vote."

PTI



Paul McCartney decorated with France's highest award

PARIS, 12 Sept—Former Beatle Paul McCartney received France's highest public distinction for his contribution to music on Saturday when President Francois Hollande made him an officer of the Legion of Honour in a short ceremony at the presidential palace.

Shortly after the private ceremony during which Hollande joked with McCartney he had preferred the Rolling Stones to the Beatles, the British rock star gave a thumbs up and tweeted his thanks to France.

Created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802, the Legion of Honour has three grades - chevalier, officer and commander. It carries social status but no money, and recipients have to buy their own medal from a licensed jeweler, with prices ranging from 169 to 700 euros (\$210 to



French President Francois Hollande (L) speaks with Paul McCartney during a decoration ceremony at the Elysee Palace in Paris, on 8 Sept, 2012. —REUTERS

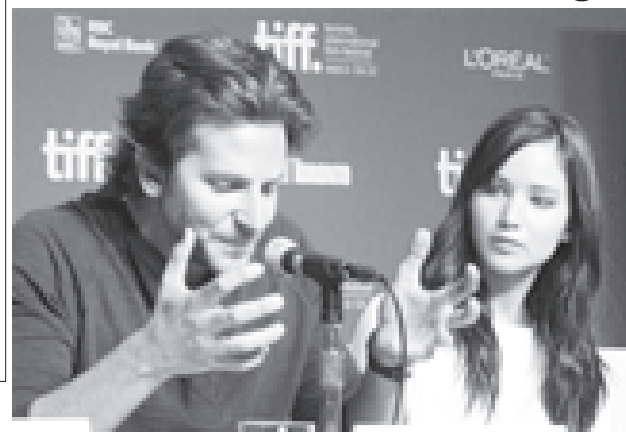
\$880) for the highest rank.

McCartney, 70, one of the most influential songwriters in the history of popular music, follows in the footsteps of US actors Clint Eastwood and Robert De Niro, and singers Liza Minnelli and Lenny Kravitz, who have also been decorated with the

Legion of Honour.

The musician has already been awarded a knighthood by Britain's Queen Elizabeth. He recently performed in front of the queen and tens of thousands of spectators at the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games.—Reuters

"Fighter" director tackles mental illness in "Silver Linings"



Actors Bradley Cooper (L) and Jennifer Lawrence

TORONTO, 12 Sept—After Oscar success with 2010's gritty comeback tale "The Fighter," director David O Russell is winning early praise for another movie about a man struggling to make the most of a second chance.

"Silver Linings

Playbook," which had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, features "Hangover" comedy star Bradley Cooper as a mentally ill man trying to rebuild his life after losing his spouse, home, job and freedom.

Jennifer Lawrence, 22,

who recently shot to fame in young adult action movie "Hunger Games," plays a widow in her own fight with depression who offers to help him reconcile with his estranged wife. The script was informed by Russell's own experiences with people who have struggled with mental health problems, the filmmaker said on Sunday.

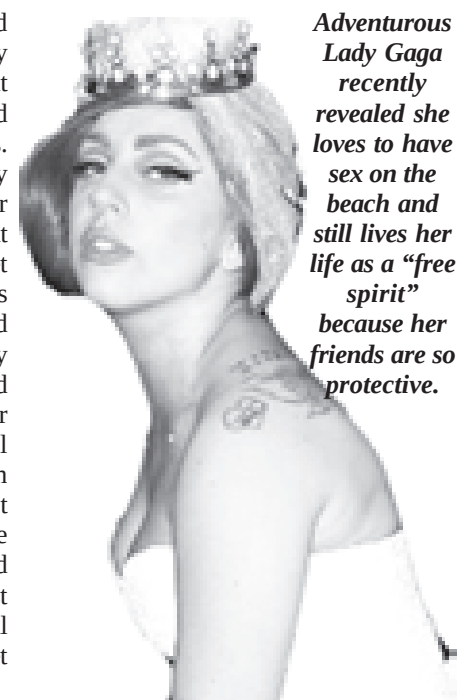
"That's definitely a big motivation in the story, to take off the stigma and that's a great thing for a filmmaker, to have something that's charged ... radioactive, that people are scared of," he told a news conference.

The film's lead characters, Russell added, are "two of my favorite kinds of people because they inevitably tell the truth, unvarnished, bluntly."—Reuters

Lady Gaga wants to marry Taylor Kinney in Italy

LONDON, 12 Sept—Lady Gaga has invited some members of the Chicago Fire actor's family to join her in Venice after her concert in Milan next month and it has been claimed she hopes to spend the time checking out potential wedding venues.

A source told *The Sun* newspaper: "Lady Gaga has been talking non-stop of her passion for Venice and how romantic it is. She is hoping to visit lots of churches with Taylor. When she does get married it will be in Italy. Some of her close friends and family are also hoping to fly over, so this could well be it." Adventurous Lady Gaga recently revealed she loves to have sex on the beach and still lives her life as a "free spirit" because her friends are so protective. She said: "[I like to] feel a little irresponsible and act like I'm nineteen. I'm a complete free spirit, so, even though you don't see it, I still find time to have sex at night on the beach when no one's around. Or roll into a bar and get f***ed up and dance with my top off. It's just that no one ever sees that, because I have great real friends who never let me do it when I would get caught."—PTI



Adventurous Lady Gaga recently revealed she loves to have sex on the beach and still lives her life as a "free spirit" because her friends are so protective.

International Sports

World Cup Qualifier

England get reality check from impressive Ukraine

LONDON, 12 Sept—England were handed a reality check after their thumping 5-0 win over Moldova when they snatched a 1-1 draw with Ukraine through a late Frank Lampard penalty against a vibrant and technically gifted side in a World Cup qualifier on Tuesday.

England, who had skipper Steven Gerrard sent off in the 88th minute for a second yellow card, looked to be heading to a first defeat under coach Roy

Hodgson until Lampard's 87th-minute penalty rescued a Group H point.

Lampard, who scored twice against Moldova, took his England tally to 26 when he slammed his spot-kick home after Evhen Khacheridi was adjudged to have handled substitute Danny Welbeck's shot.

Ukraine had taken the lead with a brilliantly executed goal by Evhen Konoplianka after 39 minutes, curling home a stunning right-foot shot that



England's Frank Lampard (L) scores a penalty against Ukraine during their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match at Wembley stadium in London on 11 September, 2012.—REUTERS

gave goalkeeper Joe Hart no chance of saving. It looked like that was going to exact Ukraine's revenge for their 1-0 defeat by England at Euro 2012 but the hosts' late spell of pressure finally paid off.

England manager Roy Hodgson dismissed suggestions that his side were largely second best but the visitors pressed England back for long periods and were certainly the better team for the first hour of the game.

"We started poorly in the first 10 minutes but once we got into our stride I thought we had quite good control over the game," Hodgson told

reporters. "We went 1-0 down to a wonder-strike but against a good Ukraine team, I was very pleased with the way we kept probing and playing our football and kept taking the game to them and kept creating chances.

"So in the end we fully deserved our equalizer and I am pleased with the way the players went about their task."

Ukraine manager Oleg Blokhin said he was disappointed not to win.

"We made a great start and deserved to be leading at halftime because we caused them problems they could not solve," he said.

Reuters

Results/standings of Asian zone World Cup qualifying

BEIRUT, 12 Sept—Following are the results and standings from Asian zone World Cup qualifying after Tuesday's games:

Group A

Uzbekistan 2 South Korea 2

Lebanon 1 Iran 0

Standings (tabulated under games played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, goals against, points)

South Korea 3 2 1 0 9 3 7

Iran 3 1 1 1 1 1 4

Qatar 3 1 1 1 2 4 4

Lebanon 4 1 1 2 2 5 4

Uzbekistan 3 0 2 1 3 4 2

Group B

Jordan 2 Australia 1

Japan 1 Iraq 0

Standings

Japan 4 3 1 0 11 1 10

Jordan 3 1 1 1 3 8 4

Iraq 3 0 2 1 2 3 2

Australia 3 0 2 1 2 4 2

Oman 3 0 2 1 1 4 2—Xinhua

Cavani strike saves Uruguay from second defeat in row

MONTEVIDEO, 12 Sept—Striker Edinson Cavani hit a 67th minute equalizer to give South American champions Uruguay a 1-1 draw with Ecuador at the Centenario on Tuesday and save them from a second successive defeat in the World Cup qualifiers.

Uruguay, World Cup semi-finalists two years ago, fell behind to an eight-minute penalty converted by burly striker Felipe Caicedo after he had been brought down by central defender Diego Lugano.

The Uruguayans, whose 18-match unbeaten run came to an end with a 4-0 loss in Colombia on Friday, have dropped down the South American standings and are one point behind Colombia, Ecuador and leaders Argentina, who faced Peru later on Tuesday. Cavani secured a point for Uruguay when the ball was poorly

cleared from an attack down the left and ran loose to the striker on the right, from where he shot left-footed low into the bottom of the far corner.

"Their goal woke us up, we began to put more



Uruguay's Edinson Cavani celebrates after scoring a goal against Ecuador in their 2014 World Cup qualifying soccer match in Montevideo on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

intensity into our game and it was like that right to the end, that's why we managed to draw," Cavani told reporters.

Reuters



Joe Hart (R), goalie of England, saves during the FIFA 2014 World Cup Group H qualifying match between England and Ukraine at Wembley Stadium in London, Britain, on 11 Sept, 2012. The match ended with a 1-1 draw.—XINHUA

Ribery shines as France beat Belarus 3-1

PARIS, 12 Sept—Franck Ribery scored one goal and set up another as France beat Belarus 3-1 at the Stade de France to maintain their perfect start in World Cup qualifying Group I on Tuesday.

Ribery set up Etienne Capoue for the opener before wrapping it up with a fine chip 10 minutes from time in a one-sided encounter that came to life after the interval.

Christophe Jallet scored France's second goal before Belarus reduced the arrears through Anton Putilo 18



France's Franck Ribery shoots and scores the third goal for the team during their World Cup qualifying soccer match against Belarus in Saint-Denis, near Paris, on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

minutes from time. Les Bleus snatched their second win in as many games four days after a 1-0 victory in Finland but they failed to impress.

Didier Deschamps's side lacked inspiration and were lucky not to trail the visitors early in the second half.

They will need to improve dramatically to stand a chance against world and European champions Spain in their qualifier in Madrid next month.

Reuters

Italy beat Malta 2-0 in World Cup qualifier

ROME, 12 Sept—Italy wrenched a less convincing 2-0 win from Malta at home on Tuesday to chalk up their first win in 2014 World Cup qualifiers. Mattia Destro opened the scoring, then the hosts wasted a hack of chances and also fended off some attacks from the visitors, before Federico sealed the win with a last-gasp goal. With the win, Italy are tied with Bulgaria on four points at the top of the standings. Italy head coach Cesare Prandelli was looking for an improved performance on their opening qualifier and things looked hopeful when the Azzurri took the lead after just five minutes. Claudio Marchisio's pass from the right landed at the feet of Destro, who smashed a shot into the bottom right corner from 18 yards.

Then they just could not put the ball into Malta's goal again with Alessandro Diamanti, Pablo Osvaldo and Andrea Pirlo noticeably wasteful of chances. They eventually made the breakthrough in stoppage time when Pirlo's corner was neatly headed home by Peluso. "We know September isn't our best month and we're not very sharp, but we have to rediscover our enthusiasm, pace and style of play," said Prandelli. "We were a bit more organized in the second half, showing greater verve and creating more space," he said.—Xinhua

Sleep-deprived Murray basks in US Open success

NEW YORK, 12 Sept—Andy Murray was the toast of New York City on Tuesday, basking in the glory of his first grand slam title that ended Britain's 76-year wait for a male singles champion on the biggest stage. The Scotsman celebrated his stunning five-set win over world number two Novak Djokovic in the US Open final at a Manhattan restaurant late on Monday with family and friends but there were no wild celebrations.

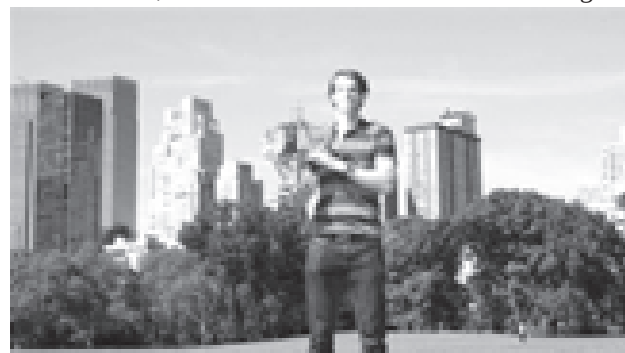
Although Murray struggled to get a wink of sleep while he contemplated his achievement, the 25-year-old was tucked up in bed before 3 am (0700 GMT) in

preparation for his first day as a member of the grand slam winner's club.

"We had a nice dinner," he told NBC's "Today" show. "A few of them went out to a club afterward, but I was back

in my hotel room by 2:45 and couldn't get myself to sleep."

During a whirlwind tour of America's morning television talk shows, he revealed that he did not even celebrate his win with a glass



Britain's Andy Murray poses with his trophy in Central Park after winning the men's singles title at the US Open tennis tournament in New York on 11 Sept, 2012.—REUTERS

TENNIS

of champagne, sticking only to soda.

"I had to get up early this morning to do all this stuff," he explained.

Clutching the US Open trophy, he then headed to Central Park, meeting up with his mother Judy and his girlfriend Kim Sears and a chunk of the world's media, for a photoshoot.

Then it was off to the British Consulate for a reception in his honor where he was welcomed by a Scottish piper. After losing his first four grand slam finals, Murray was still coming to grips with his breakthrough but was already looking ahead.—Reuters

Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(13-9-12 09:30 am ~ 14-9-12 09:30 am) MST

- * News
- * Water Lily Art Gallery
- * News
- * Music Gallery
- * Road to 27th SEA GAMES "Table Tennis"
- * News
- * Wathann Film Festival
- * News
- * Lifestyle of Toddy Palm Climbers
- * News
- * Ancient Shwe San Taw Pagoda (Taungoo)
- * News
- * Myanmar Job Fair 2012
- * News
- * A Glance At A Naga Family Life
- * Road to Success
- * News
- * The Chillies Journal Launch Party
- * Myanmar Movie "A Glance at Love"

MYANMAR TV

(13-9-2012) (Thursday)

7:00 am

- Paritta By Hilly Region Missionary Sayadaw

7:25 am

- To Be Healthy Exercise

7:50 am

- Nice & Sweet Song

8:10 am

- Dances of National Races

8:15 am

- Dance Variety

8:25 am

- Selected Songs for 19th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competition (2012) (Oldies & Mono Clasic) (Basic Education Level) (Men)

4:00 pm

- Martial Song

4:15 pm

- Cute Little Dancers

4:30 pm

- University of Distance Education (TV Lectures) -First Year (Philosophy)

4:45 pm

- Songs For Upholding National Spirit

4:50 pm

- Science and Environment

5:00 pm

- "Road to 27th SEA GAMES" (Judo)

5:30 pm

- India Drama Series

6:20 pm

- Myanmar Series

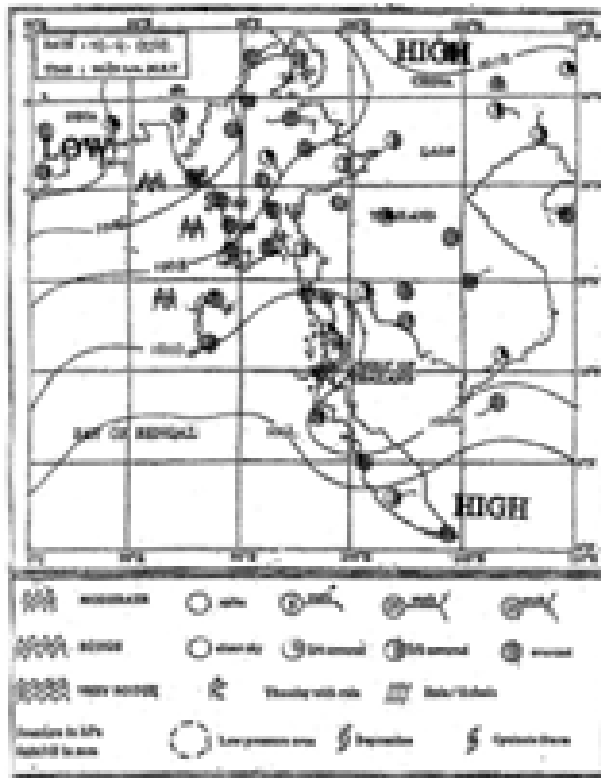
6:35 pm

- Approaching Science Discovery World

8:00 pm

- News
- Documentary
- TV Drama Series

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



Weather forecast for 13th September, 2012

Sr. No.	Regions/States	Temperature (°C/°F)		For Tomorrow	
		Maximum	Minimum	Forecast	Percent
1	Kachin	29/84	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
2	Kayah	29/84	21/70	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
3	Kayin	32/90	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
4	Chin	23/73	14/57	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
5	Upper Sagaing	30/86	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
6	Lower Sagaing	35/95	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
7	Taninthayi	29/84	23/73	Widespread rain or thundershowers (IH)	(100%)
8	Bago	31/88	25/77	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
9	Magway	33/91	25/77	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
10	Mandalay	36/97	26/79	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(100%)
11	Mon	32/90	24/75	Fairly widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
12	Yangon	30/86	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
13	Rakhine	28/82	22/72	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
14	Southern Shan	25/77	19/66	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
15	Northern Shan	31/88	20/68	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
16	Eastern Shan	31/88	22/72	Scattered rain or thundershowers	(100%)
17	Ayeyawady	28/82	24/75	Widespread rain or thundershowers	(100%)
18	Neighbouring Nay Pyi Taw	34/93	24/75	Isolated rain or thundershowers	(80%)
19	Neighbouring Yangon	30/86	22/72	Some rain or thundershowers	(100%)
20	Neighbouring Mandalay	36/97	26/79	Likelihood isolated rain or thundershowers	(60%)

Summary of observations at 09:30 hr MST on today

During the past (24) hours, weather have been partly cloudy in Lower Sagaing Region, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Mandalay and Magway Regions, scattered in Upper Sagaing and Bago Regions, Shan and Mon States, fairly widespread in Chin and Kayin States, and widespread in the remaining Regions and States with regionally heavy falls in Taninthayi Region and isolated heavy falls in Bago and Yangon Regions Mon State. The noteworthy amount of rainfall recorded were Longlon (3.62) inches, Zaung Tu (3.50) inches, Ye (3.39) inches, Hmawbi and Myeik (3.15) inches each, Manauing (2.76) inches, Tharrawady (2.68) inches and Yangon (Mingaladon) (2.36) inches.

Bay Inference: Monsoon is moderate in the Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal.

State of the Sea: Sea will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Moderate Monsoon

"Gossip Girl" Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds tie the knot

LOS ANGELES, 12 Sept—Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively, who co-starred in last summer's "Green Lantern" film, married quietly on Sunday in South Carolina, People.com reported, sealing their low-profile romance of about a year.

The celebrity magazine website said the 25 year-old "Gossip Girl" television star married Reynolds just outside of Charleston at Boone Hall Plantation in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

British singer Florence Welch of Florence and the

Machine, performed at the reception, People quoted an unidentified source as saying. Representatives for the actors did not return calls for comments.

Lively and Reynolds have been dating for about a year, although the private and low-key couple never talked publicly about their relationship.

Canadian-born Reynolds, 35, was previously married to Scarlett Johansson for two years. The couple split in late 2010 and their divorce was finalized in 2011. Prior to



Cast members Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively

that, Reynolds was engaged to singer Alanis Morissette. This is the first marriage for 25-year-old Lively, who most recently starred on-screen in Oliver Stone's "Savages."

Reuters

Neethaane En Ponvasantham music hit, sold one lakh copies

CHENNAI, 12 Sept—The soundtrack of upcoming Tamil movie Neethaane En Ponvasantham "(NEP) is selling like hot cakes with 100,000 copies sold since its release on 1 September.

Neethaane En Ponvasantham "Physical (hard copies) has crossed one lakh with fantastic pre-booking. Neethaane En Ponvasantham "(NEP) also had a ticketed launch concert where we bundled concert tickets along with CDs and sold close to 7,000 copies within a span of 48 hours," Ashok Parwani, head south,

Sony music entertainment told IANS in an e-mail interaction. Composed by maestro Illayaraja, Neethaane En Ponvasantham is a perfect blend of melody and trance. The album consists of eight tracks, which are sung by singers like Yuvan Shankar Raja, Ramya, Karthik and Sunidhi Chauhan, among others. Directed by Gautham Menon, Neethaane En Ponvasantham is a romantic film starring actors Jiiva and Nani. It will be released in Tamil and Telugu. However, the release date has not been decided yet.—PTI



Composed by maestro Illayaraja, Neethaane En Ponvasantham is a perfect blend of melody and trance.

Colombia arrests 14 drug traffickers wanted by US

BOGOTA, 12 Sept—Colombian Police have captured 14 members of a notorious drug-trafficking ring, all wanted by the United States, Deputy Attorney General Jorge Perdomo said on Tuesday.

The suspects were charged by the US Attorney General's Office of the Southern District of Florida with drug trafficking and money laundering, said Perdomo.

Local press report quoted Perdomo as saying that the traffickers were arrested in several operations in the capital Bogota and the cities of Villavicencio, Medellin, Ocana and Cucuta, but Perdomo did not mention the time of those actions.

The drug-trafficking ring, led by Victor Navarro Serrano, processed cocaine at illegal laboratories, which were located in the area of Catumbo, in northeast Norte de Santander.

The members of the ring also smuggled drugs into the United States through routes they had built through Central America and the Caribbean, and with the help of contacts in the United States and the Netherlands, said officials.

For the past two years, the US Drug Enforcement Agency and Colombia's Attorney General's Office have undertaken a joint investigation of Navarro's organized crime network.

They have frozen more than 10 million US dollars, and seized filmed materials and computers with information of the group and its activities, while Navarro is still at large.

Xinhua

Alabama professor pleads guilty to gunning down three co-workers

BIRMINGHAM, 12 Sept—A former biology professor at the University of Alabama at Huntsville avoided the death penalty by pleading guilty on Tuesday to murder and attempted murder charges for fatally shooting three co-workers on campus in 2010, court officials said.

Amy Bishop, 47, last year had pleaded not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect. She was accused of shooting dead three colleagues and wounding three others during a biology department staff meeting in February 2010.

Colleagues believed the Harvard-trained biologist and mother of four, who also has been charged in Massachusetts with the 1986 shooting death of her teenage brother, was angry that the school had denied her tenure.

Bishop now will face up to life in prison in exchange for

guilty plea on one count of capital murder, which in Alabama can cover the deaths of two or more people, and three counts of attempted murder, according to the district attorney's office.

A hearing is now scheduled for 24 September, the day her murder trial had been due to begin. A jury must decide the punishment for a capital murder charge in Alabama, and attorneys in the case will likely ask jurors to confirm that life in prison without parole is the appropriate sentence, according to Richard Jaffe, a defense attorney not connected to the case.

Details on what prompted the plea agreement were unclear on Tuesday, with the defense and prosecutors instructed by the judge not to discuss the case.

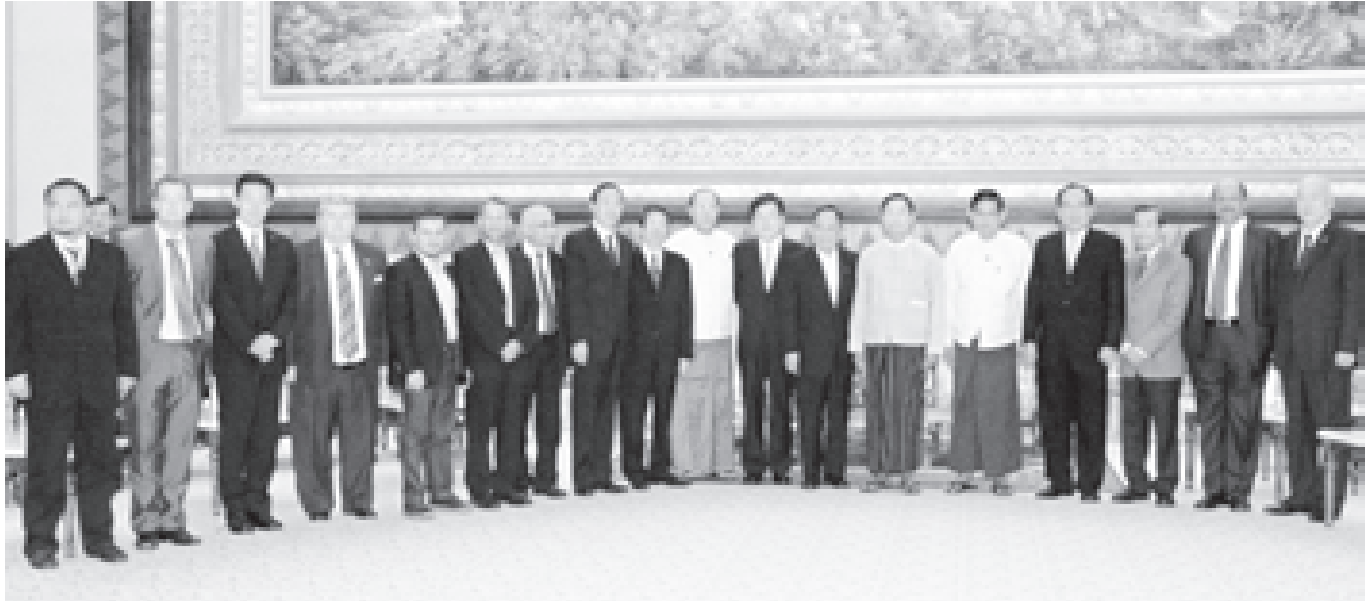
After Bishop's arrest in the university shooting, authorities in Braintree, Massachusetts, charged her in the 1986 death of her brother.—Reuters

Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw receives ICAPP Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of Standing Committee and Former Speaker of House of Representatives of the Philippines

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw Thura U Shwe Mann received International Conference for Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Hon. Jose de Venecia and party at Zabuthiri Hall of Hluttaw Complex, here, at 10.30 am today.

The Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw was accompanied by chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw and Amyotha Hluttaw Committees and officials of the Hluttaw Office. At the call, they focused on undertakings of the Union government and the Hluttaw on political, economic and social reforms of Myanmar, and legislation and check and balance system of the Hluttaw.

The guests expressed that ICAPP Standing Committee members knew the losses of farmers, breeders and those from industry sector due to economic sanctions against Myanmar and they also expressed thier wishes to lift the economic sanctions.—MNA



Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann and party pose for documentary photo with ICAPP Founding Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Standing Committee and Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Philippines Hon. Jose de Venecia and party.—MNA

Chairman of Standing Committee of NPC arrives in Nay Pyi Taw

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa and wife and officials welcome Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of China Mr Wu Bangguo and wife.
MNA



NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept—At the invitation of Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar Thura U Shwe Mann, a delegation led by Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China Mr Wu Bangguo and wife arrived here by special flight at 5.20 pm today to pay a goodwill visit to Myanmar.

They were welcomed at Nay Pyi Taw International Airport by Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa and wife, chairmen of Pyithu Hluttaw Committees U Thein Swe and wife, U Hla Myint Oo and wife, Thura U Aung Ko, Chinese Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Li Junhua and officials from the embassy.

Likewise, they received a warm welcome extended by young Myanmar men and women of the Fine Arts Department offering a flower basket, the Guard of Honour and students waving miniature flags of the two countries.—MNA

Aerobics course concludes

YANGON, 12 Sept—Jointly organized by Sports Ministry and Myanmar Women's Sports Federation, the women's aerobics training technique and coaching and referee course concluded at National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna in Yangon Region at 2 pm on 11 September.

Vice-President of the federation Prof Dr Daw Khin Swe Myint made a speech.

General Secretary Daw L Khun Yi of the federation presented completion certificates to the trainees.

Patrons of the federation and the vice-president awarded the first, second and third prize winners.

MNA

Malaysian Expo, Health Seminar 20-22 Sept

YANGON, 12 Sept—The Malaysian Expo and Health Seminar will be held at Sedona Hotel in Yangon from 20 to 22 September, inclusive of free medical checkup.

At the expo, experienced technicians of Malaysia will explain health services and fair cost for services.

The first-ever expo will comprise about 20 international level hospitals of Malaysia. They will introduce economic opportunities for mutual interest. During three days expo, free medical checkup will be provided to the visitors, gifts and lucky draw given to the visitors.—Kyemon

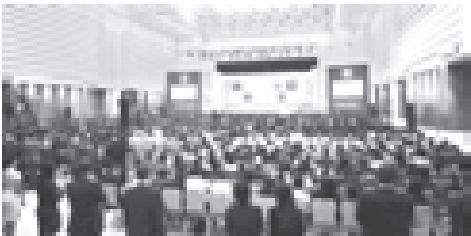
Noteworthy amounts of rainfall (12-9-2012)

Launglon	(3.62) inches
Zaungtu	(3.50) inches
Ye	(3.39) inches
Hmawby	(3.15) inches
Myeik	(3.15) inches
Manaung	(2.76) inches
Thayawady	(2.68) inches
Yangon (Mingaladon)	(2.36) inches

India to back Palestine's bid for full UN membership



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The opening ceremony of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2012, is held in Tianjin, China, on 11 Sept, 2012.

PAGE 12

England get reality check from impressive Ukraine



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